The Sun.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1882.

**Advertising Rates.**

DAILY AND SUNDAY, 40 cents a line, ordinary advertising; large type, 80 cents; and preferred positions, 50 cents to $2.50, according to classification.

WEEKLY, 50 cents a line; no extra charge for large type. Preferred positions from 75 cents to $2.

*The regular circulation of* THE SUN *for the week ending Dec. 16, 1882, was:*

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| Sunday | 187,440 | Thursday | 189,188 |
| Monday | 189,848 | Friday | 189,197 |
| Tuesday | 188,063 | Saturday | 189,571 |
| Wednesday | 189,489 | Weekly | 64,370 |

Total for the week.....1,067,796

## Reciprocity.

The Canadian journals continue to discuss the question of reciprocity in trade between the Dominion and the States. They agree that reciprocity would give them "a larger and a better market for their surplus products of all kinds, and it would give full employment to their shipping and put new life into every branch of trade. There is not a farmer, a fisherman, a trader, a shipowner, a quarry man, or a lumberer in the maritime provinces who would not hail with delight a renewal of a reciprocity treaty with the United States."

So it is; and the people of the United States would like it, too; but if we are to have reciprocity at all, it should be complete, genuine, unqualified, secured, not by a treaty, but by a common Constitution, a common Government, and common laws. And now that slavery is out of the way, where is there any serious objection?

## The Bar Association and the Penal Code.

At the last meeting of the Bar Association a committee was appointed to examine the Penal Code and the changes thereby effected in the criminal law, and report at an adjourned meeting of the association to be held on the second Tuesday in January.

This action was proper enough. There are plainly many provisions in the Penal Code that require repeal or amendment. It was not to be expected that a codification of the entire law relating to crimes, and the method of procedure for the punishment of crimes, could be accomplished without errors or without giving rise to objections, more or less serious, which would have to be obviated by subsequent changes. It is well enough, therefore, for this particular body of lawyers, or anybody else who may be disposed to give the subject attention, to study the Penal Code, point out its defects, and make suggestions for its improvement. For instance, a good many people are ready to offer the Legislature advice just now in reference to that portion which deals with the observance of the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday.

At the same time, there was and is no occasion for such a wholesale denunciation of the Penal Code as the Bar Association indulged in by means of the long preamble to the resolution we have mentioned. The Penal Code is not a bad thing as a whole, but an excellent thing for the people. It enables them readily to learn what the laws are under which they live, and intelligently to require that those laws be changed if they be deemed faulty or oppressive.

It is a well-known legal maxim, often enforced, that ignorance of the law excuses no man; and heretofore people have been expected to observe criminal statutes scattered through scores of volumes of the Session Laws and practicably accessible only to lawyers. The idea of the framers of the Penal Code was to give the public all this information in a little volume which can be carried in the pocket, from which a man can ascertain all the offences punishable as crimes in this State, with their appropriate penalties.

The Legislature should amend the Penal Code, but not repeal it.

## Patrick's Wrong Ideas About Himself.

We have received the following rather remarkable letter from a youth in Iowa, and instead of answering it privately as he requests, we reply so that all can profit by our words of advice and admonition:

"DEAR SIR AND ESTEEMED FRIEND: I, a poor, humble, honest, and gifted boy, beg of you to read over carefully this communication. I hope you will sympathize and pity a young boy with a prodigious and vigorous intellect, for I regret to say I am surrounded by every difficulty, and poverty is the principal cause. Esteemed friend, I have been born in Dublin, Ireland, in December, 1862. I was brought here in 1866. The misfortunes of my parents have deprived me of an education. I have so enriched and disciplined my mind that one year will finish my course.

"I ask one favor of you, to interest your influence and recommend me to some generous and charitable man to give me assistance to complete my classical course, for my determined ambition is to prepare for an orator and a lawyer. I ask you to recommend me to the Treasurer of the United States, or some influential member of Congress. I hope I shall be able to represent my patron before the world. If you will aid me to accomplish my desire I shall be as your faithful son. I swear you will never regret the day you aided me to prepare for my adopted vocation as orator. I solemnly promise to pay the amount given to me if it's ever in my power. I beg of you to write to me at once, and state your advice to me. I am an honest boy, and willing to sacrifice everything to accomplish my dear desire. I have the honor to remain your faithful and obedient humble son. From your affectionate adopted friend, "PATRICK."

PATRICK makes a mistake which is not at all peculiar to him. He thinks himself a very exceptional being, much beyond the run of people in his natural abilities, and only prevented by the hardships of his condition from taking the world by storm. He has a "prodigious and vigorous intellect," he tells us.

But nothing could be further from the truth. There are thousands of PATRICKS in the United States, many probably even in the Iowa community in which he lives, whose intellects are as good as his, even if they are not better. Yes, they must be better, for the other PATRICKS' heads have been strong enough not to be so turned by vanity and conceit that they imagine themselves to be people with minds "enriched and disciplined," when they are really only uneducated and untrained boys. At least they do not write to us proclaiming their natural superiority and extensive acquirements.

You will finish your course of education in one year! You only want a little assistance to complete your classical course, so as to set out to become an orator! Why, PATRICK, you don't yet know how to write the English language. Your spelling is about the worst we have had to correct in all our correspondence. Instead of your education being anywhere near its completion, even the most elementary part of it has only just begun. If you went to your district or parochial school, you, a boy of twenty, would find it hard to get up from the foot of one of the lowest classes of youngsters.

We do not mean to throw your ignorance in your face, or to blame you for it. Perhaps you have done about as well as you could under your circumstances. But you ought to know just how you stand as to education. PATRICK, we assure you that your ignorance is dense. It would only be possible for you to become a lawyer or an orator after years of study. Instead of your mind being enriched and disciplined, it is poor in knowledge, and untrained to a remarkable degree.

In truth, you are all wrong about yourself. You are not an extraordinary boy by any means. We tell you that bluntly, but kindly, because many a boy like you has been ruined by such delusions as those you cherish. He has become dissatisfied with the only work and the only sphere in life to which he was adapted. He has made himself insufferable to his friends and relatives because of his folly and conceit and vanity, and has destroyed his own happiness and that of those who cared for him. But it is all right to improve yourself in every way you can. And if you are ready to make sacrifices, as you say, for self-improvement, you can gradually supply your worst deficiencies in the way of education.

And, finally, there is no use in applying to us for recommendations to the Treasurer of the United States, to Congressmen, or other men in office. We ask no favors of them, our time being occupied in watching to see whether they do their duty to the people. If they perform that duty, they will render us all the favor we want of them. Nor need PATRICK offer us any service in return for this advice. It is freely bestowed for the benefit of all who may profit by it. Even if he is ready to accept the place, we are not prepared to adopt him; but if he always serves those who employ him with the fidelity of a good son, making their interests his, he will be something far rarer than a lawyer or an orator; that is, a thoroughly true and honest man, of whom it may justly be said at the end, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

## Gladstone's Fifty Years of Public Life.

The fact that last week completed the half century during which Mr. GLADSTONE has been actively engaged in politics has naturally led the English press to review the incidents of his remarkable career. It is only possible, however, to fix in a tentative and provisional way the place which the present head of the Liberal party will occupy in history; for, so long as he remains in public life, it may still be in his power to notably exalt or irremediably injure his reputation. All that can be done at this time is to indicate the view of his abilities and achievements which would perhaps be taken by disinterested observers, were it certain that he had made his last appearance upon the public stage.

When, on Dec. 12, 1832, Mr. GLADSTONE was returned to Parliament for the borough of Newark, he was not twenty-two years old, and only about a twelvemonth had elapsed since he had taken his B. A. degree at Oxford, where, we may note in passing, he, like Sir ROBERT PEEL, had gained the coveted distinction of a "double-first." It is essential to a fair judgment of the flagrant inconsistencies which have marked Mr. GLADSTONE'S principles at different epochs to bear in mind the very early age at which he was called upon to express and vindicate opinions. A lad of twenty-one, no matter how the acquisitive powers of his intellect may have been stimulated in the forcing house of a university, or how tenacious may be the grasp of his memory upon unassimilated facts and other men's ideas, is, as a rule, too much engrossed in the winnowing and distributing of his stores to transmute knowledge into wisdom, and strike out for himself a programme which will commend itself to ripened judgment and enlarged experience. It was no uncommon thing, in the period when very young men were elected to the House of Commons, to see British statesmen completely repudiate at a later stage of their career the political aims and affiliations which had obtained the approval of their first constituents. The examples of CHARLES JAMES FOX, of the younger PITT, of EDMUND BURKE, and of Sir ROBERT PEEL at once suggest themselves; and we may add that Mr. DISRAELI was himself open to the taunt of inconsistency which he so often levelled at his life-long antagonist.

It is true that Mr. GLADSTONE entered Parliament as a Tory, and for upward of ten years acted with the Tory party, warmly advocating, for instance, the cause of the West Indian slaveholders, and defending, curiously enough, the Anglican Church in Ireland, which was afterward to find in him its mortal enemy. But before reproaching him too sharply for acts impossible to reconcile with his subsequent attitude, we should remember that he was not much over thirty when he followed PEEL in abjuring the economical policy of the Tories, and thus took the first step in a path which ultimately led to a total renovation of his political opinions. The process of conversion, however, did not, by any means, go on with the indecent haste which some unjust critics would have us take for granted. For several years after the downfall of his great leader, Mr. GLADSTONE remained in the detached group of Peelites which was reluctant to merge itself in either of the great contending parties; and it was not until 1852 that he definitely joined the new Liberal party, evolved through a junction of the more progressive Whigs and Peelites with the followers of BRIGHT and COBDEN. For more than ten years longer he figured among the most cautious and slow-moving members of the coalition, confining himself for the most part to financial questions, for which he soon evinced an incomparable aptitude. Nor was it until after the death of Lord PALMERSTON and his own defeat at Oxford, that he frankly accepted the whole Liberal programme, and resolutely addressed himself to the promotion of constitutional reform. From that day to this it may be said that, although he is chargeable with hesitation and vacillation, he has, on the whole, kept pace with the majority of his party, has, indeed, been willing to lead wherever he was assured by indisputable evidence that they would follow. It is by the work done and the words spoken during the thirty years which have elapsed since Mr. GLADSTONE first became Chancellor of the Exchequer, in 1853, that his rank among British statesmen and orators may be fairly estimated. As a financier he enjoyed and apparently deserved a higher reputation than any of his contemporaries who have attempted to discuss fiscal questions in Parliament during the generation which is passing away; but when we come to scrutinize the grounds of the praise so lavishly given him on this score, we find that he is distinguished less for the prompt solution of profound fiscal difficulties and the extrication of the Treasury from grave financial perils than for the lucid and ingenious interpretation of an intricate topic to men, most of whom were notoriously ignorant of the subject matter. When the conditions of the problems answered by Mr. GLADSTONE'S budgets are compared with the task imposed on British Chancellors of the Exchequer during the wars against NAPOLEON—with the desperate entanglements of the French ancien régime, from which TURGOT and NECKAR were called upon to save the State; with the embarrassments under which the United States long staggered after the Revolutionary war, and for which a remedy was found by ALEXANDER HAMILTON; with the appalling drain upon our national Treasury during the late civil war; or with the stupendous load which THIERS knew how to lift from the shoulders of his conquered country, we shall see but small cause for assigning to Mr. GLADSTONE a place among those men of genius whose skill in finance has rescued nations from impending ruin.

As a debater, Mr. GLADSTONE has never met his match during the last thirty years on the floor of the House of Commons, and perhaps that assembly never saw equalled his matured and disciplined power of extempore retort and exposition. That this, however, although useful, is not a very high form of intellectual achievement, is plain enough from the fact that a stenographic report of an exciting, give-and-take discussion is but tame reading at the best. Exception of a like kind may be taken to the prolonged, deliberate, and elaborate exhibitions of Mr. GLADSTONE'S oratorical talent. Unquestionably he is a great orator, one of the greatest that England ever heard, perhaps one of the most potent speakers the world has known, if the test of might in this direction is its grasp upon the passions of the immediate audience and its ability to shake a rival from his seat. If Mr. GLADSTONE has become well nigh invincible in a political canvass, it is because he is unrivalled among living Englishmen in the charm of personal magnetism, in the unerring divination of popular aversions and desires, in the intuitive adjustment of his own point of view to the average intellect, in the capacity of moulding thoughts in a congenial form, and of pitching his sentiments in a seductive key. In mastery of the spoken word, and in the wonders achieved by it over the spell-bound ear, he undoubtedly deserves a place in the small and splendid group to which CHATHAM and FOX belong, but into which the awkward, cold, and tedious delivery of BURKE would not suffer him to enter. On the other hand, it must be said that the speeches of GLADSTONE, like the speeches of FOX and CHATHAM, when subjected to the ruthless criterion of type, altogether fail to account for the strange fascination which is known to have informed their utterance. They possess little or no value for the student of politics; they will never command a place beside the works of BURKE in the library of the philosopher. As we read Mr. GLADSTONE'S speeches in print, we are reminded of the late Lord LYTTON'S comment on another British orator: "Words that were fire seem ashes on the page."

If, finally, we inquire on what credentials Mr. GLADSTONE'S claim to enlightened and far-reaching statesmanship will rest, we cannot but recognize an absence of the infallible foresight and the bold initiative which are observed to distinguish the highest form of statecraft. Up to the spring of 1882, when Mr. GLADSTONE rejected the FORSTER policy of coercion, and assumed temporarily an attitude toward Ireland with which the majority of his followers were not in sympathy, Mr. GLADSTONE has never been in advance of his party. He has patiently watched the fluctuation and evolution of its opinions; he has hearkened intently for an indication of its will; and he has reflected its convictions and echoed its hopes with the speed and fidelity of a well-conducted newspaper. If we could regard his political career as now ended, we might be sure that posterity would never rate him with those statesmen who have been the prophets and pioneers of great movements, with the men who were not afraid to startle, coerce, and educate their party. It will never set him, for example, beside the younger PITT, who, in the teeth of bankruptcy and the risk of civil war, held England in the vise of his unshaken purpose; beside CANNING, who compelled English Tories to feign a sympathy they did not feel with European and South American revolutionists; beside Sir ROBERT PEEL, who chose to shatter his party sooner than disown a truth which he had at last come to recognize, and who may almost be said to have repealed the Corn laws by his individual fiat. It looked, indeed, not long ago as if Mr. GLADSTONE meant to challenge by his Irish policy a niche among the few political leaders who have created parties and signally precipitated the march of enlightenment and reform. But the prospect has faded, and with it Mr. GLADSTONE'S claim to rank above the second, or even the third, grade of statesmen.

## Some Comments on a Recent Event.

Our esteemed and valued contemporary, the *Philadelphia Press*, one of the few journals of the Republican party that can truly be called independent, has the following timely observations upon an occurrence lately made public in the City of Brotherly Love:

"The *Press* published a piece of news yesterday, the interest and importance of which, we are sure, will not be overlooked. The termination of the long-standing suit of WILLIAM H. KEMBLE against Mr. CHARLES A. DANA is an event of moment in the political and journalistic world. Not only the newspaper fraternity, but the general public, will congratulate the fearless editor of THE SUN, both upon his prolonged battle and upon the happy ending of the legal issue.

"Mr. DANA threw down his challenge nine years ago when the policy of 'addition, division, and silence' was at its height in this State, and when it defied and laughed at opposition. The struggle was immediately opened between the threat of prosecution on the one side and the unflinching determination of the honest journalist on the other. While the one has partly slumbered from its very impotence beyond the narrow range of its jurisdiction, the other has been sleepless, and its power has been as broad as the republic. The editor has been unyielding in his warfare upon this code of false political morals, and has firmly resisted every movement or suggestion of compromise. Now, at last, Mr. KEMBLE wisely relinquishes the suit without Mr. DANA'S knowledge, and the mild terrors of the law no longer hang over him.

"We are greatly gratified at the result, not merely for its journalistic significance, but for the sake of Mr. DANA and for the sake of Philadelphia. We are sure it must have been a great deprivation to him, as it has been to us, that he has remained so long without the sight of our good city. Since the brilliant editor of THE SUN last had the privilege of enjoying its hospitality, Philadelphia has immeasurably advanced in all the elements of greatness. When he hastens over here now to make up for his long absence he will scarcely recognize the splendid metropolis which stretches along the Delaware and the Schuylkill. As he walks down Chestnut street he will be delighted at the renewed opportunity of seeing the glittering avenue whose windows are the prettiest and whose faces are the brightest in the world. We can welcome him now to our Saturday Club, our Farmers' Club, and our many other brilliant social gatherings. He can freely come and devote himself to the philanthropic work of looking after the BLACKS, and when he wants fresh inspiration for his relentless battle against public wrongs he will find it under the shadow of Independence Hall.

"The event possesses great importance in another view. Mr. DANA has waged an incessant war upon the festering wrongs at Washington, but he has been constrained to fight at a distance. All roads lead to Rome, and New Yorkers cannot go from their side city to the capital of their country without coming to the great central metropolis—that is, Philadelphia. The unyielding editor of THE SUN has found it inconvenient to come here, and thus has been unable to visit Washington. The obstacle is now removed, and the terrific broadsides of THE SUN can be made still more effective as Mr. DANA'S keen eye has opportunity of occasionally making a close inspection of the objects of attack. In every point of view the close of the suit is a matter for public congratulation."

The good will of our able and well-informed contemporary is most gratifying. In one respect, however, the *Press* is mistaken. The editor of THE SUN has no occasion to visit Washington to make clearer his appreciation of the wrongs done there, or to make his denunciation of those wrongs more effective. We have found that there is no other place in the country where the true relations of things can be so correctly discerned as in the city of New York; and what has often seemed innocence to the eyes of almost every one in Washington, has been seen in its true colors of villainy from our window on Printing House square.

## Why Cincinnati is a Musical Centre.

Our esteemed contemporary, the *Cincinnati Commercial*, proclaims the fact that Cincinnati is a great musical centre. The history of music in Cincinnati is very interesting. Some years ago the best place that some wandering musicians could find in Cincinnati to give a concert in was a small and unsuitable building with a defective roof, and in the middle of the concert the rain came down and leaked through on the head of an old gentleman, who afterward gave to the city its present great music hall. This has an immense number of seats and a tight roof.

With such facilities the music of Cincinnati grew louder and more frequent, and now from all parts of the country crowds throng to hear the great masses of BEETHOVEN and the Passion music of BACH, and listen to such airs as "Hear ye Israel!" or "Ocean, thou mighty monster!" All the opera companies stop over a night in Cincinnati, and PATTI sings as joyously to the Cincinnatians as to her famed idolaters of St. Petersburg.

But, with a singular shallowness, our esteemed contemporary thinks it has discovered the most influential cause of such general musical culture in the cheapening of prices of admission to the concerts. It costs in New York from five to ten dollars for a seat from which you can hear PATTI sing, but in Cincinnati such a seat only costs one or two dollars. But one prima donna cannot make a musical centre. PATTI comes occasionally, but music is always heard in Cincinnati. They have there spring festivals and festivals in the autumn and during the winter, when the attractions are the classic works of the old masters.

Now, the musical taste that can enjoy and understand some of the most famous old choral works is not appealed to by any such consideration as cheapness of admission. Many people would not be hired to go to hear the Passion music. Not even five or ten dollars a time would hire them. No! This extraordinary development of the Cincinnatians in their general love for the most exalted forms of music can be due to no other cause than to the patient and benign influence of the truly good man, who in the cultivation of the higher æsthetic aspirations of his fellow citizens will tolerate no such malignant associates as his wicked partners are known to be in the vocation of journalism. Cheap concerts and richly endowed colleges may furnish the means to develop a taste for musical knowledge; but all such facilities would be wasted were there not instilled into the minds of the citizens of Cincinnati a genuine love for the humane, the beautiful, and the truly good. And this love, we believe, finds its origin in the life, the influence, and the example of the truly good Deacon RICHARD SMITH.

There can be no doubt of Attorney-General BREWSTER'S desire to convict the Star route defendants of conspiracy. The last manifestation of this sentiment is his denial to them of the right of access to the printed records of the trials, although they are fairly and legally entitled to it. Mr. BREWSTER would probably be happier if he could sit at ease in his luxurious office and have the defendants convicted without any trial at all. If he would deny himself a little relaxation and expend a little more personal vigor on his duties, we might probably witness a more creditable trial.

When Robesonian Congressmen fall out it is no sign that honest men will get their dues. Mr. HISCOCK may have been in earnest when he accused SECOR ROBESON of spite toward the newspapers in the fast mail service debate yesterday, and he may not. From the relations existing between the two men, it would be easier to believe that the quarrel was feigned for effect on the public. Still, when HISCOCK feels assured that ROBESON'S political days are numbered, he will desert him, and perhaps he thinks that time has come. HISCOCK was never suspected of gratitude.

If the last Republican Congress stops the two per cent. assessments and gives us two-cent postage, the party will die in very decent shape in 1884.

We presume it was owing to Mr. JAY GOULD'S peculiar contempt for personal display that neither the columns of the *World* nor of the *Tribune* contained any editorial notice of his cross-examination before the Senate committee. Yet when one reads what Mr. GOULD said, who can wonder that such intellectual machinery as his should dominate among the coarser minds with which Mr. GOULD is associated? He has brains of unusual potency, that is certain.

Indianapolis is trying a new way of dealing with the telegraph pole nuisance. The companies are taxed for the use of the city streets at the rate of $2 a pole. In this city such a tax would yield a considerable revenue. But if such a tax is imposed, it should be so heavy as to make the companies put the wires under ground, where they belong.

The Post Office Department has been very tardy in moving upon the fraudulent marriage insurance companies. Silly people have been sending their money to the swindlers for the past two years, and the mails have been used to an unlimited extent in carrying on the nefarious business. The putting of 240 Southern companies on the Post Office black list ought to suggest to the Legislatures of the Southern States the necessity of laws to protect society from the men who prey upon it.

The cold plunge in the tidal wave has not cooled the hot temper of the Republican factions. The fight on the Administration continues to be waged relentlessly by the Half Breed organs. The Watertown *Post* thus sums up the chief grievances:

"He has just sent in the name of JUDSON T. STEVENS for Postmaster of Utica, in place of CLARK and still withholds the commission of Mr. LAPHAM of Lewiville and does nothing toward restoring Mr. DANIELS, expelled from the Ogdensburg Custom House for factional purposes. People who have read his recent message have generally remarked: 'Well, the President has heard from the New York election, and has made a commendable effort to get into public favor by the utterance of popular convictions.' But the very first act on the assembling of Congress begins right where he left off at the adjournment of the last session. The same tone of party contention is set upon the dining table."

There evidently is work cut out for WOOD PULP MILLER in the Senate this winter.

A writer in the *Ithaca Journal*, Gov. CORNELL'S organ, names Mr. CORNELL as the Republican candidate for President in 1884. This is the original programme that was disarranged by the failure to renominate him at Saratoga. The attempt to carry it out now, in view of his own defeat and the overthrow of the party, shows that Mr. CORNELL'S boldness is his prominent trait. The hint of the part the Governor expects to play in party management is thus stated by his Ithaca friend:

"Now that ROBERTSON is out of the way, the leadership of the anti-Stalwart element is vacant. There is no man in the length and breadth of New York who is more likely to succeed to it, and become the choice of the Republican majority for the chief post in the nation, than the man whose honesty and pluck as Governor made him the target for Stalwart abuse and brought about his defeat in the Saratoga Convention by the unscrupulous agents of the Administration."

With the elevated railroad trains "slowing up" in running past churches, the police enjoined from interfering with sacred concerts, scientific lectures, and ice cream wagons, and smelting furnaces kept in blast under the protection of the courts, this Sunday is likely to pass without any violent collision between citizens of the metropolis and the Penal Code. The philosophy with which Americans meet their social and political difficulties and get around them has no parallel among other peoples.

## WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

### The Achievements of the French-American Claims Commission.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The semi-official statement furnished by the French-American Claims Commission in answer to the communication published in THE SUN of Dec. 8 is a feeble apology, and is only remarkable for the dexterity with which it evades the plain charge of unreasonable delay, gross extravagance, and a palpable violation of one of the covenants of the treaty.

The reply admits that the last claim was filed on Sept. 22, 1881, and that during a year and a half only 153 cases were disposed of, but it omits to state that of these 135 cases were dismissed without progressing one single step beyond the preliminary presentation to the Commission. They were excluded by the provision of the section of the treaty relating to naturalization of claimants.

This leaves fifteen awards, amounting to $14,000, including interest (as the information furnished me in writing by Mr. Peddrick, the Secretary, shows), for two years' work, and $300,000 expended.

If confirmation is needed of the extravagant expenditure of this Commission and the settled purpose of all connected with it to keep it existing as long as possible, I refer to the affidavit of one of the lawyers practising before it. He squarely charges, under oath, "that assistant counsel in New Orleans, receiving $600, $500, and $400 per month and $75 for expenses, besides being paid actual expenses when travelling, and special agents at $12 per day and $5 per day travelling expenses, have done everything to retard and delay the taking of testimony and the progress of cases."

Here I shall leave this unique body, and I again submit that the Congress of the United States ought to interfere. J. A. E.

### Cameron and Mitchell Shake Hands—The Trouble Between Folger and Chandler.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Senators Cameron and Mitchell have come to an understanding in the interests of peace, but Gen. Arthur and Senator Cameron have reconsidered the scheme of rewards and punishments arranged for Pennsylvania. Cameron, in a forgiving spirit, will not pursue the wholesale slaughter that, with Arthur's assistance, had been determined on, and Mitchell, grateful for the lenity, makes pledges of peace and amity for the future. Gen. Arthur, realizing that he could not afford to permit the use longer of the patronage of the Administration as it had been used in Pennsylvania to carry on a war in his party, encouraged the treaty between the two Senators—and now there is peace everywhere!

Now, whether Cameron is to be permitted to elect himself to the Senate again when the time comes, with the consent, if not coöperation, of Mitchell and the Independents, remains to be seen. He is on his good behavior, and with that the Independents seem to be satisfied. It is a fact that to the Independents the result of the election, when they come to look at it, is not altogether satisfying. Cameron gave notice that he could live under Democratic rule as long as they could, and that if they liked it he would not complain. To that kind of patriots the challenge was rather effective. The idea of depriving themselves voluntarily of any opportunity to participate in the distribution of the spoils contained so many hints for peace that the present treaty came about almost as a matter of course.

The strained relations between Secretary Folger and Secretary Chandler threaten to hasten Cabinet changes. Chandler a considerable time ago expressed his dislike for Folger. He undertook to procure his resignation when he became a candidate for Governor. Failing in that, he conceived the idea of crowding out the Secretary of the Treasury. The two have for some time been in a controversy over Chandler's offensive assumptions concerning the revenue marine and proposals to transfer to the Navy Department that and other bureaus now in the Treasury Department.

Besides, Chandler is the friend of the fugitive Spencer, with whom he has of late been in correspondence for objects totally at variance with the intentions of the President. It is difficult to see how the prosecution of the Star route conspirators can be conducted with vigor and success with that subtle intriguer William E. Chandler in the Cabinet.

### One of the Star Route Men Removed Still in Government Employ.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Mr. Helm, who was recently removed, as was alleged, from the position of superintendent of the *Congressional Record* in the Government Printing Office, at the instance of Col. Bliss and Attorney-General Brewster, because he was "an obstruction in the course of Justice" in connection with the Star route suits, still holds an important position in the Government Printing Office. The fact that he is so employed is no secret. It is known to hundreds of persons. It is known to members of Arthur's Cabinet. It is known to at least one of the special counsel for the Government in the Star route suits.

In the recent removals ostensibly to clear the way for a fair trial of the Star routers, there was obviously the element of false pretence. Mr. Helm's employment in the Government Printing Office is by no means the principal reason for such a belief.

In the appointment of the new Postmaster for Washington, Chandler obtained a first-rate place for an old friend, and one who is also a valuable member of both the New Hampshire Ring and of the old District Ring. In Mr. McMichael the President secured a Marshal up to his standard for the ceremonials of his administration, as well as a capable officer otherwise. It seems to have been thought easier to use the Star route business as a rest while firing out Marshal Henry and Postmaster Almer than to do it at arm's length, and so Helm was included in the list to return to duty and his pay again, even if the latter ever ceased. If not false pretences, what is this?

In Washington there are people who understand perfectly why it is that ex-Senator Spencer is not brought here as a witness. If he can be corresponded with, Spencer can be found. How not to do it probably never had so apt an illustration as this alleged hunt for him.

There is more crookedness in your ways, Messrs. Prosecutors, than has been dreamed of by Dorsey!

### Sam Ward in Great Luck.

*From the London Truth.*

Although the New York journals are unanimous in pronouncing Mrs. Langtry's histrionic attempts "a fizzle," there is no doubt that socially she is a great success.

And the following extract from a private letter shows that she has captivated the most delightful man on "the other side," Uncle Sam Ward:

Dear Uncle Sam dined with her (Mrs. Langtry), and he is perfectly "enthused:" and, from what I was told, she reciprocates the sentiment. This is so true a fact that the day after they had been introduced she wrote to invite him to pass the evening with her, and began her note, "Dear Uncle Sam," and signed it, "affectionately yours, Lillie." I saw it with my own eyes! Lucky, happy, and delighted old friend.

### Gen. Sherman About to Retire.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Gen. Sherman will give up the command of the army next fall, after making his annual report. He intends to leave everything in good shape for his successor, Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan. He will reside in St. Louis. Under the Compulsory Retirement act he need not leave the army until the spring of 1884. He left town to-day for a visit to New York and Philadelphia.

### Suppressing Marriage Associations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—About 240 of the Southern matrimonial and natal associations have been placed upon the black list of the Post Office Department. The Postmasters at the places where these societies exist have been instructed to return to the senders money orders addressed to the associations. The order is based upon inspectors' reports showing the associations to be fraudulent institutions.

### Chinese Brides Not Welcomed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Secretary of the Treasury has decided that a Chinaman now residing in Pittsburgh cannot bring into this country a woman whom he intends to marry in China. If he were already married, and his wife were in China, she could come.

### Prince Bismarck's New Gray Beard.

*From the London Times.*

BERLIN, Dec. 4.—Prince Bismarck returned to town yesterday evening from Varzin, accompanied by his wife and eldest son. The Chancellor, who, since he left Berlin six months ago, has grown a thick gray beard, is looking wonderfully fresh and strong. It is expected that he will take an early opportunity of appearing in the Reichstag, to express his thoughts on what amounts to the triennial budget scheme of the Government.

The *North American Review* is not only the most solid, it is one of the most varied and judicious periodicals of this country. The number for January opens with a discussion upon the revision of religious creeds, and concludes with an exposure of some fonts of newspapers. Mr. Gilbert M. Tucker discusses American English. Prof. Le Conte Stevens expounds the question of universal education for women; the Rev. Dr. Thomas illustrates the responsibilities of progressive thinkers, especially of thinkers upon religious subjects. Prof. Rice contributes a definition of liberty, and Dr. David Hunt speaks upon bigotry in the medical profession. It is not necessary to say that every one of these articles is not composed of the perfection of wisdom, but they are timely, useful, and provocative of thought. Mr. Rice is a successful editor of the *North American Review*.

## YALE'S CHALLENGE TO HARVARD.

### A Reply Requested by Jan. 18—Indignation Over Harvard's Action.

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 16.—At a meeting of the Yale Graduate Committee this morning Profs. Woolsey and Richards, George St. John Sheffield, George A. Adee, Henry Sargent, ex-Capt. Camp, and Capt. Hull were present. Great indignation was expressed over the treatment of Yale's challenge to Harvard, sent on Oct. 18. The answer, ten days later, read: "As there are several questions relative to the race which Harvard wishes to consider before definitely accepting your challenge, have delayed answering note. An answer to challenge will be sent at the earliest convenience." The reports in New York and Boston papers of boating meetings held at Harvard, saying that Harvard considered it her first duty to arrange a race with Columbia, and if a race were arranged the Yale men could be forced to come to terms in the arrangements for their race, and if Yale would not do as Harvard wanted Harvard could forego the race with Yale, who would be left out in the cold, has caused anxiety on the part of Yale as to the final acceptance of their challenge. The Graduate Committee instructed the officers of their navy to inform Harvard at once that some definite understanding is necessary, and they would most courteously request a reply to their challenge prior to Jan. 18. Yale claims that the challenge should be directly accepted or refused, and that any of the "several questions which Harvard wishes to consider" should in all fairness be mutually agreed upon hereafter. They consider that Harvard, by the delay, has taken an unfair advantage, and among the graduates the talk to-night is that if Harvard does not reply on the date specified there will be no Yale-Harvard race next year.

## THE RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS.

### Opinion of a Member of the Assembly.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As a member of Assembly during the last session of the Legislature, permit me to say that I read with much satisfaction in your issue of Monday last Col. F. A. Conkling's statement regarding the part taken by the so-called National Anti-Monopoly League in the recommendation of a Railroad Commission. Unquestionably it was the intention of the Legislature to vest the power referred to in the New York State Anti-Monopoly League. That body, as Col. Conkling justly remarks, is composed exclusively of citizens of this State, and comprises a large number of distinguished and able men, who represent every section of the State. On the other hand, all that is known of the National Anti-Monopoly League is that it is a sham, got up for selfish and sinister purposes by the very men who control the New York Board of Trade and Transportation. Of course it goes without saying that the Legislature might precisely as well have vested the power of recommendation in one of these bodies as to vest it in both.

But what is perhaps more to the purpose is that I speak by the book when I say that not one of my colleagues in the House of Assembly out of every twenty, if indeed one out of fifty, had any knowledge whatever of the existence of such a body as the National Anti-Monopoly League, as contra-distinguished from the New York State Anti-Monopoly League.

Every man who has ever served a week in the Legislature of this State knows that the representatives of the rural districts are universally and habitually jealous of their colleagues from the large cities, and chary of granting them exclusive privileges. Having clothed two of the numerous commercial bodies in this city, namely, the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trade and Transportation, with authority to unite in recommending a Railroad Commissioner, what could be more natural than that it should associate with them an organization such as I have described, which represents the State at large, and in which the rural districts have a controlling voice? Yours, respectfully,

JAMES D. MCCLELLAND.

### Information for Boston.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Will you kindly inform the undersigned subscriber if the American Minister, Consul-General, or any other representative of the United States has to go through the form of kissing the Pope's slipper when an audience is granted to him?

If the United States has not a Minister accredited to the Vatican, is the Consul obliged to conform to this observance? H.

BOSTON, Dec. 15.

When the Pope receives a visitor, official or other, he does not require of him any act of prostration. If the visitor is a Catholic, he may kiss the slipper of his Holiness, just as a visitor to a Bishop may kiss his ring. But if the visitor is not a Catholic, he is simply expected to behave himself like a gentleman.

The United States has a Minister in Rome accredited to the Italian Government. There is also an American Consul-General there. Either of these officers may present Americans to Leo XIII., and every one, Protestant as well as Catholic, who is received at the Vatican, comes away delighted with the apostolic benignity and gentleness of the venerable Pontiff.

### Facts About Georgia Gold Mining.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I was glad to see in your issue of Sunday last the letter of "Miner," which disposed of some of the wild statements of your Atlanta correspondent about Georgia gold mines and processes as they deserved, with their ridiculous pretensions of sales "in the millions" and "bonanzas" of high grade ore in Georgia. But he left an unfair impression that there was no assured value in the gold industry of Georgia, and his reference to the yield of 1880 is unfair at the end of 1882, when the product has been rapidly rising, and the net profit still more so.

The report of Mint Superintendent Burchard for 1881, pages 472, 473, gives 235 stamps as working on the free gold ores of Lumpkin and Dawson counties, and others are being rapidly erected.

The fact is that the Georgia sulphuret ore, whether rich or poor, does not seem to be worked, or to furnish any notable fraction of the output of the State. Practically, the entire yield is from the great masses of decomposed ores carrying free gold, and requiring no experimental processes. These are among the lowest grade ores known, except some of the California gravel beds, and yet to-day they are yielding the readiest income known in precious metal mining; never, however, on millions in any single investment. There is no room for such figures to be expended. But concerns with one or two hundred thousand dollars value are washing out 20 to 30 per cent. per annum from broad belts of decomposed schists with the regularity of returns of any brick manufactory or grist mill, and with 20 to 30 years of supply of the material in their hills above water level.

The recent mode of work is, in fact, quarrying by water streams at a very trifling cost, of material in large visible bulk, without the uncertainties or expenses of vein mining. It furnishes no basis for huge profits or prices, or for any speculative bubbles, but, on the contrary, is an industry worthy of respectful notice as a producer.

I think that one of your townsmen, either S. L. M. Barlow or E. W. Andrews, on his private properties first brought this working to perfection since the beginning of 1880. It is a new combination, quarrying the ore and dissolving three-fourths of it by water, and crushing the harder one-fourth in simple stamp mills.

Dec. 16, 1882. AN OLD READER.

### More Thoughts on Whistling.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Much has been said and written about whistling, and, for my part, I don't care if ten thousand people (women included) are whistling around me, it doesn't disturb me in the least. I would much rather have a person sit beside me and whistle, no matter how shrilly, than have one chin me about something I never heard of, or he never knew anything about. I can't whistle myself, but when I hear a big lie I can make a noise with my mouth that sounds like a whistle. Now, my wife beats all I ever heard. She can imitate a flute better than any boiler factory in the land, and my oldest brother acquired the art of imitating a fly caught in a spider's web, just by breathing through his nose. Often people in church, sitting near him, have thought they heard canary birds singing, or flies on a window pane trying to get out; and, strange to say, he can do it better when he is just dropping off in a doze.

People who do not know how to whistle cannot appreciate whistling. Suppose a person who can't whistle is riding on the rear platform of a car, and another person, who has been eating onions, gets on, stands in front of him, and begins to whistle in his face, what is the effect? Why, the man who can't whistle either gets off the car or goes to the front platform