The Sun.

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The Labor Party.

The remarkable strength displayed by the Labor party in the West will quicken the hopes of that party wherever it has an organization. It is a disagreeable fact, but a fact, that it has been growing at the expense of the Democratic party. What should have been an ally has become an enemy. It may happen that the next Presidential election will be decided by votes of men who have gone to the Labor party from the Democracy.

Dissatisfaction, restlessness, impatience, prevail. Democrats who voted for a Democratic President in the expectation of a genuine Democratic policy, finding themselves disappointed and cheated, ask themselves what is the use of remaining in a party which cannot or will not elect a man who will carry out its principles. Much of this disappointment and dissatisfaction is heard within the party. Some of it takes refuge in a new party, which pretends to be the enemy of all other existing political parties.

In the condition in which the Democracy is at present, defeated after its victory and aimlessly struggling along without a leader, defection is to be expected. Will the Democracy be wise enough to find a policy and provide a leader, or will it consent to be once more the accident of an accident?

Taine's Napoleon Bonaparte.

We have now spread before our readers the ultimate impressions and convictions of the foremost French historian in the field of scrutiny to which all his former studies have led up—the career and character of NAPOLEON BONAPARTE. We have TAINE's final estimate of this extraordinary being, and we know that no man who before had undertaken the same task was equally competent to form one worthy of profound examination and general acceptance.

But will his conclusions be ratified by the assent of civilized mankind, and, above all, by the acquiescence of France, the country directly and vitally concerned? On this point the most appreciative student of this veritable masterpiece of philosophical analysis may feel some doubt. But the misgiving is excited solely by the recognition of the tenacity of popular traditions and the incorrigibility of national self-esteem. About the general correctness of TAINE's conception of NAPOLEON, and its close approach to finality, there will be, we apprehend, but little difference of opinion among disinterested and candid inquirers. Novel as are his views, their novelty is not more striking than the sense planted in us of their unerring penetration. The identification of NAPOLEON with the mighty but unscrupulous Italians of the Renaissance—the revelation of him as a belated SFORZA, a BORGIA born out of time—which to the eye of earlier and less competent observers had been only a far-fetched comparison, a fanciful analogy, becomes in TAINE's hands a conclusive demonstration, an indubitable fact. The exhibition of NAPOLEON in juxtaposition with his actual progenitors, and his exact intellectual and moral counterparts of the fifteenth century, casts upon history the sudden blaze of illumination produced in DE QUINCEY's apologue by the perplexing presence of a hundred golden sockets in one chamber of a crypt, and the subsequent discovery in a far distant chamber of a hundred golden pillars. Instantly and irresistibly the truth flashes on the mind that the pillars fit the sockets.

Let us grant all, however, that TAINE has undertaken to establish, that NAPOLEON in nature and in fact was what undeniable heredity and a specially stimulative environment would tend to make him, the superb survivor and culminating representative of the splendid and terrible passions of the Renaissance. Grant that in everything he did he aimed at his personal advantage, and that all other human beings were his tools, his toys, his victims; that he brought to bear upon the tamer mortals of his time an intellectual instrument of matchless temper and stupendous power, together with a moral character devoid at once of conscience and of sympathy, an all-absorbent, pitiless, insatiable individuality. Granting all this, we might still hesitate to believe in TAINE's accomplishment of the political purpose, which plainly underlay the scientific. He himself reveals a fear that a hundred years may be required for truth itself to purge away the deep-seated and malignant taint of the Napoleonic virus. But if we should pay any heed to the lessons of historical analogy, we must rather think that very many hundred years will pass away before the name and story of NAPOLEON will have lost their sorcery for France. TAINE does not judge NAPOLEON a jot more searchingly and coldly than there is reason to suspect that ARISTOTLE in his latter days judged his quondam pupil, ALEXANDER; his condemnation is no harsher than that which we know that TACITUS must in retrospect have visited on the first and greatest of the CÆSARS. Yet the three greatest sovereigns of Europe still conjure with the name of CÆSAR, and the spell of the Macedonian still rests upon the East from Alexandria to Candahar.

Let us even accept a comparison of NAPOLEON's career with the most abhorred and least human phenomena of history. Let us for the moment suffer philosophers to class him with ATTILA, with GENGHIS Khan, and CÆSAR BORGIA. Even in these extreme examples we observe that the favorable impression made on his own subjects by a reputedly execrable being was of almost limitless duration. Long after the "Scourge of GOD" had been stricken down, the memory of ATTILA was held in superstitious reverence by the countless hordes that had obeyed him. For many generations after the death of him whom we have learned to think of as the curse of Asia, the magic of the name of GENGHIS and the sense of the solid benefits he had conferred upon the conquered, was attested by the belief that a man, armed with nothing but the signet ring of the Great Khan, could convey a bag of gold in safety from the Yellow Sea to the Black. And of the most Satanic figure in the record of the Renaissance, of the Duke of VALENTINOIS himself, it is bewilderingly true that as late as thirty years ago the towns and cities of Romagna looked back to the epoch of CÆSAR BORGIA's usurpation as to their golden age.

We incline to think, then, that however incisive and exhaustive may be TAINE's analysis of the real NAPOLEON; however final and infallible his sentence may appear to students outside of France; yet with the masses of his countrymen his work will fall inoperative, considered as a solvent and expellant of the Napoleonic legend. Between NAPOLEON and France time and events have brought about a kind of consubstantiation. Whom destiny hath joined together no skill of analysis and rhetoric—no, nor the power of truth itself, can avail to put asunder. Nothing but national annihilation will divorce Frenchmen from the man whose eagles flew from Dantzic to Tarentum and from the Tagus to the Moskowa. His very faults have a majestic and heroic side for France; his glory is her inheritance; in the rainbow of his exploits she acclaims the prophecy of victories to come and the pledge of her rehabilitation.

President Cleveland and the Broadway Railroad Steal.

The following communication revives a subject of interest and merits an answer:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The failure of Mr. CLEVELAND's Administration to carry out the pledges of reform that were made when he was nominated for President in 1884, naturally leads Democrats, who are filled with apprehension for the future of the party, to inquire why, if he were a genuine reformer as Governor of New York, he should have failed so signally as President. A New York friend of whom I asked this question insists that the reforms on which Mr. CLEVELAND's political reputation was built were petty and evanescent, and that in the cold light of history his Administration as Governor does not show to advantage. He says that Gov. CLEVELAND's signature to the Surface Railroad act of 1884 brought the worst scandal upon the city and State of New York ever known in their records, and that all his vetoes put together have not saved to the people one-tenth of the money which that measure has taken from their pockets.

I have not followed the history of the rise and fall of the boodle Aldermen closely enough to know the truth of my friend's charge, and am inclined to think he is in error. I have never heard that the boodle men got their start from an act of the reform Governor of New York in 1884. Is it so? Will not THE SUN kindly throw light on this subject? A NEW JERSEY DEMOCRAT.

TRENTON, April 8.

Our correspondent's friend has stated the case with substantial accuracy. Mr. CLEVELAND must accept a large share of the responsibility for the boodle thieves and their deeds. The general railroad act that he signed in 1884 was a dangerous measure, and brought upon the city the scandals and troubles that were freely predicted when the measure was pending at Albany.

From the adoption of the Constitution of 1874, which prohibited the Legislature from passing special laws conferring franchises to build and operate horse railroads in any of the cities of the State, and requiring that a general railroad act should be passed before any more lines could be laid, down to 1884, the history of railroad legislation at Albany was one protracted scandal. No such well paid and persistent lobby as that employed by JACOB SHARP and his associates during these ten years was ever known at the State capital. In the early part of this period there was a bitter fight between SHARP, who represented the Broadway and cross-town lines in the lower part of the city, and CONOVER, who represented the Forty-second street line. The latter had received its franchise a few months before the new Constitution was adopted, but CONOVER wanted other streets and avenues, and was seeking them at Albany under the guise of a so-called general railroad act. SHARP was there, too, working for a similar measure, in which was concealed his designs on Broadway.

The two men were antagonists, and there was a brief but decisive battle. CONOVER was driven from the field, and when he next appeared in Albany he and SHARP were allies. They had divided the city between them, SHARP taking the lion's share, or all that part of the city lying south of Forty-second street, and CONOVER the territory north of that dividing line. Thenceforth the two men worked together in a common cause. They could accomplish nothing under the administration of TILDEN and ROBINSON, but when CORNELL came in their hopes were raised. They lobbied their scheme through the Legislature three years in succession, 1880-'81-'82, but Gov. CORNELL met them each time with a veto based on the ground that the bills did not contain sufficient safeguards to protect the people's interest, or were special rather than general in their application.

In 1883 Gov. CLEVELAND vetoed their bill on account of its constitutional imperfections. The State Railroad Commission was created in that year, and the following winter that body sent to the Legislature a carefully prepared draft of a general law to authorize the building of horse railroads in the cities of the State under stringent restrictions intended to protect the interests of the people. The attorneys for SHARP and CONOVER in the Senate and Assembly promptly seized upon this bill and tore it to pieces and amended it to suit the pleasure of the railroad lobby. In this objectionable shape the bill was jumped through the Senate without being half considered. A few days later it was called up in the House. Its passage had been made sure by the lobby, and the agents of SHARP and CONOVER laughed at the efforts of twenty-five unbought Assemblymen, led by HUBBELL of Monroe and ROOSEVELT and HOWE of New York, to put the bill in proper shape. These members sought unsuccessfully to have provisions inserted in the bill making it necessary to get the consent of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund as well as that of the Aldermen, and to make compulsory the sale of the franchise to the highest bidder. Had these safeguards been put in the bill, there would have been no purchase of Aldermen and no scandal.

The bill was whipped through unamended, and went to the Governor. Prominent citizens of New York sent protests against its signature. A delegation headed by the veteran lawyers, JOHN E. DEVELIN and JOHN L. CADWALADER, went to Albany and urged Mr. CLEVELAND to veto the bill. Mr. DEVELIN spoke earnestly of the danger of giving to the Aldermen the power with which the bill clothed them, and his predictions of the evils that would follow the Governor's signature now read like prophecy. Judge PECKHAM, now of the Court of Appeals, uttered a similar warning, and showed how defective the measure was in its provisions relating to the disposal of franchises. Mr. CADWALADER stated that the bill as it lay on the Governor's table was the work of a New York lawyer employed by the railroad projectors.

Notwithstanding these strong and grave objections, Gov. CLEVELAND, acting under some influence that perhaps Mr. SHARP's counsel could explain, gave his signature to the bill a few days later. The events that followed so swiftly are still fresh in everybody's memory. SHARP hurried to New York, and his creatures in the Board of Aldermen did his bidding and passed the ordinance giving him the prize for which he had struggled for fifteen years—the right to lay tracks in Broadway. Mayor GRACE vetoed it, but SHARP's boodle carried it high over his head, only two votes being cast against it. The citizens were now at the mercy of SHARP, and in a few months the horse cars took possession of the great thoroughfare.

Certainly a million and perhaps two millions of dollars would have gone into the city treasury had GROVER CLEVELAND stood firmly by the honest men in the Legislature and compelled that body to provide in the bill that every franchise should be publicly sold to the highest bidder.

We have refuted on other occasions to the fact that there is a costly pen lying around loose on Mr. CLEVELAND's desk. Last year it caused millions to flow from the Treasury into various needless or useless rivers and harbors of the country; this year it cost the country millions for Mexican war pensions. It must be the same pen that gave away Broadway to JACOB SHARP.

It is a bad pen, and we hope that before long he will throw it away.

A Remarkable Colony.

When Great Britain annexed the Transvaal in 1877, many of the sturdy Boer farmers declared that they would never consent to British rule. Their fathers, they said, had left their old homes in Cape Colony to escape British domination, and now they in turn were ready to abandon their farms and bury themselves in some region far northward, even among savage tribes, if they might thus maintain their independence. So it happened that some time before their brethren set up the South African republic and went to war for their independence, seven hundred Boers, men, women and children, yoked their oxen to big wagons that were piled high with all their movable property, and set out across the Kalahari desert to find new homes in the depths of Africa.

THE SUN has already told something of their terrible sufferings in the parched Kalahari region, and of their toilsome two years' pilgrimage, during which many of them perished, before they reached the verdant and salubrious plateau where they at last planted their future homes. They had travelled over 1,000 miles to gain Humpata, the site of their new settlement, which is almost directly west of the Portuguese town of Mossamedes, and about 150 miles from the Atlantic Ocean. The German explorer DENWITZ has recently visited them, and has brought back some interesting news of this remarkable colony.

There they are, blue-eyed men and women of European ancestry, in the midst of wild tribes who are not always friendly. Awhile ago Chief JAU attacked the village, but the Boers had plenty of powder and ball, and taught his tribe a lesson they will not soon forget. They have reared their houses, built of wood and clay and covered with thatch, upon a rolling plain through which runs a river. There are usually two rooms in the little cottages. Their furniture is very primitive. They cannot easily renew many of the household articles they brought from the Transvaal, and so they pack them away and bring them out only on festive occasions. The largest building in the place is the little church where the head of the colony conducts divine services on Sundays. The colonists are Protestants. About the only book they have is the Bible, and the children are taught to read from its pages.

The Boers till no more ground than is necessary to provide them with grain and vegetables; but the country is full of game, and the men and boys spend a great deal of their time hunting. They kill many elephants and hippopotami. When they first went to Humpata they could not descend from the mountainous border of the plateau to the coast region except along a narrow footpath. They used to drive their oxen down, carry their wagons in pieces down the declivity, and then put them together and haul their ivory and hides to the coast. With the help of the Portuguese they have built a good wagon road through the mountains. Now every month they send a little caravan to Mossamedes to sell the products of the chase, and carry back to their home in the great wilderness such wares of Europe as they require.

The young girls are trained by their mothers in all household cares, and many of them since reaching their new homes have been wedded to young men in the colony. The men take the greatest pride in their guns and cattle. Their herd suffered terribly on the long march from the Transvaal, but from the survivors they have reared a plentiful supply of stock.

Here these white people are living, voluntarily exiled from all signs of civilization except such as they have reproduced in their little village; and yet they think their solitude and independence are not so complete as they ought to be. The thought troubles them that Portugal claims sovereignty over their territory. Portugal has not attempted in any way to interfere in their affairs. They have preserved complete liberty. They form a little republic and the voice of the majority rules. Still, to many of them, the idea is insupportable that they live in territory that is claimed by any European power. So they are seriously thinking of pulling up stakes and getting outside even of the nominal jurisdiction of the Portuguese.

A number of the men have been sent by the colony to explore that part of the Bihe country northeast of Humpata which is not included in Portuguese territory. It is this plateau that CAMERON said some years ago was well adapted for European occupancy. If the delegation reports that the country is fitted for the establishment of a colony, there is every probability that the Boers will take up their march again. In the land they hope to enter they will be about twice as far from the sea as they now are, and the nearest port will be Benguela, in Angola.

These seven hundred Boers cut a unique figure in African colonization. They have shown that it is possible for a large party of whites to make their way into the depths of Africa, several hundred miles within the tropics, and to live there in comparative comfort. It is likely that they are the only white people who are competent to achieve success in such an undertaking.

Pantheism in Great Britain.

Two theological documents of special interest have recently attracted public attention in Great Britain. The first is an article in the *Fortnightly Review* entitled "Theology Under Its Changed Conditions," written by the Hon. Canon FREMANTLE, a dignitary of the Established Church. The Canon believes in evolution. "It is said," he writes, "that life must have had a beginning. Is it certain that life itself has not been developed, as some persons believe, or that the potency of life is not inherent in the elements of which the world is formed?"

The Canon does not place much reliance upon divine revelation. He says that theologians, instead of taking abstract statements ready made from the Scriptures, should attempt to give "a true account of the totality of things, which is also a unity impelled by a single power." "Theologians will trace the divine as working through nature and man. They will feel able to speak of GOD as just and loving, since the Supreme Power includes mankind, the leading portion of the world, with all its noblest ideals."

This article is significant because it shows by its author's words, and also by the pulpit utterances of others whom he quotes, that there are grave and reverent thinkers, high in rank within the English Church, who rest their hope of a future life not upon the truths of religion, but either upon an inward longing for human immortality, or else upon an attempt to reason it out from the order of the cosmic universe.

The same desire to reason out the immortality of the soul upon merely scientific principles, virtually rejecting the revelation of the Gospel as the basis of hope, and the same belief that the best part of man is divine, and that GOD and man are in essence the same, are found in the extraordinary will of Lord GIFFORD, a Senator of the College of Justice, which has just been admitted to probate in Scotland. Lord GIFFORD gives his residuary estate, amounting to $400,000, to the Scottish universities for the purpose of establishing in each of the four cities of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, and St. Andrews a lectureship or popular chair for "teaching and diffusing the study of natural theology in the widest sense of that term." By this he means "the knowledge of GOD, the infinite, the all, the first and only cause, the one and sole substance, the sole being, the sole reality, and the sole existence, the knowledge of His nature and attributes, the knowledge of the relations which men and the whole universe bear to them, the knowledge of the nature and foundation of ethics or morals, and of all obligations and duties thence arising."

Lord GIFFORD directs that the lecturers may be of any denomination whatever, or they may be of no religion, or agnostics or freethinkers, provided only that they be able, reverent men, sincere lovers of truth, and earnest inquirers after it. "I wish the lecturers," says the testator, "to treat their subject as a strictly natural science, the greatest of all possible sciences indeed, in one sense the only science, that of Infinite Being, without reference to or reliance upon any supposed special, exceptional, or so-called miraculous revelation. I wish it considered just as astronomy or chemistry is."

The opening of his will is equally remarkable. "I give my body to the earth as it was before," he says, "in order that the enduring blocks and materials thereof may be employed in new combinations; and I give my soul to GOD, *in Whom and with Whom it always was*, to be in Him and with Him forever in closer and more conscious unison."

What do these manifestations indicate, and why are they of special moment? Leaving out orthodox Christians, they show that among thinking men, in addition to agnosticism or the faith of those who merely "know not," and mere monotheism, or the creed of those who believe simply in one Great First Cause, distinct in essence from us, poor finite beings, there is a return to the old heathen notion of an ocean into which flows and from which comes all that has been or is, or ever will be. In other words, Pantheism is gaining ground in Great Britain, even among minds of high intellectual power.

Our Future Picture Gallery.

Miss WOLFE's great gift of her pictures to the Metropolitan Museum, following so soon after Mr. CORNELIUS VANDERBILT's gift of the "Horse Fair," suggests vividly a very brilliant future for this city as a final repository of the most splendid collection of modern paintings in the world. There can be little doubt that the finest and most costly specimens of recent art are steadily and surely coming to this country, and probably, the majority of them, to settle at first in private galleries. But as time goes on and as the increasing importance of the Metropolitan collection makes it more and more attractive to other contributors, the tendency will be for the galleries of rich and public-spirited collectors to find their way into this public gallery and become, in effect, the permanent property of the city. It was indeed expected by many that the late WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT would bequeath his pictures in this manner, but the fact that they were reserved for the private enjoyment of another generation does not lessen the probability that they may, in whole or in part, ultimately pass into the possession of the Metropolitan Museum.

One difficulty presented against this idea appears in that clause of Miss WOLFE's will which provides that her collection shall occupy a room or space by itself and be known always as Miss WOLFE's gift. In the case of this collection, generally selected with judgment, and containing excellent examples of eminent modern masters, none of the space needed for it can be grudged or by any possibility used to greater advantage. But collections of paintings are often fearfully and wonderfully made. There is one now in the possession of the museum which, if it decorated the panels of the elevated railway, would leave the town just as happy as now; and if the late A. T. STEWART had given his pictures to the public, after Miss WOLFE's manner, including the vast canvas of America's Genius, or whatever you call it, in the Saratoga Hotel, with the rest of the artistic trash that pleased the merchant prince's fancy, the trustees of the museum might well have been justified in refusing to accept the gift. Even the few great works which had happened to get in could not have justified the expenditure of the museum's limited space and shelter on such a valueless conglomeration of pictures.

Is there any county in the State of New York in which the Democratic party would choose delegates in favor of renominating Mr. CLEVELAND for the second term?

If there be any such county, we should be glad to see evidence of the fact.

Where in the Democratic party will you find a man that you will not call commonplace when he is nominated?—*Norristown Times.*

Such a man may be found in Pennsylvania, not very far from Norristown, and his name is SAMUEL JACKSON RANDALL.

That excellent journal, the *Union and Advertiser* of Rochester, suggests "the suspicion that the venerable GEORGE JONES made the acrostic himself."

No, we don't believe it, first, because Brother JONES is on the other side of the continent, and secondly, because he has never shown that he possesses the poetic faculty. The faculty for a joke he possesses, however, and that was a pretty good joke, any way. Though JONES is out, some of his young men may have done it.

When THE SUN talks about Jeffersonian and Jacksonian democracy, it really means Butleronian democracy.—*Buffalo Courier.*

Well, why not? What difference of principle is there between the democracy of Gen. BUTLER and the democracy of JEFFERSON and JACKSON? Because BUTLER was beaten in the purpose for which he ran in 1884, namely, to defeat GROVER CLEVELAND, and because those who supported him as a protest against an unsatisfactory nomination were beaten with him, there is no use that we can see in attempting to misrepresent his political ideas. However, if the *Courier* prefers that style of thing, it has a right to its own way.

One of the poets of the day, aiming, it would seem, to correct some eccentricity of feminine costume, declares that persons so arrayed could never be admitted to heaven:

"For instance, take the bustles,
Such as you'll daily meet;
Now, wouldn't they look queer, if worn
Upon the golden street?"

We observe to this poet that as yet no country has been discovered in which bustles were worn in such a style that one could be said to meet them. They may be overtaken by those who come up behind, or they may be seen by turning around and looking backward; but the statement of this poet is absurd.

The Governor of North Carolina doubtless enjoys himself when he meets the Governor of South Carolina, but the Governor of California has entertainment more ethereal, exquisite, and poetical. He went to Red Bluff the other day. There is nothing entrancing about the name of that place, but the Red Bluffers understand how to receive a visiting Governor. When the Governor came among them fifty pretty women gave him fifty pretty bouquets and fifty pretty kisses—one apiece. It is understood that he wants to have the State Capitol moved to Red Bluff.

THE OPEN SECRET CIRCULAR.

There!—Who'll be There?—When will the Great Conference be Held?—Will it be with Open Doors or in the Star Chamber?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* When I first read your remarks on the summons from Washington to the faithful to meet at the Capitol after Congress should adjourn, to promote the reelection of Mr. Cleveland, I considered it a great joke, but on recurring to the files of the *Argus* I found it to be a veritable reality!

Of course, this "quiet movement" must at first have been started by the process known as the secret circular; and, of course, it couldn't have been marked "strictly confidential," for in such case should it come to light it would make a bad job of it with the slighted. It is evident that in the absence of Messrs. Manning, Lamont, and Fairchild from the *Argus*, the adolescent newspaper men of the office got hold of the manifesto and considered it a good thing, both in itself and to get it out in advance of all competitors. Perhaps there was a good deal of profanity exercised in the White House and at the Treasury and the General Post Office, but possibly not at the W. H., as that is more under surveillance. Any way, the hidden thing has come to light, and hence concealment will no longer be available. Now, what are you going to do about it, in the appropriate language of the late Hon. Mr. Tweed? Of course, the newspaper men, so roundly abused again in the manifesto, who are tarrying in Washington, will be on hand at the meeting of the quiet movers, and others will be sent when it is ascertained, if it is not already, when the quiet movement is to come off.

No movement since the war will be watched with closer attention than this of a Democratic President outside of his party. It reminds one of John Tyler, Millard Fillmore, and Andy Johnson.

Who'll be there? is one question. You might readily name them if you chose, but it were hardly needed, for they are *sui generis*. The minor officers can hardly be expected, for it wouldn't pay, and to restrict "the forces," as the manifesto calls them, would render it no "rally around the President." So there is at least a dilemma.

What will the rally man do at the convocation is the next question. "The consideration of the political strength of the Democratic party on the plane of strict adherence to pledges, as shown by President Cleveland, will present an irresistible phalanx in 1888, against which the fury of the common enemy and the malignity of traitors will be impotent." That's it by strict quotation. Congress is boldly ignored. The National and State Committees are ignored. The platform of the National Democratic Convention is ignored, for Cleveland's plane—the manifesto calls it "plane," but the Mugs of "the forces" would say plan; and finally, "the speakers and newspapers claiming to represent Democratic sentiment," together with "all the Randalls and Holmans in Congress," are both ignored and repudiated. Vale!

AN OLD DEMOCRAT.

REPUBLICANS IN OFFICE IN WASHINGTON.

How They are Peculiarly Favored Under the Present Administration.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The right of a superior officer to remove a person in the classified service is not at all affected by the Civil Service act. Why, then, have the rascals not been turned out?

It is true that many of the Republican chiefs of division at Washington have been succeeded by Democrats, but instead of being dismissed to gain their living by private industry, they have been transferred to posts within the classified service by the process known as reduction. For this class of favored Republicans there have been no such conditions precedent to appointment as are required in the case of other citizens. For them there is no examination, no regulation as to age, no requirement as to the state of their domicile. By what warrant of law is this done under a programme of Democratic reform? Yours sincerely, A DEMOCRAT.

WASHINGTON, April 9.

The Voice of the Indiana Democracy.

From the Shelbyville Democrat.

The Democratic party wants in 1888 a straight, positive, sagacious, honest, pure, and strong Democratic candidate, one who will rally the full support of his party, and who will not betray its confidence in the hour of need. It wants a President who will lay siege to the enemy's camp and starve it out, instead of feeding and equipping it with arms to whip the party at every turn, and that man is David B. Hill. Dinna ye hear the slogan?

Senator Spooner on Cleveland.

From the Philadelphia Press.

The crabbed scrawl of Senator Spooner of Wisconsin was noticeable on the register of the Fifth Avenue Hotel to-day. He came from Washington on the night train—he always travels that way—and will take up his journey home to-morrow. I was surprised to find the Wisconsin lumber man so decided in his opinion that Cleveland would be an easy candidate for the Republicans to defeat in 1888. "There is no feeling for him among the Democrats of the West," he continued, "and his renomination would be a disappointment to their hopes. I believe that he would poll less votes out there than any other Democratic candidate. There is so much dissatisfaction and discontent is growing so rapidly that I regard a Republican victory in 1888 a certainty. The party is well organized, thoroughly disciplined, and will vote solidly for the nominee. Who he will be I wouldn't want to predict."

To Pay Honor to Cardinal Gibbons.

From John Swinton's Paper.

The Knights of Labor of New York, or rather all our labor organizations, should prepare to offer a grand reception, as soon as he reaches this port, to Cardinal Gibbons, who has made such a memorable defence of advancing labor before the Pope in the Eternal City. We trust that Baltimore also will give him a welcome worthy of his work. Perhaps the Cardinal might be induced to deliver discourses on the subject both in Baltimore and New York. No other dignitary of the Church in America has ever spoken for labor as Cardinal Gibbons has.

Puzzles.

The railroad puzzle printed in THE SUN on Tuesday can be solved thus: Engine hauls car 3 to the main track and shoves 3 and 1 beyond A. Engine returns to D, thence to the Y, and backs 2 down on to the main track. The engine now heads east. It hauls 2 to D, backs it on the Y and leaves it there, comes up on the other side of the triangle, pulls 2 back to its original position, then takes 3 and 1 to their places, and goes off. Other combinations can accomplish the same result.

This is Another Puzzle.

From the Washington Critic.

In the above table the letter O represents a bartender. The stars represent twenty-one jolly students seated around a table. After each of them had treated they resolved that the expense should be put upon the bartender. So they agreed to commence at one side of the table and count around, bartender included. Every time seven was counted, one—the seventh—was to go out and the man left last inside was to settle. From which man must they have commenced to count in order to leave the bartender to pay the bill?

In the last number of the *Political Science Quarterly* a paper is furnished by Dr. Thomas D. Rawbaut on "Louis Riel's Rebellions" which possesses great interest for all who make the study of national and international law a part of their maturer education. It requires a habit of careful investigation and a love of tracing political causes and effects, to properly appreciate such a history of the case of Riel and its relations to the domains of State, statute, and common law, and to the history of the Hudson's Bay Company, that of the Metis or Half Breeds, and the Red River and Saskatchewan rebellions; but the careful perusal of the article in question will certainly inform and gratify all such readers, while less analytic students cannot fail to be entertained and instructed by giving it a half hour's attention.

ENGLAND'S THREAT AGAINST HAYTI.

Our Government Will Assert Its Intention to Maintain the Monroe Doctrine.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Although no official confirmation has been received at the Department of State of the report that Great Britain has threatened to seize Tortugas Island, the Government, with a view to being prepared for any emergency, is beginning to canvass its resources in case it should become necessary to again assert the intention of this country to maintain the Monroe doctrine to the extent of protecting the small republics of the American continent against the encroachments of European powers. The result of the inquiries into our naval resources is not encouraging so far. Several wooden vessels forming the training squadron are now on their way northward from the West Indies, and at present there is no vessel bearing the American flag in Haytian waters. The Yantic is at Key West, and the Galena at Aspinwall, and it is possible that one or both of these vessels may be ordered to Hayti to represent the United States Government should it become necessary to enter a formal protest against European encroachment in the West Indies.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, April 1.—News has been received from Hayti that an amicable settlement of the British claims may be expected. The Haytian Assembly has had two special sittings to consider the British demand, made through Mr. Hill, the special agent, as President Salomon declined taking action until he obtained an expression of opinion from the Assembly. The island of Tortugas was offered to the British Government in settlement of this claim three years ago.

The French frigate La Minerve arrived here day before yesterday and was ordered to proceed to Hayti. The Government of Hayti has recently borrowed 15,000,000 francs, or $3,000,000, in Paris. If England wants a Haytian island French creditors will probably have something to say.

A SPEECH IN THE CAR FACTORY.

John Stephenson Refuses Higher Wages to the Men, and They Threaten a Strike.

Mr. John Stephenson, principal stockholder in the big car factory in Twenty-seventh street near Fourth avenue, made a speech to his dissatisfied workmen at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Among other things, Mr. Stephenson said that the petition for an increase of 15 per cent. in wages was signed by only one-fourth of the employees, that the firm had done less business proportionately this year than it did last year, and that the company had paid out $15,000 more in wages. There had been no reduction in wages. The average wages of the men in his employ was $10 per week, including the apprentices. The capacity of the works was twenty-four cars a week, but since Jan. 1 only ten cars had been turned out each week.

The company had declared a dividend of only 1½ per cent last year, Mr. Stephenson said, and there was not enough money in bank at the present time to pay the bills for the current month. During his long business career he had never received such a petition before. Labor organizations, Mr. Stephenson said, were demoralizing the country; they were driving the American mechanics out of employment, and making room for foreigners. Mr. Stephenson closed his speech by saying that any one who was not satisfied with his treatment need not come to work on Monday.

When the workmen came out on the sidewalk after the delivery of the speech many expressions of dissatisfaction were heard. The men said that Mr. Stephenson's remarks did not change the situation of affairs. The trouble, so far, had been kept strictly between themselves and the company, but that District Assembly 49, Knights of Labor, would, in all probability, conduct further negotiations. The chief difficulty, the men say, is that Mr. Stephenson, for a long time, has been hiring Swedes and Germans, who were unable to speak English, paying them from $5 to $7 a week. The men say that the highest wages received by any of them, including foremen, will not average more than $12 a week, and that the larger part of the men received less than $7 for the most unremitting toil. Painters in Stephenson's employ got only $10 a week, while those employed in other city car shops got $2.50 per day. The men say that they have exhausted every amicable means to settle the difficulty, and that harsher measures will be resorted to.

PINNING DOWN THE POLICE BOARD.

The Mayor Wants a Yes or No Answer Whether the Excise Law Can be Enforced.

Mayor Hewitt will not attend the meeting of the Manhattan Temperance Association to-day. His answer to the recent letter from the association is contained in the following:

Stephen B. French, Esq., President of the Board of Police.

SIR: I transmit herewith a letter which I have received, signed by John B. Gibbs, President, and John Crawford, Secretary, of the Manhattan Temperance Association. You will observe that this association, whose utterances do not always appear to be temperate, states "that the declaration by the Board of Police that the excise laws are enforced in this city is contradicted by the universal evidence of citizens of unquestioned character," and that the "meeting pledges itself to furnish the Board of Police with evidence that the Excise law has been habitually and almost universally violated;" and, finally, "that the reply of the Board of Police is unequivocal in its intimation that the Sunday laws can be enforced."

The association also furnishes me with a copy of the letter of your chief clerk, in which it is stated "that the excise laws are practically enforced in all parts of the city." I am constrained by this assertion to call your attention to the fact that in the letter of your chief clerk, addressed to me on the 1st of April, you make the following statement: "The Board further directs me to say that the excise laws are practically and as thoroughly enforced in all parts of the city as the means at the disposal of the department will admit."

You will observe the discrepancy between the statement made to the temperance association and to me. In the one case the declaration is positive that the excise laws are enforced. In the other case the declaration is limited by "the means at the disposal of the department." You therefore, confirm the statement which I made in a letter to Mr. Gilsenrich, that an increase in the police force would be required in order to comply with the provisions of the Excise law in regard to the liquor traffic on Sunday. I leave you to reconcile the apparent contradiction between the two statements, but I think that the public would be glad to be informed whether you think the law can be carried into effect with the present force at your command, or whether an increase of the police force is necessary for the purpose. Yours respectfully, ABRAM S. HEWITT, Mayor.

Appointments by the President.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—The President this afternoon appointed Eugene Semple of Washington Territory to be Governor of Washington Territory, Samuel D. Shannon of Cheyenne to be Secretary of Wyoming Territory, Edward Palmer Turner of New York to be Consul at Mozambique, and Marshall Parks to be Supervising Inspector of Steam Vessels for the third district in place of James Curran of Maryland, who was twice nominated to that office, and who failed of confirmation each time. Mr. Parks is a resident of Norfolk, Va., and a pronounced Democrat. He has practical knowledge of the construction and management of steam vessels.

Discharges Ordered at the Navy Yards.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—The funds available for repairs to naval vessels are at a very low ebb, and within a short time heavy discharges of force will be made at the navy yards. Reductions have already been ordered at the Mare Island, Portsmouth, and New York yards. A large part of the general appropriation for construction and repair of vessels has been diverted to the completion of the cruisers Chicago, Boston, and Atlanta, the special appropriation for which failed with the General Deficiency bill. Not much more than $25,000 is available for repair work at navy yards during the remainder of the fiscal year, and this sum is also subject to drafts from vessels repairing on foreign stations.

Not Jacob Sharp's Turn To-morrow.

Lawyer Albert Stickney, one of Jacob Sharp's counsel, called on Assistant District Attorney Nicoll yesterday, and was with him an hour. Upon emerging from the room he said he was talking with Mr. Nicoll on the case of Sharp. He said positively that the case of Sharp would not be moved to morrow for trial, and that he did not know when it would be called. It was hinted in the District Attorney's office that Cleary would have to go on the track again before any other.

Col. Fellows has written from Hot Springs to Mr. Martine to say that he will return whenever he is wanted.

On Narragansett's Shore.

Those Democrats uproarious
Have lately been victorious,
And now they fill Rhode Island with a fearful cry for gore.
Though long they were dejected,
Just now they have elected
A Democratic Governor on Narragansett's shore.

Their foes at last are worsted,
The tough old Rings are bursted,
And broken is the bondage under which they suffered sore.
The lordly cotton spinners,
Who always were the winners,
Have yielded to the people there on Narragansett's shore.

This real rara avis
Is honest old John Davis,
And of his stamp the people wish there might be many more.
Because he bravely battled
For freedom, and he rattled
The dry bones of oppression there on Narragansett's shore.

Rhode Island, bound and fettered,
Her prison walls has shattered,
And freedom's glorious thrill at last runs through her to the core.
There's been a revolution,
And righteous retribution
Must overtake oppressors there on Narragansett's shore.

Don't irritate your lungs with a stubborn cough, when a safe and certain remedy can be had in Dr. Jayne's Expectorant.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY.

The week having been consecrated to the solemnities of religion, there has been no place for social events. The churches have been the central objects of interest, and have been crowded day after day with devout listeners, while the old, old story has been told once more from pulpit and desk. Meanwhile preparations for the greatest festival of the Christian year have been actively going on, and music and flowers, which seem to be the natural interpreters of man's joy and gladness, will to-day be heard and seen in their perfection.

The gayeties of Easter week, which no one feels inclined to postpone, will begin to-morrow evening with the opening of the Patti opera season, a german for Miss Floyd-Jones, and a farewell theatre party given by Mrs. Thomas Hitchcock for a number of young people.

Miss Gallatin's wedding, which will occur on Tuesday, promises to be a very gay affair. The ceremony will take place in the white and gold ballroom of Mr. Gallatin's spacious house, the whole of which will be thrown open to guests. Miss Morris, Miss Rhinelander, Miss Anna Sands, Miss Florence Schieffelin, and Miss Annie Murray will make a charming group of bridesmaids, and the wedding, with its accompaniments of garlands and nosegays, of bright faces and fresh toilets, will make a suitable opening of the spring season.

The reception at Mrs. C. O'D. Iselin's will probably be a little late, in consequence of the wedding which precedes it; but as none but near friends and relatives care to linger at a marriage feast, Mrs. Iselin's entertainment is likely to be all the gayer and pleasanter when the wedding