The Sun.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1889.

London office of THE SUN, Hotel Victoria, Northumberland avenue. Address ARTHUR SHERBAN, sole representative in London.

Subscription by Mail—Post-paid.

DAILY, Per Month	$0 50
DAILY, Per Year	6 00
SUNDAY, Per Year	2 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	8 00
WEEKLY, Per Year	1 00

Postage to Foreign Countries added.

THE SUN, New York City.

Advertising Rates.

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

Too Early for a Tariff Programme.

Democratic prospects for 1892 are considered at long range but with discerning intelligence in the article which we copy from the ablest Democratic newspaper of the South.

THE SUN believes with the *Atlanta Constitution* that in spite of the loss of position and the increased difficulties coming with the sixteen new electoral votes, the United Democracy can elect its candidate and inaugurate him four years from now.

But no political prophet is wise enough to foretell the issues of the campaign of 1892. The chances are that the main question will not be that of protection or free trade.

There may be a foreign question of dominating importance. There may be a question of annexation or acquisition by purchase, which will make the schedules and percentages of ordinary domestic revenue seem matters of small moment. There may be an issue of honest government and administrative reform like that on which the Democracy elected Mr. TILDEN in 1876.

Nobody can tell. If we knew Gen. HARRISON as well as we know Mr. CLEVELAND now, it might be worth while to speculate. As it is, the time at present can be spent more profitably by Democrats in studying the works of THOMAS JEFFERSON than in aiming spyglasses at the mists of the unknown future.

The Democracy is immortal, and it will be on hand in 1892 prepared to do its bravest.

Col. Grant as an Office Seeker.

Among the names of the office seekers in Washington we observe that of Col. FREDERICK D. GRANT. We suppose he is after the Chinese Mission, with its salary of $12,000 a year. He wants it badly; he has said so himself.

The United States is now represented in China by a gentleman of ability, experience in affairs, and honorable personal character. He is a Democrat, and therefore he will probably come home, but his successor ought to be a Republican of the same grade.

There is no reason to suppose that President HARRISON dreams of such a thing as appointing to succeed Col. DENBY a young gentleman with a piebald record, whose only title to political honor is that he is the son of a great General and a President who helped to educate him in the belief that the country owes him a living.

Such an appointment, if made for reasons of heredity, would be bad enough even if there were nothing in Col. GRANT'S private career which needed clearing up.

The testimony in the case of HALDEMAN against GOFF, tried in January of last year in the Superior Civil Court in Boston, presented incidentally a picture of Col. GRANT'S moral physiognomy not calculated to encourage those who would like to think well of Gen. GRANT'S eldest son. This young man's signature is attached to a sworn statement, still on file in the Massachusetts State House, certifying that $900,000 in patents and $100,000 in cash had been paid into the treasury by a certain electric light company, of which he was one of the incorporators and promoters. According to the testimony of Mr. GOFF, one of Col. GRANT'S partners in the enterprise and fellow incorporators of the concern, the signers of this sworn certificate committed perjury. No $100,000 in cash had been paid in. Not a cent had been paid in. Under a searching cross-examination by Governor GASTON, Mr. GOFF reluctantly disclosed the true character of the transaction in which Col. GRANT bore so prominent a part:

"The witness said that the capital stock of the company was represented to him as $100,000 paid in cash and $900,000 in patents; he knew that the $100,000 had been paid in technically by Col. FRED GRANT.

"After some sharp queries, witness was allowed to state the facts in the case, and said that Col. GRANT came to the firm of PRESCOTT, HERSEY & HASTINGS and asked for the use of $100,000 for a little while. Some member of the firm went with him to the bank and gave him the use of the money.

"'How could they give him the use of it?' was Mr. GASTON'S immediate query.

"'*I think he simply handled the money so that he could swear that it had been paid in.*'

"'Did one single dollar of that $100,000 get into the treasury of the American Electric Lighting Company?'

"'I didn't discover any of it when I was elected a director.'"

The witness GOFF was questioned further as to his interest in the company:

"'Do you mean to say that you devoted your whole time to a company in which you held only three shares?'

"'I gave my time as a member of a firm of brokers interested in the stock.'

"'Didn't you, as Vice-President, sign certificates of stock?'

"'Sometimes, in the absence of the President.'

"'As a matter of fact, was there ever a certificate of stock issued that did not have your signature?'

"'Oh, yes; a great many.'"

So there were a great many certificates of stock issued after Col. GRANT had "technically" received $100,000 in cash and had sworn that that amount had been paid in to the capital stock of the concern. It was in December, 1881, that Col. GRANT made oath to the $100,000 in cash. The concern ceased to exist in April of the next year. Meanwhile, according to the testimony of an outside banker, the stock had sold in the market as high as $115 a share.

One other point requires attention. GOFF testified that he was a member of a firm of brokers interested in the stock which Col. GRANT was helping to boom. It appears from another part of his evidence that this firm was PRESCOTT, HERSEY & HASTINGS. And it was one of the firm of PRESCOTT, HERSEY & HASTINGS who took Col. FRED GRANT to the Commonwealth Bank and secured for him the privilege of "handling" $100,000 in cash, in order that he might take his oath that $100,000 in cash had been paid in to the treasury of the company of which Col. GRANT, Mr. GOFF, Mr. HERSEY, and Mr. HASTINGS were all originators, incorporators, and promoters.

If the testimony of Mr. GOFF is true, there is no need of using measured language in characterizing this transaction. If it is not true, Col. GRANT ought to drop all idea of revisiting the mandarins of China at the expense of the United States Government. He ought to stay at home and vindicate his character thus infamously assailed.

The New Excise Commissioners.

Not the least important of the numerous appointments which will devolve upon Mayor GRANT will be the three Excise Commissioners whose predecessors go out of office at the end of April. The salary is $5,000 a year each, and they hold office until May 1, 1892, a year and four months longer than the Mayor himself. In the same way the present Commissioners, who were appointed by Mayor GRACE, held over during the entire term of Mr. HEWITT. This is one of the ingenious devices by which our Albany statesmen endeavor to tie the hands of the Mayor of New York and to deprive him of power and authority which he might exercise for the benefit of the city.

Mayor GRANT, however, is fortunate in being able to choose his own Commissioners in this important department, and it is a matter of public information that he intends to select three gentlemen from Tammany Hall, although they may not all of them necessarily be persons active in the management of that important political institution. They will, therefore, certainly be Tammany men, and Tammany, as well as Mayor GRANT, will be responsible for their conduct. Hence we think they will form an improvement upon the Commissioners appointed by Mayor GRACE.

Mr. GRACE declared that it was his intention to make a non-partisan Board, and in this he succeeded. One of its members has been vaguely described as a Republican, a Mugwump, and a Prohibitionist all in one; a second had the endorsement of that admirable social and musical club, the Liederkranz Society, of which he is an active and well-deserving member; and the third we have heard spoken of as a Democrat who has never been conspicuous in any faction of the party. He is not now a member of either Tammany Hall or the County Democracy.

This is a sort of Board which generally produces unsatisfactory results, and for which no party can be held to answer; and upon this condition we look for a considerable improvement from the new Commissioners. It is believed that many abuses exist in the Excise Department, alike in the number of liquor licenses granted, in the localities where they are placed, in the means used to obtain them, and in the character of some of their holders. It is to be hoped that Mayor GRANT'S new broom will sweep all abuses out of sight.

The Proposed Enlargement of the British Navy.

It was announced in the Queen's speech that Parliament would be called upon for an extraordinary appropriation applicable to defensive purposes. The statement is understood to point primarily to an increase of the navy. The scope and character, however, of the proposed expansion of Great Britain's strength upon the ocean will not be authoritatively divulged until a definite programme is put forth by the Government. Meanwhile two forecasts of the Ministerial intentions have been published by the *Manchester Courier* and the *St. James's Gazette*.

According to the first-named newspaper, the programme of national defence surpasses in magnitude and completeness any that has ever been adopted by any other country. It involves, the *Courier* asserts, an expenditure of $500,000,000, to be raised by a special loan, and contemplates the construction before 1895 of twenty or twenty-two sea-going ironclads and nearly fifty fast cruisers. The *St. James's Gazette* denies that Parliament will be asked to sanction such a colossal outlay, but hints that the plan outlined in the *Courier* is really the draft proposal presented by the forward party at the Admiralty, that is to say, by the younger, more energetic, and more capable members of the naval profession in high office. The *Gazette* proceeds to expound a programme of its own, which, it says, represents more accurately the purpose of the SALISBURY Cabinet. We shall find that this scheme, also, although it is drawn up on a much more modest scale than the *Courier's*, would require an immense expenditure.

If we listen to the *St. James's Gazette*, the right size of Great Britain's naval force is determinable by two conditions. First, it must bear a due proportion to the country's naval responsibilities, by which are meant the extent of territory and the volume of foreign trade and mercantile marine, which would need protection in time of war. Secondly, it must be fully equal in strength to the combined navies of any two other nations. Having laid down these postulates, which it seems to think indisputable, the *Gazette* essays to estimate the comparative responsibilities of the seven great powers, keeping in view their area in square miles, the annual value of their foreign trade, and the tonnage of their mercantile marine. The conclusion arrived at is that, if the aggregate naval responsibilities of the seven great powers were represented by 100, Great Britain's percentage would be 40.5. The deduction is that her navy should bear the same proportion to the combined naval force of the seven powers.

Such, however, is not the case. Assuming the aggregate number of sea-going war ships belonging to Great Britain, France, Russia, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy, and Spain to be 100, the percentage of Great Britain would be but 32.8, that is to say, inadequate by about 8 per cent. to her naval responsibilities. On the other hand, France, Russia, Italy, and Spain have too much naval strength in proportion to their responsibilities. Passing to details, the *Gazette* points out four conceivable combinations of two powers, which would be equal, if not superior, to Great Britain on the ocean. France, with either Russia, Germany, Italy, or Spain, would threaten England's maritime supremacy. Of these combinations, that of France with Russia is, under certain circumstances, highly probable. That of France with Spain is, to say the least, quite possible. In the former case the combination could by 1892 send to sea sixty-seven ironclads against England's fifty-four; in the latter case the number of vessels of this class arrayed on either side would be equal. Of large cruisers Great Britain possesses more than any other two powers united, but as regards small cruisers it would be signally outnumbered by France and Russia.

In view of these facts the *Gazette* submits what it calls a "minimum programme." Thirteen new ironclads are, it says, indispensable to put England on an equality with a Franco-Russian coalition. But this is not the only necessary addition to the fleet. It is true that Great Britain now has fifty-three large cruisers as against the fifty-two that could be mustered by any combination of two other powers. But, considering the importance of protecting food supply routes and communications with distant colonies, the *Gazette* insists that not less than twenty-six new, large, and fast-sailing cruisers are required. From thirty to forty smaller cruisers are also needed if Great Britain is to cope in this respect with a combination of France and Russia or of France and Spain.

As the *St. James's Gazette* is a Tory paper, and has opportunities of learning the Cabinet's intentions, we may, perhaps, take for granted that in this "minimum programme" we have, not necessarily what the Government will venture to propose in the first instance, but what it hopes to accomplish should it retain power during the statutory term of the present Parliament. We need not say, however, that such protracted tenure of office is now much more improbable than it seemed a month ago.

The Supply of Churches.

The enforced removal of old St. Luke's Church from the corner of Hudson and Grove streets to an up-town site, furnishes the Rev. Mr. RAINSFORD with the text for an article in his parish paper upon the absence of system in the distribution of the Protestant churches throughout New York.

The situation of these churches is usually determined by personal caprice or individual ambition, instead of being settled, as it is by the Roman Catholic authorities, in accordance with the demands of different districts for such accommodations. Mr. RAINSFORD therefore urges Episcopalians to erect new churches or to remove the old only after looking over the whole field, and suggests that the Bishop might call to his aid for this purpose a council of men thoroughly conversant with the life of the town and the religious needs of the changing population.

It is a very sensible suggestion, and deserves the serious consideration of other communions than the Episcopal. When people of wealth began to move from the lower part of the town to the region above Fourteenth street and between the Fourth and the Sixth avenues, that fashionable quarter was rapidly filled with costly churches, the money for whose erection in many cases came largely or wholly from the sale of their down-town property at high prices. The consequence is that now the supply of churches there exceeds the demand, some of the denominations having two or three in a neighborhood in which they have not enough adherents to support one.

During recent years several of these churches have been sold for secular purposes, and others are now in the market. The Baptist and Presbyterian houses of worship, especially, are so numerous that they can only be filled by popular preachers, and the supply of those is not great enough to go around. The aggrandizement of one at the expense of many also gives rise to very unchristian feelings, and produces much discouragement among pastors not distinguished for pulpit eloquence. Therefore the tendency of the enfeebled congregations is to try their fortune still further up town, with the result that there, too, the supply of church accommodations is likely to soon exceed the demand, more particularly as the only Protestant Church which is now making any marked progress in New York is the Episcopal.

The last City Directory gives a list of about 400 churches and missions in town, of which about 75 are Roman Catholic. The number of the Protestant churches below Fourteenth street is about 80, and of Catholic less than 25. Above Fourteenth street there are between 50 and 60 Catholic, and over 200 Protestant. Relatively to their proportionate numbers, the Protestants therefore seem to have an over-supply of church accommodations in all parts of the town. They probably would gain in strength and aggressive force by collecting in fewer parishes, for now many of the churches are barely able to maintain their existence, and their feebleness takes away from the spirit of both pastors and people. The expense of keeping up the superfluous churches is also enormous, and to a very great extent it is utterly wasted; but the pride of each prevents it from sacrificing its individuality for the advantage of all. It will go on fanning its spark of life so long as it can get pecuniary help either within or without its own fold. This very worldly feeling is stronger the grander the house of worship and the more elegant its situation. Therefore the fashionable region of the town below the Park contains many churches that are rarely more than half filled, two or three of the same denomination being within a few blocks of each other.

In the district to the west of the Central Park and in Harlem, the multiplication of churches has been especially great during recent years, and it undoubtedly has been demanded by the rapid growth of the population. But there, too, the same lack of wisdom has been displayed in fixing the sites of the houses of worship, and it will not be many years before some of the denominations now most active in building will have exceeded the demand for their particular services. A few of the churches will be strong, but the many will be feeble, and the waste of money and of energy will be great.

Mr. RAINSFORD, therefore, is right in saying that the provision of church accommodations should be according to a system that takes account of the actual wants of each district in that respect, and not according to the fancies of a few individuals desirous of setting up a church for their own glory or convenience.

An esteemed correspondent propounds an inquiry of contemporaneous interest:

SIR: How is it that when Gen. GRANT was President he could not have A. T. STEWART in his Cabinet, and now Gen. HARRISON has JOHN WANAMAKER? Is not Mr. W. as much a merchant as Mr. S. was? Or, does the prohibitory measure apply only to the Treasury Department? Yours truly, W. E. MITCHELL.

WEST FORTY-THIRD STREET, March 7.

The restriction applies to the Treasury Department only. Mr. STEWART might have been Postmaster-General had he been willing; but his ambition flew at higher game.

The propriety of this prohibition is evident. The Secretary of the Treasury possesses the means of wielding an immense influence over the business of the country, and, if he were a merchant in active affairs, he might exercise that influence for his own advantage; hence he is not allowed to exercise it at all.

The *Courier-Journal* suggests that the middle name of Col. HALFORD, the new Private Secretary at the White House, is not WHIPPLES, but WALLINGFORD. We accept the amendment. The instruction of superior wisdom is welcome; and, without regard to his middle name, a good man is always good, except when he slips up; and this, we are confident, Brother HALFORD will never do.

Skepticism appears to be rampant even among the young, over whom the blight of experience and despondency has not yet hung its pall. For instance, a member of the Normal School in this town writes us a serious letter inquiring who is really the author of a now celebrated poem:

This biz
Knocks biz.

We respectfully inform our Normal School correspondent that her doubt concerning this subject is not unnatural or surprising. The author is one not widely known in the ranks of poetic genius, valid as his name is at the foot of a check, or on the back of a promissory note. This remarkable production was written, as we understand, by Mr. EDWARD M. KNOX, popularly known as KNOX the Hatter. It was composed in that interim of dull times—a very rare thing with Mr. KNOX—which followed upon the blizzard of March, 1888. As usually printed, it departs from the original form of its gifted author, who conceived it as follows:

This biz
Knox biz.

We invite the attention of our Normal School correspondent to this variorum style of the poem. As she has now seen both forms in print, she can hereafter choose for daily reading the one she prefers.

No postage stamp, no return of poems, unavailable and declined.

INVADING OKLAHOMA.

Scores of Impatient Squatters Moving in to Possess the Land.

CHICAGO, March 7.—A despatch from Oklahoma says the situation there is growing critical. Between 200 and 300 men have taken up claims. Nearly all the land on the river bottom from Fort Reno on the west to the Pottawatomie reservation on the east has been taken up and is held by squatters. Scores of men are slipping in on all sides, and the influx of boomers by the railroad has begun. Last night's train south bound was filled with passengers for Purcell, and it is reported that Harry Hill has started with 400 men. They will be met there by Col. Cole and several hundred boomers from the western border of the Territory.

Throngs of anxious boomers who have been waiting at Purcell for weeks can scarcely be held back, and, altogether, the indications are that there will be fully 2,000 men there inside of a week unless the military moves from Fort Reno at once. Preparations for a raid have been going on at the fort for some time, and it is expected they will move to-morrow or next day. The probabilities are, however, that a raid of the soldiers would only result in a scattering of the squatters through the woods, as they are already within the limits of Oklahoma in sufficient numbers to come back faster than they can be sent out. It is the universal prayer that the President may issue his proclamation soon and declare the country open to settlement at once, and not set the date ahead, as it is feared he will do.

IN THE PANAMA CANAL.

A British Vessel Passes Along the Canal a Distance of Fifteen Miles.

ASPINWALL, March 7.—The British vessel El Dorado, 270 tons, has passed along the Panama Canal from Aspinwall to Chagres, a distance of fifteen miles. This is the first foreign vessel that has passed along the canal from one port to another.

PARIS, March 7.—The Cabinet has decided that the Government will reply to an interpellation to be submitted in the Chamber of Deputies by M. Villain regarding the Panama Canal Company, but will not give details of the action it has decided upon, owing to the international character of the question.

M. Villain submitted his interpellation of the Government regarding the Panama Canal Company. He urged that the canal scheme would not be abandoned, and that a meeting of shareholders of the company should be convened for the purpose of discussing means for continuing work. Mr. Villain said that if the savings of France were insufficient to build the canal, assistance should be invoked from other countries. He suggested that an international conference of engineers be summoned. He moved an order of the day appealing to the Government to safeguard the interests of the shareholders.

M. Rouvier, Minister of Finance, disclaimed any responsibility on the part of the Government. He said the Government had no means of interfering, although it approved of every effort made by capitalists and companies to prevent the collapse of the undertaking.

Prime Minister Tirard, replying to M. de Cassagnac, said the Government would do its utmost for the success of the canal, but he could say no more.

The Chamber then, by a vote of 344 to 185, adopted a Government order of the day in regard to the canal.

WHAT BEAT CLEVELAND.

The Opinion of Col. Henry Watterson.

From the Courier-Journal.

Mr. Cleveland's failure of reelection was mainly due to personal causes residing in himself. With many of the best qualities which can enter into a public official, and none of the worst, he had not the faculty to make friends. His lack of tact was aggressive. He possessed a genius for needless incivility. He drove men from him and attached none to him. Instances of the amazing disregard of the amenities of life in cases where courtesy only was required could be multiplied.

The consequence was that in his own State, where these were most directly felt, his personal unpopularity was phenomenal and the knives he had whetted for himself were accordingly numerous and incisive. In those points outside the city of New York, i. e., in Brooklyn, Rochester, and Buffalo, the latter city his home, the losses sustained on account of the private enemies he had made among former friends, were enough to cost us the State twice over.

His individuality is, therefore, neither pleasing nor cheering to dwell upon. It undoubtedly procured his defeat at the hands of those who knew him best.

Postmaster-General Wanamaker's Announcement.

From the Philadelphia Times.

PHILADELPHIA, March 6.—The weather today is likely to be clearing.

No break in the Dress Goods story. Each new chapter reaches a climax of interest in styles, qualities—and prices.

Ginghams share the sisterhood of Silks and Sateens. More than a thousand styles.

All the Cotton family—Sateens, Craziea, Shirtings, Prints, and the like—turn up saucily pretty faces.

Printed Challis and Mohairs like a brook bank bright with violets and daisies.

Wonders in Wool at a score of counters.

We were never before in such good shape in the Stationery Store.

The Favorite Novels of Certain Novelists.

From Belford's Magazine.

I should say that the "Vicar of Wakefield" surpassed all English tales if I did not remember that Fielding had created Parson Adams; but, again, I have got more pleasure out of Dickens's masterpiece, "David Copperfield," than all the others put together. In all the region of foreign fiction I see no such figure as Balzac, and no such pathetic creation as "Cousin Pons." That to me is a divine story, far deeper and truer, of course, than anything in Dickens, but, alas! so sad.

ROBERT BUCHANAN.

After more than thirty years' study of the art, I consider Walter Scott to be the greatest of all novelists, and "The Antiquary" is, as I think, the most perfect of all novels. WILKIE COLLINS.

My favorite novel is Dickens's "Tale of Two Cities." In this great book Dickens touched his highest level.

H. RIDER HAGGARD.

I should place first Tolstoi's "War and Peace" and Stendhal's "Chartreuse de Parme." VERNON LEE.

Fielding's "Joseph Andrews;" Scott's "Antiquary," "Guy Mannering," "Heart of Midlothian," and "St. Ronan's Well;" Dickens's "Pickwick," "Barnaby Rudge," and "Tale of Two Cities;" Thackeray's "Vanity Fair," "Pendennis," and "Henry Esmond;" Charlotte Bronte's "Jane Eyre;" George Eliot's "Mill on the Floss," Hawthorne's "Blithedale Romance," and George Meredith's "Beauchamp's Career."

And I had nearly forgotten in my haste two great favorites of mine—Miss Austen's "Pride and Predjudice," and Gerald Griffin's "Collegians," and, again, surely Hope's "Anastasius." JUSTIN MCCARTHY.

Of foreign books, my favorites are "Don Quixote" and the novels of Goethe and Jean Paul Richter.

As regards English fiction, I should, I think, place George Eliot's "Silas Marner" first, but I could not say this unless I may be allowed to bracket with this book Nathaniel Hawthorne's "House of the Seven Gables," Mrs. Gaskell's "Cranford," Jane Austen's "Persuasion," Mrs. Ritchie's "Story of Elizabeth," and William Black's "Daughter of Heth." J. HENRY SHORTHOUSE.

A Reasonable Request.

From the Philadelphia Press.

The SUN asks nothing of Postmaster-General Wanamaker except that he shall abolish the sickly green two cent postage stamp and its request should meet with ready compliance. There is not nor should there be anything green or sickly about the new Administration.

The Shortest Obituary Poem.

From the Baltimore American.

The discussion over the best shortest poem goes merrily on. THE SUN is partial to the following, which was evolved from the storm of one year ago in New York:

This bliz
Knocks biz.

It is very good, but it is no better than the somewhat famous epitaph, which reads:

Thorpe's
Corpse.

A Hangman's Rope of Shoe Thread.

From the Utica Herald.

A rope a little more than half an inch in diameter, 35 feet in length, and made of strands of shoe thread, has been purchased by the Sheriff for hanging Virgil Jackson, in case he is called upon to perform that task.

The Oldest Lobsterman Astonished.

From the New London Telegraph.

A lobster as blue as indigo was captured in Fisher's Island Sound by the Williams brothers of Stonington Saturday. Nothing of the kind was ever before seen by the oldest lobsterman.

No Quibbling.

From the Yarmouth Register.

"At what age were you married?" she asked inquisitively. But the other lady was equal to the emergency, and quietly responded, "At the parsonage."

THE CHANGED POLITICAL SITUATION.

Prospects and Possibilities of the Democratic Party.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

In 1892, for the first time, the Democrats cannot win with the 156 votes of the South and the added 45 votes of New York and New Jersey. The Electoral College now has 401 votes, and 201 votes elect. In 1892 the four new States will add 16 votes to the college, making the total 417—necessary to elect, 209. So that not only will New York and New Jersey, with the solid South, fail to elect, but even Connecticut added would leave us short. In other words, if, in 1892, we hold the South solid, hold New Jersey and Connecticut and recapture New York, we would still fail to elect a Democratic President.

It will be noticed that we make no account of the new census. That will be taken in 1890, but it will not be made the basis of apportionment in 1892. It is well for the Democrats that it will not. By the census of 1880 the North gained 20 votes and the South 15 votes. There is every reason to believe that the North will gain in even larger proportion by the census of 1890, so that the South will go into the campaign of 1896 holding a still smaller percentage of the total vote than she now holds. The Democratic party must fight for life in 1892!

What must it do to win in that election? It must hold the South solid, including Virginia with its narrow majority of 1,412, and West Virginia with its still narrower majority of 802. It must hold New Jersey; it must hold Connecticut with its narrow strip of less than 400 majority; if must recapture New York, which gave 14,000 against it, and, in addition to all this, it must carry another State, as it will still lack two votes of the 209 necessary to elect. This extra State may come in the shape of recaptured Indiana, or one of the new States, which, admitted to fortify the Republicans, may remain to torment them. Can the Democrats accomplish all this?

We believe they can! And for these reasons:

First, the distribution of patronage is a dangerous source of weakness. There were, in our opinion, enough Democratic voters sulking away from the polls, or in hidden opposition because of the failure to get office from Mr. Cleveland, to have given us the States of New York and Indiana. There are few things a man forgives so slowly as a failure to appoint him to office. An average appointment makes for the man in power a dozen malignant enemies and one lukewarm friend, for the party in power a dozen sulking Achilleses and one rather chirpy Ulysses. It is amazing to see how many of the prominent assaults on Mr. Cleveland, which loosed his hold on the Democratic masses, are traceable to his refusal to let some boss or clique control even petty patronage. Mr. Harrison now takes Mr. Cleveland's place in this regard, the Republican party the place of the Democratic party. It will not be a month before the new President will be bitterly assailed by his party organs because of his appointments, and the work of party disintegration will actively begin. This force will be potent in close States four years from now.

In the next place, the Democratic party will go into the next campaign more compactly united than ever, and with the issue between them and their opponents very much simplified. The internal revenue tax has been the real cause of difference in Democratic ranks. All Democrats agree that the tariff should be cut. As to whether it should be cut so deeply as to leave a necessity for the excise taxes is a point on which Democrats have differed. The Republicans will assuredly and speedily wipe out the whole internal revenue system. This will put the tariff system on its merits and draw the issue squarely between the two parties. The Republicans will stand pledged to protection for protection's sake, to higher customs duties than are needed for Government purposes and levied primarily for protection, the surplus to be spent in pensions and splendid public works. The Democrats will stand pledged to the reduction of tariff duties to the reasonable needs of the Government, but so laid as to give incidental protection to American industries and American labor. On the issue thus made the Democratic party will carry the country in 1892 as it carried it in 1884. The abolition of the internal revenue will leave the Government no resource for revenue save the tariff. The necessity of raising the revenue for an economical Administration will give incidentally all the protection under a wisely laid tariff that American industry needs, or should ask. When the Republican party demands, as it does and will demand, that excessive duties should be levied, monopolies fortified, and trusts fostered, and the Treasury overloaded, for the open and avowed purpose of protection, it will find the Democratic party solidified in opposition, and the conscience and judgment of the country declaring for low taxes, an economical Government, and a Treasury that balances the sheet and does nothing more.

What is needed is Democratic enthusiasm and harmony. From this day forth let no Democrat who loves his party and his country utter one uncharitable word or sow the seed of dissension. The opposition is in possession of the Government; not one department is held by Democrats. The enemy is fortified in the prejudice, if not in the judgment, of the country. To dispossess him every Democrat must be in position, shoulder to shoulder, and ready to march at the word. The slightest defection will be fatal, and the Democrat who attempts to estrange his fellow Democrats or drive them into disaffection is selfish and unscrupulous, and unworthy of confidence and trust.

The Democratic Administration now surrenders the reins of power which it has held in wisdom and in justice; and now let every Democrat enroll himself for the long struggle that at the end of four years must restore to power the party of the people and the Constitution! There is not a day to lose, not a vote to spare, not an arm that may in honor be idle, nor a heart that may quail!

Electricity Demanded of the Most Electrical of Men.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: Anything in the line of illumination is within the intellectual jurisdiction of THE SUN.

The tunnel through which the Central and Hudson River, the Harlem, and all the other roads running out of the Grand Central Depot have to pass is a nuisance.

Thousands of persons, in addition to those now there, would live along the line of these several roads, who are restrained by a double ride daily through this ugly, smoky, dark, disagreeable cavern.

Nor has the oldest commuter travelled so long as to get used to it, and not be glad when he has passed it.

Why cannot Mr. Depew, the ally and advocate of all that is good and brilliant, run a line of electric lights through this tunnel, and thus repress the daily provocation to profanity and make life somewhat more enjoyable to the present unfortunate travellers who are forced to patronize it? COMMUTER.

A Lament.

Night covered with her sable hood
The face of mountain, vale, and wood.

The forest wags with rain were choked;
A wizened raven hoarsely croaked.

A sobbing rain, a sighing sea,
A wind that wailed o'er hill and lea,

Where swaying branches weave a net
Of awartest shade what shapes are met!

What are these strange, uncanny three
That crouch beneath yon willow tree?

"I charge ye, bode ye ill or well,
O, guests of night, who are ye, tell!"

One said: "This is my dwelling rude;
I am Innocuous Desuetude."

One bellowed with a wild he-ho:
"I am his brother, Ghoulish Glee!"

One murmured with a quivering lip:
"I'm Inoffensive Partisanship.

"Within this place of solemn shade
We wait the coming of Free Trade.

"All drenched by rain and scathed by storm,
Soon comes to us Civil Service Reform.

"At dead of night and height of flood
Will join us he whose name is Mud.

"Alas for him, alas for fame,
Now Dinnis is his other name.

"Within this wild, where spectres creep,
We come to have a first-class weep."

THE ADIRONDACK FORESTS,

And the Tremendous Danger Involved in their Destruction.

From Garden and Forest.

The complete destruction of the Adirondack forests is inevitable if existing conditions and methods of treatment are to continue. Unimportant improvements in the details of their management may be made from time to time; such improvements have been made within the last few years, and others are now proposed; but the processes of destruction are much more rapid and extensive than the effect of these comparatively insignificant means of amelioration, and there is at present no reason to expect that any effective provision will be made for the permanent protection of any part of this important region. Nothing can be done, indeed, without a thorough change in the system of control and administration of the forests on the State lands. The methods now pursued intervene no serious check to the influences which will extirpate the woods in a comparatively short time. If the devastation of the region, already far advanced, is completed, centuries of time will be required for any process of restoration.

The destruction of the North Woods will produce a change in the flow of the principal rivers of the State, and in the water supply of the Erie Canal, which will cause widespread disaster to the interests of the people. There will be uncontrollable freshets at the times of heaviest rain fall, and when the snow melts in the spring; the channels of the rivers will be choked by debris brought down from the hills; and in summer, when a full volume of water is most needed, the flow will be insignificant. If this ruin is consummated it will be a most serious blow to the prosperity of the State and of all classes of its people.

Not less important is the value of the region in its relation to the health and life of the people of the country, as a place of resort for the inhabitants of the towns, and for all who need the restorative and vitalizing atmosphere and influences of a region of sylvan beauty and peace. As our population becomes more dense the need and value of wild, rough tracts, incapable of cultivation, will be greatly increased. Beyond the arrangement required for the subsistence and comfort of the multitudes of visitors, no settlement or inhabitancy should be permitted in any part of the wilderness. If the forests are destroyed the charm and attractiveness of the region will be eliminated, and a scene of hideous desolation will be substituted which no one will ever wish to look upon.

The only plan by which such injury can be averted and means provided for the permanent conservation of these invaluable forests is the acquisition by the state of the entire Adirondack region. While portions of it remain in the hands of private owners injuries to State lands adjacent to their holdings cannot be prevented. But it would be senseless and wicked to expend the money which would be required for this purpose while the present system of control continues. It has proved entirely inadequate for the protection of the forests on the lands which already belong to the State, and it would be the extreme of folly to acquire property at great cost when there is danger that it might soon be dissipated and destroyed.

Unless a system of permanent control under competent direction can be put in operation, the people of New York may as well relinquish all thought of saving the Adirondack forests and all interest in the subject. There can be no adequate or successful administration of a great forest preserve while its management is subject to the possibility of frequent change because it is treated as a portion of the political patronage of the State Government. Unless the care of the forests on the State lands can be placed in the hands of men of such known and obvious character and qualification for this work as will insure general confidence, no system of administration can be successful, and competent men will not accept a place of such responsibility and importance while their work is always liable to interruption by the agencies of partisan politics. The inadequacy and failure of the present system of control and administration are inherent in the system itself, and are inseparable from its relation to partisan caprice. The evil is not to be remedied by merely changing the persons who administer a system which is essentially vicious.

If the people of the State of New York have enough regard for their own interests to lead them to insist upon the adoption of a system embodying the essential features of competent direction and security from partisan interference, it will be safe and wise to acquire the whole Adirondack region by purchase. If they have not this perception of the importance of the object in view, and of the means which are necessary for its accomplishment, the forests will be left to their fate. The methods now employed are wholly useless and ineffective.

How the Money is Spent.

From the Post-Express.

The cost of running the Government of the United States is something enormous.

During the first session of the Fiftieth Congress nearly $307,000,000 was appropriated, the largest amount in twenty years, and for that year the permanent appropriations aggregated nearly $116,000,000, making the total expenditures of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, nearly $423,000,000.

During the second session of the Fiftieth Congress—that which has just ended—almost $282,000,000 was appropriated, thus making a total of nearly $589,000,000 (exclusive of permanent appropriations) which one Congress has taken from the Treasury in two years.

The following table shows the appropriations made by the Fiftieth Congress at its two sessions:

	1888.	1889.
Agriculture	$1,716,040	$1,659,770
Army	24,474,310	24,398,115
Diplomatic	1,428,405	1,309,925
District of Columbia	5,606,413	5,687,466
Fortifications	3,972,000	4,265,594
Indians	8,262,709	8,435,724
Legislative	20,708,174	20,984,555
Military Academy	315,643	302,760
Navy	19,242,855	21,620,750
Pensions	81,758,709	81,852,260
Post Office	60,980,233	60,035,344
Rivers and Harbors	22,397,610	
Sundry Civil	24,320,894	25,277,341
Miscellaneous	10,170,862	5,580,000
Deficiency	19,568,383	10,423,300
Totals	$300,865,541	$281,878,095

In some instances the appropriations for 1890 were larger than for 1889, but no river and harbor bill was passed at the last session, there was a decrease of $3,000,000 in the deficiency bills and of nearly that amount in the Fortifications bill, and the total appropriations for 1890 are about $25,000,000 less than for the year ending June 30, 1889.

Appropriations are made in advance. The first bills of this character signed by President Cleveland were for the fiscal year 1887. The aggregate of the regular appropriation bills which he approved, compared with those signed by Presidents Garfield and Arthur, were as follows:

CLEVELAND.		GARFIELD-ARTHUR.	
1887	$363,014,613	1883	$297,314,388
1888	246,759,511	1884	231,020,747
1889	300,185,544	1885	195,710,584
1890	281,878,095	1886	219,595,283
Total	$1,101,500,363	Total	$944,013,000

So in the four years of his term President Cleveland signed bills taking over one billion one hundred million dollars out of the treasury, an amount $156,895,157 greater than the appropriations approved by the Administration which preceded him.

For the year 1890 the permanent appropriations will aggregate $108,691,055, being for interest on the public debt, sinking fund, customs collections, drawbacks, repayments of importers, &c., thus making the aggregate disbursements for 1890 $390,569,750, as against $422,626,343 for 1889.

Harrison's Diamond-Studded Horn Chair.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, March 2.—Mr. D. M. O'Connor of Refugio, Texas, is an ardent Republican and one of the wealthiest stockmen in the State. He was intensely pleased by the result of the November election, and determined to show his appreciation of it and his admiration for Benjamin Harrison by a gift as unique as costly, which, owing to its beauty, will attract attention as long as it remains in the Harrison family.

San Antonio is famed for the manufacture of horn chairs. The back, arms, legs, and seat supports are formed of beautifully polished horns, and they are much sought after. Some time ago O'Connor placed an order for a chair with a local maker of repute, and the work was begun. The horns were carefully selected for their length, symmetry, color, and grain, and the utmost effort was expended to make the chair the finest possible to the skill of the artisan. It was finished recently, and two days ago left for Washington, where it will arrive to-morrow. Near the top is engraved upon a heavy gold plate the inscription:

"Presented by D. M. O'Connor to Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States."

Set in diamonds, lower down, is a single gold star, bearing the word "Texas." Upon the upper side of the back are gold plates with the words, "Tippecanoe, 1841," and "San Jacinto, 1836." Near the middle, just where the centre of the President's back will rest,