

The Sun

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1888.

London office of The Sun, Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, Great Britain; Boston office, 100 Broadway, New York.

We have purchased the exclusive right to publish in the United States Mr. H. RIDER HAGGARD'S forthcoming novel of "Cleopatra," and the opening chapters will appear in THE SUNDAY SUN of Dec. 30, one week from to-day. For this novel we have paid the largest price ever paid by an American newspaper for a like contribution.

Mr. ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S letters from the South Pacific will begin in due time.

Truth at Last.

It may be a surprising, but it is none the less an interesting circumstance that all the journals engaged in the warfare on the tariff, the first to expound the programme with unimpeachable frankness is our esteemed contemporary, the Galveston Daily News. Seeing that the truth was needed to correct the wanderings of its Southwestern colleague, the St. Louis Republic, it now declares:

"A tariff for revenue only is free trade."

We congratulate the tariff-smashing sentiment that one of its most distinguished organs has upon this important question come to an open agreement with THE SUN. All subsequent tariff measures will be attended with the satisfactory feature that no longer will there be in any quarter either attempt to misinterpret or a failure to understand it.

For a considerable number of tariff-smashing journals the noted aphorism of DAY CROCKETT, "Be sure you are right, then go ahead," was too concise. There was an implied condition precedent which for universal use should have been expressed—find out first what you are after.

The Fighting Canadians.

Among the discussions over the annexation of Canada the remarks of our esteemed contemporary, the Toronto World, are the most novel. For example:

"You start in to convert Canadians into Yankees, the farmer will fight sooner than submit to the operation. It is just the same with the rest of them. When it is attempted to be realized, the fighting men will be against it."

There can be no fighting there is no incursion or excursion. No one from America need cross the Canadian border, nor is it necessary for the Canadians to come here.

All that is proposed is union, and then, like the people everywhere else in the United States, those living in the valley of the St. Lawrence can manage their own affairs, with no possible occasion for dispute or friction with their neighbors. It is the most peaceful idea possible.

Charitable Work in New York.

A very remarkable volume in the "New York Charities Directory," of which the third edition has just been published. It is issued by the Charity Organization Society, and is a volume of nearly five hundred pages, though it contains a catalogue of the beneficent societies of this city alone.

Of course, in such a catalogue the same society is referred to under different headings, so that the thousands of titles do not represent so great a number of distinct organizations, but of separate associations for charitable work there are actually many hundreds. Yet great care has been taken to avoid from this list those which have been found to be unworthy of support, and the compiler does not pretend to have included all which may be entitled to respect because of their good work.

Besides the many charitable societies and institutions supported by general contributions or by the different religious denominations as a whole, there are hundreds of organizations for benevolence in the various church parishes of the city, and thousands of men and women are actively engaged of the year through in carrying out their objects. These good people are visiting the poor, distributing money, food, and clothing among the needy, and seeking with unflinching diligence to cure or relieve the evils of poverty and conquer the temptations to vice.

Take, for example, St. George's Church of the Episcopal communion. It is situated in Sixteenth street, near Second avenue, and therefore is close to a crowded neighborhood, in which the incentives to charitable exertion are peculiarly great. This parish maintains a separate chapel in Stanton street, which itself keeps up seven societies; a mission in Avenue A, with four societies of its own, and, besides, provides a boys' club, an industrial school, a gymnasium, a seaside home for poor parishioners in the summer, has six societies for charitable and missionary work, and supports a body of deacons who devote themselves to work among the poor. The whole parish is stimulated to both work and give for these various objects, and many ladies are enlisted as volunteer visitors to the poor and the sick. The Baptist church in Sixth street, near Avenue C, maintains industrial and kindergarten schools, a dispensary, a supply school, and a young women's home at Stamford; and the Tabernacle church on Second avenue, which has the same pastor, supports a mission in East Twentieth street, near that avenue. The Presbyterian church of the Rev. Dr. HALL, in Fifth avenue, maintains three chapels, besides various benevolent societies.

These are only three of the Protestant churches, and as it is with them so it is with the other parishes to a greater or less extent. There is not one which has not its organization for some kind of benevolent work, and the same is true of the Roman Catholic parishes in general. The town, therefore, is alive with charitable activity, for in addition to these the number of separate associations, religious and secular, for relieving poverty and providing for the feeble, the sick, the defective, the orphaned, the aged, and the fallen is very great. There are besides more than one hundred mutual and provident societies, and various secret societies and orders maintain associations for relief or render assistance to members in accordance with the general scheme of their organization. The Royal Arcanum, for instance, is a provident society which has twenty-five councils in New York. There are also something like one hundred societies which render aid in obtaining employment. More than fifty industrial schools maintained by churches and private munificence, and nearly the same number of libraries. In different trades, too, there are associations for mutual benefit, while about seventy-five hospitals and seventy-three nurseries look after babes.

Yet all these are only a part of the many schemes and associations for beneficent purposes which exist in New York. They are so numerous and so minutely specialized that there would seem to be no sort of evil or suffering which is neglected. How great is the amount annually expended by these agencies, public and private, in affording relief, assistance, and support, cannot even be estimated, but it must be millions of dollars, and apparently is enough to supply all the needed help. But the number of people in New York to whom charitable assistance is rendered is enormous. The Charity Organization Society alone has on its list the names of something over 100,000 families or persons who have applied for charitable aid during the past five years, and to these the great number of members of the mutual benefit societies who look out for themselves and each other, and who have a very large share of the population.

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Mr. Cox's Two Minutes.

The Congressional Record of Friday contains a fragment of that sort of petty dilatory which deprives the official journal of all value as a reporter of the actual proceedings of Congress. THE SUN has frequently deplored the practice of printing imaginary speeches and afterthoughts of debate as if they had really been delivered on the floor. In the present instance, we are sorry to say, the offender is the Hon. SAMUEL S. COX of New York, a legislator who needs to resort to none of the tricks of the trade.

On pages 421 and 422 of the Record we find a speech on the River and Harbor bill purporting to have been delivered by Mr. Cox just as it is printed. It is true that before beginning on his two minutes' speech Mr. Cox asked the privilege of extending his remarks in the Record, and there was no objection. But in the text of the speech we find nothing to indicate the boundary line between the passages actually spoken by Mr. Cox and the subsequent irresponsible interpolation in the Record. Indeed, the line in the Record, "Here the hammer fell," is placed at the end of the long speech, precisely as if Mr. Cox, by amazing laryngeal agility, had managed to crowd fifteen minutes' talking into two minutes' time.

It is obviously impossible that Mr. Cox could have said in two minutes all that the Record reports him as saying. He was preceded by Mr. STEWART of Texas, who had ten minutes instead of two. Mr. STEWART'S remarks, with all of the interruptions, up to the point when the Chairman announced the expiration of the ten minutes' speech, occupy less than a column of the Record. Mr. COX, who followed by Mr. TAYLOR of Ohio, who likewise had ten minutes, Mr. TAYLOR'S remarks, up to the point when the Chairman informed him that his ten minutes had expired, fill two columns and one-eighth. Mr. COX'S own remarks, with only two minutes of time allowance instead of ten, occupy almost two columns and two-thirds. At Mr. TAYLOR'S rate of speaking, Mr. COX'S remarks would have consumed about twelve minutes in delivery; at Mr. STEWART'S speed, they would have used up about fifteen minutes. Unless we suppose that Mr. Cox speaks from 600 to 750 per cent. faster than his fellow Congressmen, the Record's report is manifestly fraudulent.

But that is not the worst of it. At the end of Mr. Cox's alleged speech we find in brackets the flattering announcement of "Applause." Who applied it? Not the House Representative, for that body could not so have had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Cox's eloquent peroration. If they applauded, it must have been when they read the undelivered peroration the next morning in the Record, and, simultaneously, the announcement in type of their applause. Perhaps Mr. Cox saved his conscience by clapping his hands and stamping his feet, and exclaiming "Bravo!" as he finished writing the speech that he delivered in the Record, but not in the House of Representatives.

Reform the Congressional Record, and the Recording Angel on high will have fewer sins to charge to the account of otherwise honorable and truthful American statesmen.

College Athletics.

Prof. SHALER of Harvard University considers "the athletic problem in education" with considerable care and in a very interesting way in the last number of the Atlantic Monthly. In his opinion the tendency of athletic sports to find a definite place in our educational institutions "promises to effect certain grave changes in our system of education." The curriculum of college learning has so expanded that now each decade of years makes it more difficult to confer upon youth an education that shall be sufficiently thorough and comprehensive. And, on the other hand, the development of "the athletic motive" tends to trench more and more upon the time and attention formerly absorbed by education.

Exercise being as natural in young men as it is in colts and calves or lambs, its progress must not be slighted, and for each method in which it is practised in colleges Prof. SHALER has a good word to say. Football, for example, "cultivates swift judgment, endurance, and self-confidence, without which even the naturally brave cannot learn to meet danger. Lacrosse stimulates the development of 'swiftness of cooperation between the persons engaged,' as do also cricket and base ball, and even tennis. Another cooperative diversion is rowing, in which the chief objection is found in that the rower does not exert his mind beyond a constant endeavor to keep himself in union with his mates, and Prof. SHALER thinks this is insufficient for mental training. This opinion will doubtless be contradicted by men who know the exacting sort of intellectual effort demanded of the oarsman to refine his methods toward an ever unattainable perfection, and to smooth over every physical inequality between himself and the crew. But it is in the final struggle, the race, an affair of twenty minutes or so, that Prof. SHALER finds the real reward for the months of devoted exertion. "It is that short period," says he, "it is something for the youth to learn the value of long-continued sacrifice directed to a single end." Pugnacity and wrestling also afford a certain kind of mental training which is not to be despised. We should say not.

These conclusions are also accompanied with the opinion that a "high measure of physical activity tends to postpone the period of mental maturity."

The evils of betting, stimulated greatly by intercollegiate athletics, are considered, though they seem to be worse in the higher schools than in the universities. As to the notion that competitive athletics has lowered the physical condition of students, Prof. SHALER holds the opposite idea. He has noticed, during his long career of geological instruction, that in the field "set walks which twenty years ago surpassed the pedestrian powers of quite half his students are now entirely within their ability." There is no question in his mind that the physical condition of the average student at Harvard College is vastly better than it was a score of years ago, and along with this improvement there has been a decided gain in certain moral qualities. Between 1864 and 1870 it was not uncommon to find students in Harvard seriously the worse

for habits of drinking. Since 1870, when the athletic movement began, there has been a decided change for the better. Not only has the custom of liquor drinking decreased, but also there is less smoking, and even less use of tea and coffee. Only about half the students who take their meals in Memorial Hall, Harvard's Commons, indulge in tea or coffee.

Whether the competitive element in contests is needed for the perpetuation of what is called the athletic motive, Prof. SHALER thinks a moot point to decide. He is satisfied, however, that rivalry has extended over too wide a field, though one of the most serious evils attending intercollegiate sports is the "wild celebration" afterward. The best method of meeting these various difficult features must come from an understanding of the proper plan of athletics on the part of those who are most directly affected, the students themselves.

Still another interesting statement is in relation to the idea that athletic sports trench upon the time necessary for rest, thought, and study. "The need of rest other than that of sleep," says Prof. SHALER, "in the case of youth is very doubtful. It is the consideration of athletics to their relation to the public at large, with the resulting conviction that 'their revival has been of decided advantage to our people.' The great prevalence of active sport in England, which as THE SUN has lately observed, is responsible for much that is most admirable in the British character, is to some extent a reaction against the old Puritanism. In this country it has been a natural and beneficent revolt against the 'centuries of the schools of religious thought which condemned the body and all its spontaneous motives,' and unquestionably in Prof. SHALER'S judgment 'the change has been helpful to the state of man.' Moreover, we have stimulated our physical energies to this high point without beginning to meet the evils which from their excesses of sport the ancient Romans, 'The man of to-day is a much gentler creature than the Roman,' profoundly sympathetic and 'deeply affected by the Christian motive.'"

We imagine that Prof. SHALER'S estimate of athletic exercises will be considered by the athletes themselves as, on the whole, the justest developed by the recent conflict between the athletes and the faculty of Harvard University. Certainly it is not the least interesting or instructive to those whose energies are expended outside of the university limits.

The Length of Wagner's Operas.

Now that the presentation of WAGNER'S music dramas has been resumed at the Metropolitan Opera House, it seems opportune to say a word about a serious drawback to the full enjoyment of them by a large number of people.

This drawback is the excessive length of the performance. Last Friday evening, for example, "Siegfried" lasted from eight o'clock until midnight. "The Meistersinger," announced for next Friday, will occupy fully as much time. Of "Rheingold," which is the next in order on the programme, we cannot speak positively, but the other two dramas of the Nibelungen series, "Valhalla" and "Götterdämmerung," which are to be as long as "Siegfried," and so is "The Ring and Isolde." For even the lovers of Wagner's music, and for those who are indifferent or hostile to it, four hours of the nervous excitement it produces is too much. It is fatiguing, and fatigue is discomfort. No matter how delightful it may be at the beginning, it becomes wearisome towards the end, and the purpose of the entertainment, which is to give the listeners pleasure, is defeated.

The obvious remedy is the excision and condensation of the score. Wagnerian fanatics will, of course, cry out against this as profanation, but even SHAKESPEARE'S plays have to submit to it to make them enjoyable by modern audiences, and we do not see why the German composer should be exempt from the same fate. Granted that nothing can be left out which is beautiful, useful, or that which is so true and so beautiful as to be as long as "Siegfried," and so is "The Ring and Isolde." For even the lovers of Wagner's music, and for those who are indifferent or hostile to it, four hours of the nervous excitement it produces is too much. It is fatiguing, and fatigue is discomfort. No matter how delightful it may be at the beginning, it becomes wearisome towards the end, and the purpose of the entertainment, which is to give the listeners pleasure, is defeated.

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The Congo Railroad.

The latest news from the engineers who have been surveying a route for the new Congo Railroad is that they expected to complete their work about the middle of last month. Three weeks ago a meeting of the Congo Company for Commerce and Industry at Brussels was informed by its manager that, as soon as estimates and plans for building the road could be prepared, the proposed line would be submitted to begin at once the work of construction. A map showing the route surveyed to within sixty miles of Stanley Pool was exhibited. The world will watch with interest the development of this enterprise, which, by a railroad 250 miles long, is to connect the head of navigation on the lower river with Stanley Pool and the 6,000 miles of navigable waterways above it.

In order to avoid the mountainous lands which extend almost unbrokenly along the river in this cataract region it was found necessary to lay the route for the most part about thirty miles south of the river. Except for about ten miles at the outset the construction of the road will present no difficulties. Only two or three bridges of considerable size will be required, and most of the road will be built through a comparatively level country. Its cost will not be excessive, and the company which is promoting it believes that within a few years after its completion it will have stimulated a powerful commercial movement between the Upper Congo and the markets of Europe.

Mr. DELCOMMUNE, who headed the expedition sent out by this company to investigate the commercial resources of the Upper Congo, has returned with his party to Leopoldville, after many months spent in exploring up the great tributaries of the river, where the population is most numerous. He reports that he has collected much commercial information, and has brought back with him five tons of specimens of all sorts of salable products. Like every traveller who has yet visited the Kasai, the Sanzang, and others of these large affluents, he is enthusiastic over the future prospects of trade in these regions.

Two companies were formed in Brussels last month for the purpose of engaging in this work of development. One, with a capital of 600,000 francs, will establish at the chief stations small hotels and general stores, where articles of necessity from Europe may be bought by whites or negroes. The other company, with a capital of 1,300,000 francs, will devote itself wholly to trade on the Upper Congo. All the capital of both companies has been subscribed.

These evidences of progress on the Congo indicate that it was a happy inspiration which, ten years ago last month, led to forming the committee to study the Upper Congo, through whose initiative STANLEY was sent back to the great river he had explored, to open it to the commerce of the world.

The Unemployed and the Doubly Employed.

It is a noticeable feature of metropolitan life that while there is always a large number of unemployed there is also a very large number who are constantly employed in more than one place; people, in other words, who have two regular jobs. This grows out of the peculiar shape of the city, which sends so many people down town during the day, to return up town for rest and recreation at night.

Take, for instance, the down-town barbershops, restaurants, and saloons. Many of them get all their business by daylight, opening late and closing early. At the same time there are up-town places of the same kind, where trade is active during the afternoon and evening only. Many of the men who work down town during the day may be found working up town at night. Often they are engaged to assist only a few hours in either place at small compensation, but with the combined earnings of both places they make a comfortable income. During the winter, when halls and parties are raging, and good writers are in demand, it is a common thing to find the waiter of your favorite down-town restaurant on duty later at some up-town festivity.

And it is surprising to note in how many occupations this dual service is performed by industrious workers. Many musicians who play in orchestras or for private parties have other and regular occupations during the day, and are glad to add to their incomes by a few hours' work in the evening. For example, there is the case of a subordinate actor, who for many years was in constant employment during the day as a plate printer. Many teachers teach in the night schools and day schools both. The immense and shifting army of London and Londonish laborers, who last summer inIGHT KRALF'S noble spectacle of "Nero," on Staten Island, was drawn from innumerable institutions in the cities of New York and Brooklyn or elsewhere. THE SUN from its various departments supplied regularly many of the most distinguished Senators and most triumphant gladiators, while countless girls, engaged daily in dealing out buttons and ribbons, later on assumed the fairy robes of vestals and matrons.

The rapid increase of apartment houses has given employment to many janitors. The pay is generally small, and in many cases the janitor has regular employment elsewhere during the day, at which time his wife or older children attend to his house duties, thus securing a comfortable place to live rent free and with some perquisites besides. Many small stores on the avenues and side streets are kept in this way. Perhaps the man of the family has a place under the city, state, or national government which keeps him employed a few hours a day, outside of which he attends to his store. Expert bookkeepers frequently, in addition to their regular employment, look after the books of merchants who cannot afford to keep their own separate bookkeepers or whose business will not justify the employment of the whole time of one man.

Among industrious artisans it is a frequent occurrence to work overtime on odd jobs for employers who could not afford to hire them regularly. Many a nice job of painting, upholstery, carpentry, cabinet-making, or paper hanging is done in this way. Journeymen carpenters have built themselves up to some extent on the "odd jobs" to such work when other tasks failed. Thus they never lost time. During the height of any political campaign the demand for extra stenographers is so great that nearly all the official stenographers of the city are pressed into service. Sometimes after long days work in court, they spend long nights with the orators, performing labor which no man could pursue steadily without becoming a raving maniac.

Much drudgery of literary work, especially in translating and searching the libraries, is done by young lawyers and physicians, who must take out a subsistence by varied labor until clients or patients present themselves in sufficient numbers to provide a trustworthy and absorbing source of income. Sometimes these young professional men turn an honest penny on their spare life as secretaries of newspapers and reporters.

It is a source of constant wonder what becomes of the reporters. They are generally young. There are few old boys among them. The solving theory is that many adopt reporting originally as a temporary vocation, and drift gradually into some other profession, which they have been cultivating while serving newspapers.

Clergymen have a notorious propensity for working outside their regular field. In small congregations it is a common thing for the clergyman to make his living mainly by other employment. In the country they farm. In the city they get some sort of literary work to do. The Rev. STEPHEN MERRITT, who ministered for a time at the Perry Street Methodist Church and the Jane Street Methodist Church, preached for nothing and lived his living as an undertaker. His father often acted both as minister and undertaker at the same funeral, and sometimes performed both services without compensation. Many popular and high-salaried clergymen have also earned large incomes as editors and lecturers. BEECHER STORRS, TALMAGE, CHAPIN, PRIME, and others being illustrations.

"Thus it is that while so many people cannot get anything to do, many others have more than they can do, and find no difficulty in turning all their available hours into gold. It is, after all, but an illustration of the Scriptural proverb: 'To him that hath shall be given.'"

In a New Character.

The reappearance in Congress of the Hon. WILLIAM L. SCOTT of Pennsylvania, with a speech in favor of a grant of Government money for the construction of the Nicaragua Canal, is an interesting event.

Mr. SCOTT'S remarks seem to have begun with true Americanism as a child's stocking bulges with oranges and candy. English waltzes on the musical notes of Christmas, martial and commercial. Coming from a promoter, proprietor, and director of the Canadian Pacific Railway, such sentiments sound a little hollow. It is a bad state of things that has existed for a week past at and near Wahalak, in Mississippi, where a mob of blacks and whites have been in hostile array against each other. It must be evident to all who have read the daily despatches from that region that the authorities of the State have wholly neglected their duty of enforcing the law against the violators of both colors. The State of Missis-

sippi has plenty of men at its command to maintain the peace and to prevent such rioting as has recently brought disgrace upon it.

It is shocking to hear the Prohibitionists talk about that distinguished Presbyterian clergyman, the Rev. Dr. HOWARD CROSBY, as they did at their meeting of last Friday night. If Secretary THOMAS had been under the influence of alcohol, he could not have been more violent in his language than he was when he said: "Before Almighty God to-night and in the court of common sense I impeach Dr. HOWARD CROSBY as a double-dyed traitor to his God, to his Church, and to the American nation." He indulged in this rignarole moraly because Rev. Dr. Crosby, who is a strong advocate of temperance, said before the Excise Commission that, for one hour on Sunday, he would allow the beer drinkers to procure supplies of their beverage through an aperture to be made in the doors of the beer shops. Dr. Crosby has striven by every practicable means to restrict the sale of beer on Sunday, and to prohibit the retailing of spirituous liquors, but he would assign an hour of that day in which a pitcher of fresh beer could be procured by that large body of our fellow citizens who cannot enjoy their dinner without it. To denounce him on this account in public as a "double-dyed traitor" is an insult to have been more violent in his language than he was when he said: "Before Almighty God to-night and in the court of common sense I impeach Dr. HOWARD CROSBY as a double-dyed traitor to his God, to his Church, and to the American nation." He indulged in this rignarole moraly because Rev. Dr. Crosby, who is a strong advocate of temperance, said before the Excise Commission that, for one hour on Sunday, he would allow the beer drinkers to procure supplies of their beverage through an aperture to be made in the doors of the beer shops. 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