

The Sun

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 1896. THE SUN TO-DAY CONSISTS OF TWELVE PAGES. OUR FRIENDS SHOULD SEE THAT THEIR NEIGHBORS FURNISH THEM WITH THE ENTIRE PAPER.

The regular circulation of THE SUN for the week ending July 4, 1896, was:

Table with circulation statistics: Sunday 110,000; Monday 110,000; Tuesday 110,000; Wednesday 110,000; Thursday 110,000; Friday 110,000; Saturday 110,000; Total for the week 770,000.

The Prohibitionists.

The Ohio Prohibitionists return with undiminished ardor to their favorite amusement of chastising the Republican party; and if their ability is commensurate with their good will, they will make things extremely interesting for the Hon. JOSEPH BENSOR FORAKER and his esteemed cotemporary on the State ticket.

Here in New York State, for instance, where they have once been deceived by the Republicans, it is not to be expected that the Prohibitionists will show any favor to Republican candidates.

These voters may be expected to return to the regular Republican and Democratic candidates; but there is a good, compact, and apparently growing party of Prohibitionists in New York, and they mean to make themselves felt.

High Explosives in War.

In the current number of the Journal of the Military Service Institution, Lieut.-Col. H. L. ANNOT of the Corps of Engineers, who commands the School of Application at Witley's Point, discusses, under the title of "Recent Progress in High Explosives and their Uses in War," a subject in which he is an admitted expert of the highest order.

Our able and pugnacious contemporary, the Voice, is still for war, and, in fact, all the Prohibitionists seem to agree with the published remark of one of the most prominent of them: "We are going to have the bitterest, meanest, wickedest fight in this State full that we ever had, and we Prohibitionists propose to force the fighting."

How Can It Be Done?

We learn from the report of the Royal Commission which has been investigating the housing of the poor of England that London is much behind New York in the matter of the sanitary inspection of the tenement houses.

In general, sanitary laws are grossly violated in the construction of the houses into which the London poor are crowded, the death rate in them is two and three times the average rate, and the time lost to their unfortunate inhabitants because of illness is extraordinarily great.

Except in two districts, the local authorities allow the people to live as they please—six, eight, ten, or twelve in a room, and crowds of casual lodgers to sleep in the halls and stairways.

These people fly to the districts where landlords and tenants are not subjected to close sanitary supervision, where there is no interference with overcrowding, and where consequently they can live more cheaply.

The improved habitations of Chelsea and Hackney draw a better class of tenants, and the dwellings elsewhere are more than ever crowded, and worse than ever in sanitary respects.

This they do from compulsion, for in London, as in New York, the workers must in great part find their homes near their work. They cannot choose their tenements with reference to the salubrity of the surroundings, but must select them where they can go to and from their work with ease and rapidity.

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cleanly seek homes in houses where sanitary improvements have not set up prices. The tenement cases of our Tenements Board, for instance, it is situated in a region which for many years must be densely peopled, for it is near to the work of many thousands of people. To get it into proper sanitary condition a vast amount of money must be spent in remodeling the tenement houses, which are chiefly dwellings formerly occupied by single families.

For it must be borne in mind that there are thousands of people in New York who prefer a good drink to a good bed, who had rather spend an evening in a comfortable and gay saloon, with its opportunities for social intercourse, than to enjoy pure air at night. Their homes they are in for a few hours only, and they do not care much what they are so long as they are cheap, if outside they can get what they want.

These are terrible questions, and they make the whole subject of the sanitary improvement of dwellings one of the greatest perplexity. The plan of building tenement houses in the lower part of the city, which will be tried by the company started by Mr. JOSEPH W. DANKER and his friends, is an admirable one, so far as it goes; but can this demand be met? Can the needs of a hundred thousand people and more? Will men take four per cent. on their investments in tenement houses when they can get twice or thrice as much? Is it possible to make the housing of that vast population a philanthropic enterprise?

The tenement question is a serious problem, especially the housing of the very poor.

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be astonished to learn that more than fifty varieties of the tremendous explosive have been used in the past. These are grouped as the gun cottons, the picrates, the chlorates, the nitro-glycerines, and the picnallites. Of these five classes the first two have recently shown no improvements. The third, however, the chlorates, have become far safer through the recent use of a fluid hydrocarbon in place of the dangerous pulverized solid. Blackrock is the name given to this new chlorate, which, with great strength and density, and absolute safety in transportation and storage, have made of it a decided advance. The fourth group, nevertheless, is still uppermost in favor. It includes four types—pure nitro-glycerine, dynamite with an inert base, blasting gelatine, and gelatinized dynamite. This class the most available for military purposes is said to be forlita, whose manufacture here only dates from last summer. Finally, the picnallites, or SPRENGER group, although all as yet in the experimental stage, are said to possess attractive features for military use.

At the head of the important tasks to be performed by high explosives in war Col. ANNOT places submarine mining. For this purpose gun cotton and dynamite No. 1 are now favorites, but will probably have to give way to explosive gelatine.

The next use to be noted is that of military land mining. Here the defence has more to expect from these new allies than the attack. The attack above ground will greatly suffer hereafter from improved weapons, prolonging the fire until the shells are exhausted.

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a target representing an armored deck was suggestive as to a future use of dynamite. It is a trouble with them is less in the air and more in the ground. The formula calls for 30 pounds to destroy a solid steel plate well backed. Commander FROST used this method in a test and laid at the middle plate. The explosion tore a hole 9 inches in area through all the plates, and buckled and forced down the iron of the target 7 1/2 inches at the deepest point.

Lieut. ZALINSKI, last summer, made some trials with thin plates in piles. Twenty pounds of tamped dynamite enclosed in a cylinder and exploded upon fifteen such plates, making about nine inches in all, only penetrated twelve of them, although aided by additional tamping from bolters placed around the pile. In fine, Col. ANNOT concludes that the formula of the weight of charges required, as already given, is substantially safe to follow.

The capacity of a ten-inch common shell is about twenty-five pounds; of a twelve-inch common shell, about forty pounds; and of a sixteen-inch common shell, about sixty pounds. An armor-plated shell of one hundred tons and upward, about seventy-five pounds. Battering projectiles for armor could not be made of this weight. Clearly it is quite impossible to make a shell of this weight and size.

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AMERICA'S ONLY POCKET BOUQUET. The Man who Owns It and How they Run It. —James W. Fair.

CARROLL CITY, Nev., June 30. —The retrogressive State of Nevada is mainly dominated by the mining camps on the Colorado and the Comstock. It is chiefly owned by San Francisco; so that, practically, Nevada is but a borough held by such shrewd, wealthy, and ambitious politicians of San Francisco as care to control it.

Nevada was admitted into the Union as a State before its population numbered the minimum fixed for representation in the House of Representatives. It never had the population which would constitute a Representative district in any State entitled to two or more Representatives in Congress. The present number of wards in the city of New York which contain more population than Nevada ever could boast; and yet, since its admission into the Union, Nevada has been represented in Congress by two Senators and one Representative. There never was a Nevada Senator until 1876, and the Indians not taxed, in all the States. The census of 1870 gave it a population of 42,491. The great boom which followed the discovery of the big bonanza materially increased these figures, so that the enumerators of 1880 found 62,266 living human beings in the State. But since the big bonanza passed the population has been disappearing until now there are probably no more there than in 1870.

At the Presidential election in 1872 Nevada cast a grand total of 14,649 votes; in 1876 there were 19,691; in 1880 the total was 18,345, and in 1884 the number fell off to 12,797—a smaller vote than had been polled in twelve States. In the United States Senate the equal vote in the United States Senate with the millions of the State of New York, and have one vote in the House of Representatives. And why? Because it was necessary originally, in 1865, in order to pass the anti-slavery amendment to the Federal Constitution; and now the Nevada vote is counted for the same reason. It helps them in a multitude of ways, but principally in their business. They are shrewd fellows, those bonanza kings and silver princes.

It is a mystery to many people how these San Franciscans manage to control the politics of a State of which they are not even residents. But the mystery disappears when it is understood that, besides owning all there is worth possessing in the borough whose voters are principally their employees, they have a community of interest in the affairs of the State. Thus their political expression is usually arranged in advance in some convenient room in the Nevada building, and the Nevada vote is counted for the same reason. It helps them in a multitude of ways, but principally in their business. They are shrewd fellows, those bonanza kings and silver princes.

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