The Sun.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1883.

Subscription by Mail—Post Paid.

DAILY, Per Month	50
DAILY, Per Year	6 00
SUNDAY, Per Year	1 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	7 00
WEEKLY, Per Year	1 00

THE SUN, New York City.

Advertising Rates.

Ordinary Advertisements, per Agate line	$0 40
Large type or cuts (Agate measurement) per line	0 80
Business Notices, before marriages and deaths, per line	0 75
Special Notices, after marriages and deaths, per line	0 50
Banking and Financial (after money article)	0 75
Reading Notices, with "Adv.," 3d page, per line	1 50
Reading Notices, with "Adv.," 1st or 2d page, per line	2 50

In Sunday edition same rates as above.

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 Oct. 20, 1883, was:*

Sunday	151,181	Thursday	132,331
Monday	132,849	Friday	132,6[illegible]1
Tuesday	132,026	Saturday	131,051
Wednesday	132,713	Weekly	6[illegible],752

Total for the week 1,013,624

Timely Truth.

The end of the Citizens' Committee did not come too soon. It was a body to which a number of very respectable citizens belonged, and which aimed at lofty objects. It reached none of them. Its intentions may have been good, but its methods were the same as those which it affected to condemn.

It arrogated to itself a wisdom and a virtue superior to those of the general run of people. It pretended that caucuses and conventions packed by bosses deprive the voters of their rights in the choice of public officers; and then it set up its own arbitrary and irresponsible will as the proper criterion to follow in municipal elections. It objected to machines, and yet it constituted itself an offensive machine. The people always have it in their power to smash machines, but this citizens' movement could not be smashed, because the people had nothing to do with it.

The committee has finally tumbled to pieces of itself. Its managers at last recognized that the people of this city are entirely competent to manage their own affairs, and to make and ratify or reject nominations for office, without the officious assistance of a self-created organization. The citizens' movement was the attempt of an oligarchy to dictate nominations and policy. It was essentially undemocratic, and it failed.

Practically it amounted to this: A few gentlemen, full of indignation against deals and dickering, proceeded to nominate a ticket, and then made all the deals and dickers they could to strengthen it. It usually needed strengthening.

But the respectable gentlemen whose experiment has just come to grief, have probably learned something by their failure. Perhaps they have learned that a municipal government is not essentially different from a State government or the national government in the principles according to which it should be administered and the persons chosen to carry it on. There is no way but by a party in which, in the long run, a popular government can be carried on. The mistake made by the estimable gentlemen who have just withdrawn from the task of choosing rulers for their fellow citizens, is the mistake of believing that there is something peculiar and mysterious about a municipal government which differentiates it from other forms of popular government. But the people always know better than a few wiseacres.

The Judiciary Election in the Second District.

We hear from all parts of the Second Judicial district hearty expressions of satisfaction at the nomination of Mr. WILLARD BARTLETT for Justice of the Supreme Court, and no doubt is entertained of his election. He is conducting his canvass in a quiet and dignified manner, and has not allowed his friends to indulge in the slightest unfavorable intimation respecting the candidacy of his opponent, although there is reason to believe that Mr. JOHNSON has not followed his example in this respect. Otherwise Mr. JOHNSON would not have permitted his supporters to make statements concerning Mr. BARTLETT'S nomination which he himself must know to be untrue.

The Democratic organization in Kings county, which was never more perfect or united than it is to-day, is cordially and heartily supporting Mr. BARTLETT, and the intimations to the contrary which have been so industriously circulated and sent out to the rural counties are absolutely without foundation.

The appeal which is made in Mr. JOHNSON'S circulars headed, "The office is not political and should not be made to appear so," is particularly preposterous in view of the fact that Mr. JOHNSON has long been an active politician, and held office for many years under the municipal Government in Brooklyn as a Democrat, but went over to the Republicans about 1880.

To ask independent voters to give Mr. JOHNSON their support as being a non-political candidate, rather than to extend it to a lawyer who has never held or sought office, and who, to say the least, is Mr. JOHNSON'S equal in ability and character, is to insult their intelligence.

As our valued contemporary, the *Brooklyn Eagle*, said concerning Mr. BARTLETT'S nomination: "There is much in having the ermine worn by men who, so far as can be seen, have not had their tempers ruffled or their feelings affected by the controversies of people who may come before them for justice."

The New Religious Tastes.

The very general favor with which propositions for the enrichment of the Book of Common Prayer are received in the Episcopal General Convention, is another indication of the remarkable growth of the taste for liturgical worship in this country.

Not many years ago the amendments proposed, which have for their purpose the increase of the warmth and liturgical effectiveness of the services of the Church, might have encountered much opposition, on the ground that they were likely to encourage ritualistic tendencies. Now the fear of that result has been pretty thoroughly dissipated, or rather there is a very general demand for a richer ritual. Churches which formerly had few features to distinguish them from the temples of communions without a liturgy, have been remodelled so as to be adapted to a more ritualistic celebration of the services. The simple methods of conducting the prayer and praise which once satisfied churchmen, now seem cold and bare to them. They want more symbolism, more pronounced ecclesiological effects, a more emotional, a more stately, and a grander service.

Protestant denominations outside of the Episcopal Church are simultaneously finding that their young people especially are attracted by a liturgy, and are restive in churches where the service is bare of ornament. They often see the Episcopal churches drawing away a large part of the more cultivated portion of their congregations. If they cannot command the services of a very popular preacher, a man not easy to find or get, they are unable to hold their own. They may keep their ancient members, but the new generation are not satisfied. The monotony of the service bores them. Meantime, too, the prayer meeting, which once gave the devotional spirit of the people an outlet, has fallen into decadence in some leading denominations, and consequently they feel all the more the need of richer, more emotional, and more interesting services.

At this time, too, the doctrinal differences which brought about the establishment of various denominations, awaken comparatively little interest. Bitter denominational disputes are now over, and consequently the profit gained from active partisanship is lost. It seems to very many people that there is no principle of essential importance involved whether they worship in one Protestant Church or another. Accordingly they go where their tastes in the matter of forms of worship or their social demands are best satisfied.

Great numbers, too, have religious sentiments, but no specific religious convictions. They like to take part in public worship, having devotional needs they cannot leave unsatisfied without a feeling of absolute loss; but they care little about theological systems. Or perhaps they wish to bring up their children under salutary religious influences, though they themselves have fallen into doubt or agnostic indifference. Fashion, too, as a matter of course, determines the selection of the Church in very many cases. The Episcopal Church, with its liturgy and devotional and æsthetical standards, is very likely to attract all such people.

Besides, the love of the artistic and ornamental, of the decorative and sensuous, has been greatly increasing in this country, within the last fifteen years especially. There may be less of the substance of religious faith, but there has simultaneously grown up a more exacting taste in regard to religious forms. Stern Puritanism, with its denunciation of whatever merely gratified the sense, has fallen into the background in this period of luxury and æsthetical development.

Lieut. Garlington's Report.

Three important points are practically settled by the official report which Lieut. E. A. GARLINGTON has just made of his disastrous attempt to rescue the Signal Service party at Lady Franklin Bay.

The first of these points is the incompetency of Capt. PIKE of the Proteus for the special task assigned to him, and the worthlessness of his crew. To begin with, on the voyage out Capt. PIKE ran past Godhaven, in Greenland, which was the first port he had to make, although the weather was clear; but fortunately he was overhauled and turned back by the Godhaven pilot. Next he ran his vessel aground off Disco Fiord and injured her false keel, solely in consequence of his neglect to take soundings. When GARLINGTON, remonstrating at "the careless manner in which the ship was being navigated," investigated this affair, he found that three fathoms had at some time before been cut from the lead line and used for another purpose, so that the Proteus might have been wrecked and all on board lost, even where the soundings showed plenty of water. A few days after, PIKE reported the land ahead to be Bushman Island, near Cape York; but GARLINGTON, who now knew that the Captain could not be relied upon, directed his own subordinate, Lieut. COLWELL, to make observations, and these showed the Proteus to be 100 miles or more from Cape York:

"I was not surprised at the error made by Capt. PIKE, as he had no idea of what was the local deviation of his compass, which must have been great and variable, for different courses, due to the large amount and unequal distribution of iron about the binnacle."

Yet Capt. PIKE was a treasure of good conduct, compared with his crew. The crushing of the Proteus was apparently the fault of nobody, being one of the perils incident to Arctic exploration; but while GARLINGTON'S own picked men worked heroically, every one, for the general good, when the peril came, and while COLWELL, by his personal exertions, saved one whaleboat, which proved of priceless value in the retreat, the sailors of the Proteus abandoned their posts at the first alarm, ran to save their own property in the forecastle, and when the stores were thrown out on the ice, began breaking open boxes and bags and filching their contents. To GARLINGTON'S protests Capt. PIKE only replied that his crew were "the worst lot of scoundrels he ever saw," and their shameful conduct was not restrained:

"They seemed bent on robbing from the start. I think, however, that if their officers had taken the proper stand, there would have been no difficulty in preventing them from indulging their stealing propensities."

But why did not GARLINGTON, after the loss of the Proteus, retreat to Littleton Island, there await the Yantic, and establish a winter station at Lifeboat Cove for a few men, sending the remainder and the Proteus's crew to St. John? This is the second point on which the report throws light; and while, as it turns out, GARLINGTON was wrong in some of his suppositions, it does not necessarily follow that, with everything so uncertain around him, it was an error of judgment for him to cross Melville Bay instead, and retreat on Upernavik. He knew that the Yantic was "not at all adapted to contend against the ice," and that her commander "had specific orders not to go into the ice;" he therefore concluded that she would not risk passing through such obstacles as those which had wrecked even the stout Proteus. Some commanders might have taken the chances of an opposite solution of the difficulty; but, after his experience of the sailors who were with him, GARLINGTON will hardly be blamed for deciding to content himself with bringing his own expedition skilfully and safely out of its dangerous position.

The third point made clear by Lieut. GARLINGTON'S report to Gen. HAZEN is the most important of all. Why did he not land his relief stores for GREELY'S party on the Littleton Island rendezvous, where they would be safe, before pressing north in the Proteus, in whose wreck they perished? This was the universal question when the news of the disaster reached us. For the answer, recourse was naturally had to the instructions given to GARLINGTON by Gen. HAZEN; and there it was found that this officer had been ordered to press forward, first of all, and at all hazards, toward Lady Franklin Bay. But Gen. HAZEN immediately came forward with the publication of some alleged supplementary instructions. These instructions, sure enough, gave positive directions for the landing of the stores and the establishment of a winter station for retreat on Littleton Island before going further north. Thus it seemed clear that GARLINGTON never received these later instructions, or else that he wilfully disobeyed orders, and thereby left GREELY in great peril. Now, at last, we have the explanation of this strange business, and it shall be given in GARLINGTON'S own words:

"The only instructions I ever received are the original instructions published at the time. An unsigned written paper was enclosed in the envelope with my instructions. This paper is simply an unauthenticated copy of a memorandum prepared by an officer in your office. I was informed that this memorandum was to have been furnished the Secretary of the Navy to form the basis of instructions to be given the commander of the vessel ordered to accompany the Proteus. The paper was not addressed or signed. Indeed, it bore no official marks whatever. I have never at any time regarded it as an order, and I was surprised to find the statement published that this paper was the supplementary instructions. When I found it among the papers furnished me, I at once carried it to you and called your attention specially to that clause relating to landing supplies on Littleton Island. You said, in substance, you did not know how that had gotten in there, and impressed upon me the necessity of carrying out as far as possible the instructions I had received."

Can anything be more contemptible than the subterfuge by which the first brunt of public indignation, on the news of the disaster, was turned from HAZEN upon the absent GARLINGTON? And could anything show more vividly the fatal imbecility of the Signal Office than furtively tucking into an envelope of official instructions a memorandum exactly opposite in its indications of what should be done, as if to screen the Signal Office, and to make it appear to be right whatever might happen?

From beginning to end, in the plan proposed, the instructions given, and the means furnished for carrying them out, this miserable Proteus expedition is a fit contribution to the follies of polar exploration.

Believers and Agnostics.

The respectful treatment of the late Roman Catholic Pastoral Letter by the members of the Presbyterian Synod of New York suggests that all believers in the authority of divine revelation may yet feel the necessity of uniting, where they can unite, to resist the inroads of modern infidelity, and to oppose socialistic doctrines which threaten the sway of religion.

The strong ground against divorce taken in that letter, its proclamation of the sanctity of marriage, and other of its declarations concerning social questions now uppermost in the public thought, command the approval of conservative religious sentiment generally. The expressions of the letter concerning divorce and temperance, said Dr. HOPKINS in the Presbyterian Synod on Thursday, "would do honor to any Church. It is coming to be the glory of that Church," he added, "that it stands out alone against divorce." And when he read extracts from the Pastoral Letter to enforce his remarks, they were received with general applause.

It is true that a committee, to whom they were referred, reported against resolutions offered by Dr. HOPKINS in commendation of the sentiments of the Pastoral Letter which had so greatly pleased him, and the Synod, by a large majority, adopted, instead of them, a resolution refusing to interfere with the affairs of other communions. Yet it was manifest that the body was in sympathy with the Cardinal and Bishops in regard to the subjects referred to by Dr. HOPKINS.

The opposition of modern infidelity is unmistakably bringing orthodox Protestants and Catholics nearer together. They have a bond of union in their common belief in revelation, which the contemporary infidelity assails at its very foundation.

The modern civilized world is beginning to be sharply divided into two great classes, those who believe in the authority of the Bible and its divine origin, and those who utterly reject the whole theory of inspiration and revelation as an absurdity and an impossibility. On the one side are the Christians, and on the other the agnostics, who believe nothing that is not satisfactorily demonstrated to their reason.

Modern infidelity is not directed against any particular system of theology, but against all theology and all supernaturalism. It may therefore tend to the consolidation of the now scattered hosts of belief, not ecclesiastically, perhaps, but in an alliance offensive and defensive. Before the strong and arrogant common enemy, intestine quarrels may cease in the camp of faith.

The Western Idea of Dealing with the Indians.

The point to which the Indian problem has finally been reduced is clearly demonstrated by Gov. NEWELL of Washington Territory in his recent biennial message. So far the Indians have given up their former hunting grounds only after barbarous and bloody wars. A treacherous and suspicious race, they have been cheated and imposed on by the white men during the whole of the settlers' advance; and after every fresh encroachment of the Western pioneers they have murdered and robbed and fought with rage and desperation, only to be overpowered and beaten in the end, until they have been scattered and frightened, and sullenly retired within the narrowed limits of the regions allotted to them by the Government under the name of reservations. From time to time there have been outbreaks by parties of restless and unmanageable young braves, who defied the authority of their chiefs, but these, one after another, meeting with the same punishment, have died away, until the only tribe that still are ungovernable are the Apaches. All the rest are peaceful and settled on their reservations, and perhaps even the Apaches under the present arrangement will never give any more trouble. The Northwestern Indians are pretty thoroughly awed by the certainty of failure in any further attempt at warfare, so that many of them even hesitate to come to the borders of their new hunting grounds. If the existing Indian treaties should continue to be observed, and if the Indians should not be disturbed in their present holdings, there might be peace for an indefinite time, perhaps until they should be brought over to civilization. But the white men in the West look with envy upon every acre occupied by the savages which is not desert land. Much of the reserved territory is fertile, or known or thought to contain valuable minerals, and the energetic Westerner cannot bear to see a rich soil unimproved. This sentiment is excellently expressed by Gov. NEWELL:

"Thirteen thousand Indians occupy fifteen reservations, which contain seven millions of acres of the best agricultural, grazing, timber, and mineral lands of the Territory, using them variously for hunting, fishing, farming, and strolling; besides the use of which, they receive liberal assistance from the Government in the guardianship of agents, the benefit of physicians, medicines, hospitals, schools, and teachers, with donations for food, clothing, and implements for forest and land. They cannot make proper use of their vast domain, and do not appreciate their advantages, while its possession and occupation are lost to a large body of Americans, who, by cultivation, would make it highly productive. It would conduce greatly to the good of the people if the Government would negotiate for the return of these valuable lands; abolish tribal relations; place Indians on the same footing with other people in securing a share of the public lands, making their landed possessions inalienable for a proper period; abolish the present Indian system with all its complications and cost, remanding all Indians to the operation of the laws by which other people are governed.

"Immigration is pouring in upon us, and these lands are needed now for intelligent husbandry. The present plan requires the expenditure of much money, cultivates a lazy, vagabond life, incomprehensible to people who do not witness their manner of living, which is utterly inconsistent with American habits, and delays the rescue of the Indian from the abominations of his savage state. The public sentiment of the people of this Territory is unanimously in favor of the change as proposed."

No doubt Gov. NEWELL is right when he declares this to be the general sentiment of the inhabitants of Washington Territory. They want the land, and they want the Indians to go. But it is pretty certain that all negotiations for the total surrender of their reservations would either be useless or lead to another long period of murderous warfare, such as now seems happily terminated. Taking away the reservations and then civilizing the savages may be a quicker way of arriving at a desirable result than civilizing them on their own ground, but it is of very doubtful expediency. It is too great a revolution to accomplish without producing damaging and fatal disturbances. Besides, it is not necessary.

Any one who doubts the practicability of Indian civilization need only go to the valley of the Jocko and of the St. Ignatius Mission, in the Flathead Reservation, to see well-stocked cattle ranches and farms in prosperous and peaceful cultivation, belonging to the Flatheads. All the assistance given to them by the Government is a small amount of agricultural machinery, through the agent, Major RONAN; but the most active and effective influence at work among them comes through the Jesuit Fathers, who have been in the valley since 1854. But the system of cultivation there is in a state far less satisfactory than it ought to be, owing to the uncertainty among the natives as to their possessions. One of the most prosperous farmers in that region, when asked recently by what title he held his farm, said: "By no title. We need no title among ourselves, but a man has very little courage to improve and develop his land when he doesn't know how soon it may be taken from him by your Government."

The characteristics chiefly displayed by those who have managed the Indian question for the last twenty years have been villainy and stupidity. Still the savages have been fought into a state of quiet. They will stay quiet provided they are made to understand that they are no longer to be cheated and robbed of their lands and are to be protected from lawless intrusion. Under these conditions civilization may come far less quickly—even that cannot be certain—but it will be a much more beneficent and reasonable process.

Big Enough for Governor.

According to our truthful contemporary, the *Boston Evening Transcript*, Gen. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUTLER says that he left the Republican party because the Republican party counted in R. B. HAYES.

The Fraud of 1876 was reason enough for quitting company with the men who accomplished and defended it. If Gen. BUTLER left the Republican party on that account, the fact is creditable to his moral sense.

There appears to be a slight discrepancy, however, in the matter of dates. At the time of the electoral controversy it was generally understood that Gen. BUTLER believed that Mr. TILDEN had been fairly elected, and that the eight-to-seven Commission was an unconstitutional body. An outspoken declaration of his belief at that time would have had great weight; it might have prevented the consummation of the Fraud and spared the country its crowning disgrace.

But Gen. BUTLER did not speak out. He was then a Republican member elect of Congress. He took his seat in the House as a Republican. On May 20, 1877, he was appointed as a Republican member of the PORTER investigating committee. On June 18, 1878, as a member of the Judiciary Committee, he submitted a minority report arguing that HAYES'S fraudulent title was not inviolable, and that the question might be reopened in the courts. His first official or semi-official utterance on the main question of TILDEN'S election was not delivered to the public until March 5, 1879, when it came in the shape of a minority report from the PORTER committee.

This was an admirable document—a clear, logical, comprehensive, and convincing exposition of the Fraud's infamy and enormity. But it came too late. Admirable as Gen. BUTLER'S argument was, it amounted, in effect, to nothing more than a tardy and futile protest against an accomplished crime. It was more than two years too late.

We shall be uncommonly glad to see Governor BUTLER reelected in Massachusetts. He has begun to carry out his theories and promises of reform with characteristic vigor. He ought to have another year in order to finish the work. The State needs his services, and he is large enough—more than large enough—for the office of Governor.

We are glad to see that the *Tribune* comes out solidly in favor of the eminent Mr. JACOB HESS for Register. There was a time when it cast a frigid eye upon the melodious motion of the machine of which Mr. HESS is, though in no other sense, a constant crank. But times have changed now, and Brother BLAINE is a literary man without a boom, and the name of Stalwart or Half Breed vexes the patient soul of our neighbor no more. The *Tribune*, recognizing the inky cloak that enwraps Republicanism this year, is willing to let the dead past bury its dead. Harmony is the need of the hour next to votes. It is no time to be finical. The rankest of Stalwarts will serve at such a time. The question is not, Must a Stalwart come in, but Must Stalwarts and Half Breeds, propelled by one grand effort of the popular foot, go out into the cold and the darkness?

Lord COLERIDGE made an address at Haverford College the other day, in which he advised the students to learn by heart at least these five of the great classical authors: HOMER, VIRGIL, EURIPIDES, CATULLUS, and HORACE. It is very well to encourage classical study, and the young men at Haverford cannot thumb their Greek and Latin lexicons too much. But Lord COLERIDGE'S choice of authors seems a little peculiar, and the result of personal preference rather than of the most discriminating knowledge. If only five classical authors are to be deeply studied, it is queer that ÆSCHYLUS and SOPHOCLES should be left out. The Germans and some of our present æsthetes prefer the more modern and sentimental EURIPIDES to the other two great Greek tragic writers, but one would not think that a man bred in England, and to such a conservative profession as the law, would follow their idea. VIRGIL, on account of his exquisite urbanity, is perhaps to be preferred to LUCRETIUS, though the latter has much more originality, a quality which the moderns usually hold in higher esteem than grace. As for CATULLUS, he is a peculiar author to be recommended by a Lord Chief Justice to the undergraduate mind, especially when it is of Quaker origin. Does Lord COLERIDGE believe with Mr. SWINBURNE that

"Old poets outsing and outlove us,
And CATULLUS makes mouths at our speech?"

In all Lord COLERIDGE'S list it is not improbable that HORACE is the only author with whom he is himself very familiar, and it is pretty certain that, unless the studious youth of Haverford are different from their kind, HORACE is the only classical poet whom they will be able to quote five years from now. But they can't study too much of HOMER, SOPHOCLES, and ÆSCHYLUS.

This has been a great year for the destructive forces of nature. A few months ago we had news every week, and sometimes two or three times a week, of terrible tornadoes which swept farms, villages, and, in one case at least, a small city into ruin. But of late the forces of destruction seem to have been transferred from the atmosphere to the rocky crust of the earth, and since midsummer hardly a week has passed without bringing us news of an earthquake, and two or three of these seismic convulsions have been among the most destructive ever known. The latest earthquake occurred at Gibraltar yesterday morning, and three times in quick succession that famous natural fortress was made to tremble.

What ails the old earth that it is thus seized with tremors? There is a Frenchman who assures us that Jupiter is at the bottom of the trouble. Well, in that case it's some comfort to know, and the telescope brings the news, that Jupiter himself is being racked by convulsions incomparably greater than any the earth has experienced. Jupiter will find out that the earth is solid if it is small, and that is more than can be said for him unless the astronomers have slandered him.

Republican newspapers that are trying to make it appear that ALFRED C. CHAPIN, the Democratic candidate for Comptroller, is too young to hold that office, perhaps never heard of SILAS WRIGHT, who was Comptroller at thirty-three; of FREDERIC P. OLCOTT, who entered upon the duties of the office at thirty-five, and of JAMES W. WADSWORTH, who at thirty-three was thought worthy of the post by the Republican party. Mr. CHAPIN is thirty-five, and old for his years.

The Algerine insurgent chief SI SLIMAN seems to have perished in true Arabian Nights style. Everybody has read of those sultans, kings, and princes who inveigled their enemies into their power and then had their heads whipped off with a cimeter, but it sounds strange in these modern days to hear of a chief being invited to a feast, as SI SLIMAN was, and then decapitated just as he was prepared to enjoy the good things set before him.

One reason why the Democrats were beaten in the Presidential election of 1880 was because they lost New York in 1879. They fought the Republicans who were intrenched behind patronage. Every Republican elected to office this year will use the power gained to prevent Democratic victory in 1884. Wherever, in city, county, or State, an honest Democrat is running for office, he should get the vote of every man who thinks it time the Republican party should go. Don't aid in building up a power that will be turned against you.

The latest of the extraordinary feats in navigation performed by the navy has a humorous feature—if not to its victims, at least to disinterested spectators. The Dispatch, a favorite vessel for the pleasure excursions of the junketing Administration, left the Washington yard yesterday morning with a large party aboard, including Chief Justice COLERIDGE. They had gone only half a mile when the craft was run on some shoals in the river. The vessels of our blundering navy are so often running aground, or else smashing unfortunate merchant ships which do not keep far out of their way, that the officers and crew of the Dispatch probably felt quite at home when fast on the mud flats of the Potomac. But some of the unfortunate pleasure seekers must have wondered where United States vessels can navigate safely, if they run aground in waters so well known as those within half a mile of the Washington Navy Yard.

The *Tribune* kindly concedes that the Democrats are sure of 153 electoral votes next year, and only need 48 more to elect their candidate. By some remarkable process it makes out that the Republicans are "reasonably sure" of 151 electoral votes. Connecticut and New Hampshire are, it seems from this, "reasonably sure" Republican States. But the *Tribune* admits that there are seven States which may be called doubtful: California, 8 electors; Colorado, 3; Indiana, 15; Nevada, 3; New Jersey, 9; New York, 36, and Ohio, 23. Well, it is natural for man to indulge in the illusions of hope, and the Republicans stand in need of such consolation as they can get; but if they really expect that the Democrats won't get at least 48 votes out of these doubtful States, they are destined to be more surprised than the *Tribune* was after it heard of the result of the Ohio election. As a matter of fact, the Democrats are sure of more than 153 electoral votes and the Republicans are sure of being comprehensively beaten.

When the Ashuelot was sunk, last winter, on the Chinese coast, as the result of a drunken frolic, it was suggested that at least she might be raised, so that she would not prove a total loss. Now it is said that divers can get nothing from her, and she has been sold, with all her contents, for 300 Mexican dollars. Considering the sums recently brought by some naval vessels that at least had the advantage of being afloat, this is perhaps, in comparison, not a bad price for a wreck at the bottom of the sea.

A PHILOSOPHICAL OBSERVER.

The Back Looks of Davie MacJon at the Newburgh Centennial.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Before looking back and telling you what I saw there, I may as well tell you what "sort of a man I am," or, at any rate, what I suppose myself to be. Well, I am just what my name implies. I claim on one side to be descended from Llewellyn, which means that I can sympathize with the aspirations and absurdities of the Celtic (I beg your pardon, Keltic) race. Also, I have every reason to believe (barring the assurance of my great-great-great-grandmother) that I have in my veins the blood of Robert the Bruce. Then I have been born and bred an Englishman of the true blue old Tory sort, and have only become a citizen of Uncle Sam's country because I rather preferred his way of living and looking at things in general to that of Papa John. For this reason I have dropped the "h" in John, inasmuch as I take Jon. to be the short for Jonathan. Now you know as much about me as I know about myself, and we start fair. But before looking back—and I hope to give you some amusement, if not instruction, when I come to do so—I should like to look at things just right here for a moment, and tell you what I think about them. I have just been reading one of your daily papers, which contains an account of all "the fussing and hoorawing" yesterday at Newburgh. Now, the very fact of my being here, after nearly a quarter of a century's life with old man John, may prove to you that I am all for "republican institutions." And I may say at once, that in my opinion, if the principal speaker at that cock-a-doodle-doo meeting should be put up as candidate for the Presidency next year—I mean Mr. Bayard—he would be President of the United States as sure as I sit here. But for all that, the feeling left in what I am pleased to call my mind by his speech is just this: "See here, Uncle Sam, don't you think it's time to let up on making such a —— of a fuss about your having slapped Papa John's face a hundred years ago, just because he, being the elder brother, wanted you to do just as he, and not you, durn pleased?" Then, again, Mr. Bayard said: "Much light has been lately thrown upon the inner history of the administration during the reign of George III, while the war against the colonies was being waged so unrelentingly, and the picture drawn by Trevelyan of the spoils system of that day accounts for much of the disaster and disappointment that awaited the attempts to subdue the colonies, and added such fearful sums to the British debt." Spoils system? Why, of course it did. And it is just this spoils system which is going to play old gooseberry with you, my dear cousin, unless you look to it, and that pretty sharp! But that isn't what I had to say. Had I been able to afford to go to Newburgh yesterday with the crowd, and had I been asked to follow Mr. Bayard, and had I had cheek enough, I should have said:

"GENTLEMEN: I beg to propose the health of George III, sometime ruler of Great Britain and Ireland, &c., &c., &c., but for whose idiotic but glorious stupidity the father of your country would in all probability never have had a chance in life, and you, my friends, would more than probably have been at this moment tied to Britannia's apron strings, and *have liked it*; just as well as our cousins up there in Montreal profess to like it when you have the audacity to ask them how they feel about it!"

Well, that's just the sort of man I am, or think I am. And if after this you care to hear what I have to say as to the past, and what I think of you and of your institutions, and of things in general, buy your SUNDAY SUN like a man—or a woman, as the case may be—and be happy.

DAVID MACJON.

Any impression that the elevation of the Rev. Henry C. Potter of Grace Church to the Episcopate would lead to a closer copying in his diocese of the formalities incident to the episcopal palaces in England are entirely unfounded. In England the residence of the Bishop is called the Bishop's palace; but it is understood that Dr. Potter is opposed to the further Anglicizing of the Church here, as unsuited to the genius of this country; so that, if there should be a special house built for the new Bishop, it would only be known as the Bishop's house. If in the future any considerable plans should be suggested in the way of buildings, they are much more likely to take the form of a free diocesan church, properly endowed, and surrounded by suitable structures for carrying on missionary work among the poor and untaught.

AN UPRIGHT PUBLIC SERVANT.

How William S. Holman Studied the Pacific Railroad Question.

From the Shelby Volunteer.

As a member of Congress, William S. Holman knew that the question of rescuing the public domain from defaulting railroad companies would come before him for action. He has been fighting these subsidies and corrupt land grants for twenty years in Congress, but in spite of his most strenuous efforts many millions of acres of the people's best domain have been given to various railroad companies. Much of this, however, has been forfeited for non-compliance with charters, and Mr. Holman is desirous of recovering this much for the people.

With this view, he went last summer on an extended trip to the Pacific coast to study the question in person. He wanted to see "how the land lay," as it were, so that he might be well qualified to act when the question came up in Congress next winter. When the railroad companies heard that he was going to California, they hastened to offer him free passes and special cars, and were anxious to pay all his expenses for the trip. They were greatly interested for his comfort, all of a sudden. But their offers were quietly, but firmly, declined. Mr. Holman told them that he had so far managed to pay his own travelling expenses and would try to continue the custom. So without any flourish of trumpets or flashy preparation our old-fashioned friend quietly bought his tickets, took his old hickory walking stick and carpet bag, lighted his pipe, and got on the cars at Lawrenceburg for a long and tedious trip to the Pacific States, to do work for the benefit of all the people of the Union.

Thus he was employed at his own expense, while the free pass Cabinet was splurging through the Yellowstone Park with a long train of wagons and cavalry at their heels, or coasting along the Atlantic in Government vessels, all paid for out of the public revenues. It is useless to dwell on the contrast here presented. A simple statement of the facts is as forcible as the most labored argument.

Mr. Holman, mind you, did not put in the summer "booming" himself for high positions, in "mending political fences" or fixing State delegations and influential politicians. He was engaged in qualifying himself by actual observation to act intelligently in Congress upon one of the most important issues now before the country, that concerning the forfeiture to the people of land grants heretofore made to great railroad corporations.

It is thus that the Aurora Congressman for twenty long years has made a record which now shines with such bright lustre as to attract the attention of all persons who desire that this Government shall be brought back to the bed-rock principles of old-fashioned simplicity, economy, and honesty. If William S. Holman was President, the people would have no fears that, in a question between railroads and the people involving their splendid domain, his Secretary of the Interior would be feed in advance to side with the corporations and against the public welfare.

To-day's Sunday School Lesson.

"Asking for a King" is the subject for today's study among those who use the International Sunday school lessons. The lesson, which is in I. Sam., viii, 1-10, pictures the Israelites in their most restless state of mind. They had grown weary of the simplicity of Judges. Their Judges had been plain men, with no such display of pomp as was exhibited by the monarchs of the surrounding nations. There was no court, nor was there any degree of style in the governing of the people compared with what the other nations assumed. Samuel was now growing old; exactly how old we have no means of knowing. He "made his sons Judges over Israel." Though these young men had the advantage of a good father, they proved to be men of no account. Perhaps it was to some extent their incompetency that led the people to ask for a stronger form of government. The demand for a king was displeasing to Samuel and to the Almighty. The demand was made, not by a crowd of irresponsible politicians, but by the "Elders of Israel." They charged the troubles of the nation on Samuel's sons Joel and Abiah. Yet it was evident from the way in which they asked that what they wanted was a form of government which would exalt them politically and give them strength and importance, which they had not possessed. Their old enemies, the Philistines, were again giving them trouble. They wanted to be put on a war footing, so as to gain a permanent victory over these pestilent persecutors. Unmindful of the past deliverances which God had wrought out for them, they thought that to be led to battle by a king was the very thing they needed. Samuel plainly set before them the folly of their wilfulness. He laid the matter before the Lord, who, partly to punish them for their departure from obedience and from primitive simplicity, granted their request. Little did they realize the troubles in store for them. Their king proved to be one of the worst afflictions they had endured. The lesson is full of wise admonition for young people. Many have got into all kinds of trouble by wanting to be like their neighbors and longing for luxuries which their neighbors possessed. Often they have found, after almost ruining themselves in trying to gain these things, that what they had supposed to be a blessing turned out to be a curse. Ambition is wholesome if its purposes are pure, but there are times when a contented mind is the best of all gifts. The golden text of this lesson is, "it is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes."

The Whiskey Tax and Whiskey Drinking.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Prohibitory laws do not make people temperate. On the contrary, it is quite easy by unwise legislation to encourage and foster the vice of intemperance, and this, I claim, is what the United States Government has been doing ever since Congress levied a tax of 90 cents per gallon on the manufacture of whiskey. This amounts to about five times the original cost of the manufacture. The tax, together with the loss by shrinkage, interest on increased capital necessary to carry on the business, as well as interest on tax paid, expense of storekeepers, gauging, and so on, afforded all the excuses necessary for raising the price of drinks over every bar in the United States from 3 and 5 cents to 10, 15, and even 20 cents per drink. These prices were established during the war, when it cost more to make whiskey than it does now. They have been maintained since through various influences crushing to that end, some of which are combinations of heavy distillers, the burdensome political assessments laid upon them by the party in power, and the action of dealers and saloon keepers themselves. What has resulted to the people? Simply more drunkenness. The great margin between the first cost of the liquor and the price charged, being made possible by the revenue tax and its concomitants, afforded the strongest inducements to saloon keepers and dealers to at once ransack the drug market and experiment on mixing various compounds for the adulteration of whiskey, by which the profits were made to more than treble anything before known in the business. This once accomplished, capital opened saloons as a paying enterprise.

What person of middle age can remember a time before the revenue tax was put upon liquor when drinking saloons monopolized, to the extent they do now, the best corners of business streets and paid $10,000 to $15,000 per year rent, with a bar and fixtures costing as much more? Such enterprise in the business was formerly unknown. But all this we have now, together with elaborate and costly free lunches, pool tables with free playing for drinkers, and various other devices to tempt the weak or thoughtless. Young men are encouraged to form social, dancing, sporting, and other clubs, each having a meeting place directly over or in close proximity to the saloon of the principal promoter of the scheme, who is always careful that his contributions to the society bear a proper relation to the contributions of its members to the till of his saloon.

The increased price per drink for whiskey makes such things possible. With the revenue tax removed whiskey takes its place before the people on the same footing as cotton goods, shoes, or any other commodity in general use. It would be impossible with free distillation of liquor to maintain prices exceeding one-half those now charged. With such an enormous margin for profit swept away at one stroke, I do not think it is exaggerating to say that two out of every five saloons in the land would close within a year, and the most dangerous class of saloons too. With whiskey so cheap, no drugs known would be cheap enough to adulterate it with.

This done, then apply good, sensible, healthy license laws, and we have the opportunities for making people drunk reduced to a minimum, as much so, probably, as is possible in this country. High tariff, with or without high license, makes adulterated whiskey, drunkards, insanity, and paupers. Free whiskey insures a pure article, low prices, small profits, and a greatly restricted trade.

O. WM. VAN HANSELLAER.

NEW YORK, Oct. 13.

A Rising Philadelphia Lawyer.

From the American Law Review.

The young man eloquent of the affair was Mr. Walter George Smith of Pennsylvania. He is also a born orator, and in Philadelphia, where he lives, he goes by the sobriquet of "the silver-tongued." If there is any connection between silver and oratory, he is certainly the best silversmith at the junior bar. Whether in matter or in manner—in what he says, how it is put together, the tones of his voice, or the grace of his gestures—he is at all points the finished orator; and we give notice to our sunny friends, scattered here and there throughout the country, that they will hear of young Mr. Smith of Philadelphia hereafter.

You Are.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I moved from Madison, Morris county, N. J., on May 27 last into another county, but I returned to Madison in September. Am I entitled to vote next month? CONSTANT READER.

MADISON, N. J., Oct. 18.

He Can if he is Old Enough.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Can a Roman Catholic be President of the United States?

COLLEGE POINT, L. I., Oct. 17. J. H. D.

Rough, wintry, changeable weather produces catarrhs, colds, lung disorders, &c., which Dr. Jayne's Expectorant as promptly cures when faithfully administered.—Adv.

GOSSIP FROM WASHINGTON.

Bob Ingersoll in Blank Verse