The Sun.

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1889.

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

This Great Town.

The conduct and management of the police during the centennial celebrations were in the highest degree creditable to New York. For three days the whole force was kept at work night and day, and it was a kind of work to most severely tax the patience and the physical endurance of the men.

On a few occasions individual policemen may have lost their heads, and in the excitement of the moment have resorted to unnecessary violence. But these were the rare exceptions. As a body they were cool and considerate, and merited the admiration which they received from the crowds. The visiting soldiers especially were protected in every way, and their hilarious demonstrations at night were treated with good humor and indulgence.

Never before and in no great capital were the criminals kept under subjection so complete. It was a bad time for them and their trade, eagerly as they had looked forward to the celebration as offering them extraordinary opportunities for raking in a rich harvest. The pocketbooks of the million of strangers were safe, and at all hours and everywhere the streets were made orderly for them. Nobody suffered harm which he did not invite by his own folly or vice. The police protected every visitor as if he was a distinguished guest of the town. The inhabitants were not less hospitable and courteous, going out of their way to befriend the strangers, to so many of whom New York was altogether novel. It is a great city, a fine city, was the universal comment of the troops from other States, and they have gone home with gratitude to the people of the vast community and positive affection for them.

There were no petty attempts on the part of the business public to take advantage of the occasion to fleece the crowds. Almost universally the prices of articles of food and drink remained as they were before the celebration, though the chance to increase them was of course tempting to dealers of narrow minds. Throughout the town a spirit of good fellowship prevailed. Everybody wanted the strangers to have the capital time which they had been expecting.

Yet this is the New York which has been maligned all over the Union as an example of municipal misgovernment. Its population, according to many editors and clergymen, is made up in chief part of the dregs of Europe; so that there is lacking both moral and patriotic sentiment. Probably every visitor who came here for the first time trembled with apprehension. He was suspicious of all the citizens of the wicked town as a band of thieves organized to plunder him, and therefore the manifestations of distrust were many and amusing. But before the three days were over our friends from other places had changed their minds in that respect. They found that in fact they had come to the most orderly, the most liberal, the most generous, and the most highly civilized of American communities. Beside it all other towns in the Union seem narrow and provincial, and their government is a small affair. The sharp practice which distinguishes the business methods of many of them, and more especially of those to the eastward, has no place here.

It has also been demonstrated that there is no crowd so great that it cannot be taken proper care of in the chief American town. The million of visitors came and went without disturbing the equanimity of the community, and all of them had suitable accommodation. They will sing the deserved praises of New York for many years to come.

The Hero of the Revolution.

In the prayers, the sermons, and the orations which have been written and spoken about the centennial, there has been evident a natural desire to glorify and honor GEORGE WASHINGTON. In the decorations, his picture has been appropriately conspicuous. Considering the particular event which the centennial commemorated, this is well. Of the real, human WASHINGTON, the man and not the demigod, too much good may not be said if his services are to meet with an appropriate meed of gratitude.

It has been the custom to worship a simulacrum, an unreal shade, a halo. The WASHINGTON of THACKERAY'S "Virginians," which, it will be remembered, caused much scandal at the time of its publication, because it represented Col. WASHINGTON as a man with hot human blood in his veins, and not as a Mugwump or a milksop, was much more truthful than the infant school legend which has grown up about him. THE SUN of Monday last gave some anecdotes which bring him nearer to us than all the pompous generalities of the biographers. It is right that we should know every man as he is. With the details of obscure individualities posterity has no concern. With the lives of the commanding personages who have influenced the policy of great States, all men have a right to concern themselves.

There are few lives which can bear a scrutiny so close, but about him, as about all other men, it is well to have no humbug. There was no humbug about him. He swore when he was angry; he drank no more than a gentleman may, but with a freedom which has never justified the Washingtonian movement in bearing his name; he had no tastes of the anchorite. He was a man with human passions and weaknesses. The pale and solemn portraits with which the town has been flooded do not denote him truly. He did not look like a cross between Lord MANSFIELD and a Southdown sheep. According to Mrs. JOSIAH QUINCY and other expert observers, he was awkward, a country gentleman, of small urban experience, unused even to the great little world of Philadelphia and New York. Even Williamsburgh, that fashionable resort and capital of the Virginia planters, knew him not. He was not of the Four Hundred of the Virginia of the middle of the last century, the most aristocratic oligarchy this country has ever known. He was not specially favored by nature or fortune. He was, in fact, the very greatest, not even excepting BEN FRANKLIN, of the unending line of American self-made men.

Now nobody thinks that BEN FRANKLIN was other than human, or sets him up on a pedestal save in Printing House square. Why, then, should the injustice still be done to WASHINGTON, of making him an impossible personage, an idol? He was great, and he was human. His countrymen cannot better employ these centennial days than in striving to learn him as he was. He has become too much of a lay figure. To understand him, to realize and make him out through all the mists of legend that surround him, is no small task, but it is worth undertaking. Whoever carries it through will find that the idea at which he will arrive of the actual, historical WASHINGTON is better, nobler, more manly than the fictitious and poetical one which passes current. The tranquil courage, the patience, the scorn of self-seeking, the generous spirit, will not be diminished. But in place of an impeccable hero, riding like a god above the clouds and errors of mortal men, will be seen a figure still of commanding proportions, a heart of endurance not devoid of fire, a hand as quick as it was strong, a hot temper usually curbed, a man with all the passions but more than the strength of ordinary manhood.

The orators and the poets of the week of celebration have not essayed this task. Moreover, in their justice to one great memory, they have, perhaps, forgotten to be just to the poor farmers, mechanics, struggling tradesmen, spendthrift, impoverished planters, and sturdy pioneers in the wilderness, who made the American Revolution possible, and were paid—in paper money—for their services and sacrifices.

Every nation must have its heroes. But not even to WASHINGTON can a monarchy of heroism be given. The hero of the American people must be the American people. The true hero of the American Revolution is the American people of the time. It is known too well what treachery, despondency, faintness of the heart, and shutting of the purse strings were found among them. But they, and not the sword nor the genius of any man, won the fight. The real WASHINGTON deserves all the honor which is given to the fabulous and nebulous WASHINGTON, and more. The great Hero of the Revolution was the American people, the plain citizens of the emancipated colonies.

Stanley's Discoveries.

Mr. STANLEY's recent journeys between the Congo and the Nile have partly filled with geographical details one of the largest of the white spaces still remaining on the maps of Africa. Scarcely any journey of the same length has been more prolific of interesting facts. Again we are impressed with the magnificent distances in the Dark Continent. STANLEY travelled on or along a second-class tributary of the Congo almost the exact distance between this city and Detroit. He found this Aruwimi River, rising within sight of the Nile waters, to be as long as the Rhine. Our small scale maps give only vague notions of the great waterways that are merely Congo affluents, and perhaps many persons who have often examined the maps do not realize at first that the Mobangi, the largest affluent of the Congo, is five-sixths as long as the Danube, the second greatest river in Europe, and that other Congo tributaries are as long or longer than the Rhine.

Mr. STANLEY's report to the Royal Geographical Society enables us to trace the entire course of the Aruwimi from its sources to its mouth, shows us at least four tributaries of considerable importance, and throws much light upon the ethnology of this large region between the Congo and the Nile. He has shown that the Nepoko River, instead of being the upper course of the Aruwimi, as JUNKER, who discovered it, supposed, is only a tributary. Unfortunately the Aruwimi, wide and deep as it is for hundreds of miles, can never be useful for steam navigation, though STANLEY in his steel boat, twenty-eight feet long, followed its tortuous course for a great distance. From the slopes where it rises to its mouth the river falls about 3,600 feet, and particularly in its upper course it is impeded by many rapids and cataracts.

It is evident now that STANLEY chose the most difficult route he could possibly have taken to reach the Nile; and yet he has said nothing of the almost impenetrable forest with its dense mass of twisted and matted undergrowth which leads us to suppose that this northeastern section of the great African woods presents greater difficulties than have been found in other parts of it. In this same forest, 300 miles south, STANLEY travelled for ten days during his journey down the Congo. "Above our heads," he wrote, "was an everlasting roof of foliage." Through the tangle of verdure "every man had to sprawl, crawl, and scramble as he best could." For ten days the men endured it, and then declared they could go no further, and STANLEY struck for the river. This forest crosses the Congo at its great northern bend, and its southern boundary, which is formed by the Sankuru River, is as distinctly defined as the eastern edge, which STANLEY describes as being abruptly succeeded by lovely prairies. It was into this southern edge of the forest, 450 miles southwest of the place where STANLEY last entered it, that WISSMANN plunged with a caravan of 1,000 men in 1886. He had hoped to push through this mighty virgin forest to the Congo, but the scarcity of food and the almost impenetrable character of the region compelled him to give up his plan of exploring new country. In twelve days he was south again on the road he had travelled over the savannas some years before.

Just as the region that defeated WISSMANN has been penetrated hundreds of miles by little Congo steamers, so the Aruwimi helped STANLEY to get through the northern forest. In the 460 miles he travelled to reach the Arab settlement of Kilonga-Longa, all but fifty miles was made on the river or along its banks. Without his steel boat and fleet of canoes, it is not likely he would have reached the Nile at all. He clung to the water as the only means of progress, and his heart sank within him as he found the river taking him far north of his proposed course. He determined not to cross the line of 2° north latitude, and was happy indeed when the river turned again toward the southeast, and he did not leave it until the cataracts became so numerous and the current so rapid that the stream was no longer available.

The people he met were found to belong to the great family of Bantu tribes, who, with the dwarfs that are scattered among them in several large districts, inhabit the whole of Central Africa south of the Welle Makua. Though great dialectic differences are found, they all have much in common in their speech, and STANLEY's party were able imperfectly to understand the wild and hostile natives they met. Many parts of the river were thickly populated, clusters of villages lining the river banks for miles, and the prevailing style of hut was found to be the candle-extinguisher type, which is far more common among negro tribes further north than among the Bantus of the Congo basin. On the upper Aruwimi the explorer saw huts unlike any heretofore described in Africa, though they bear some resemblance to the tembes in Ugogo and the dwellings of the Masai. The huts are connected one with another, so that a village is like a long, low hut, sometimes even 400 yards long. These huts border both sides of the street, which varies from twenty to sixty feet in width.

STANLEY confirms EMIN Pasha's statement that Albert Nyanza has been rapidly receding of late years, and he attributes it to the wearing away of the reefs in the Nile, which impede navigation for many miles below the lake. In much the same way the remarkable fall in the waters of Lake Tanganyika has been attributed to the breaking away of the compact vegetation in the Lukuga River, which is supposed to have long impeded the outflow from the lake. STANLEY's discovery that the Aruwimi rises within a few miles of Albert Nyanza is interesting. We now know that from the Welle Makua hundreds of miles south to Tanganyika the fountains of the Nile and Congo waters spring from the soil almost within sight of one another, and then, for many hundreds of miles south and west, the head springs of the Congo and Zambesi systems are brought into similar juxtaposition.

The explorer may be expected to bring home with him the solution of two very interesting questions. One is whether he has really discovered a new snow mountain south of Albert Nyanza, or whether the towering summit he saw is identical with Mount Gordon Bennett, which he discovered years ago. He thinks he has found a new mountain that may rival Kilima Njaro, the summit that towers nearly 19,000 feet in East Africa. The other question is whether Muta Nzige belongs to the Nile or the Congo systems. It is his opinion that this large and almost unknown lake empties into the Congo. If so, it must evidently have its outlet through an Aruwimi tributary, perhaps the Lenda River, or it reaches the Congo through one of the little known rivers south of Stanley Falls.

We have as yet had only a bare outline of the important additions STANLEY has just made to geographical knowledge. The details will doubtless make a long and entertaining narrative, and the fact that he has in his party trained scientific observers will give additional value to his work.

New Light on Phrenology.

It is a curious fact that modern research appears about to establish a firm scientific basis for some of the teachings of phrenology just at a time when that doctrine has passed almost entirely out of vogue. At the Anthropological Institute in London, some little time since, Mr. BERNARD HOLLANDER read a paper on centres of ideation, bringing together the results of many experiments in applying galvanic currents to different parts of the brain.

It has been pointed out, for instance, by various trained observers that the emotion of joy throws into action the great zygomatic muscles which draw the mouth upward and backward, while at the same time the orbicular muscles are more or less contracted. Now it has been found that there is a definite portion of the brain where a galvanic current produces exactly this effect upon the same muscles, although a current applied elsewhere does not move them.

It is thus apparent that the effect of a galvanic current upon this portion of the brain is to produce the physical expression of joy, and it is exactly in this place that COMBE located his organ of Cheerfulness, which he afterward called Hope. Another learned professor has stated that the brain centres for the facial movements are found to correspond with GALL's centre for mimicry or imitation. In still a different spot the galvanic current will cause movements of the lips, tongue, and cheeks, indicating that here must be the seat of gustatory sensation. In the year 1824, when phrenology was attracting great attention, many men claimed to have discovered the organ of Gustativeness or Alimentiveness, which they located over this same spot.

There is also another centre where the current causes contraction of a certain muscle which retracts the angle of the mouth, and is strongly contracted under the influence of fear, and for this reason has received the name of the muscle of fright. It is in this region that GALL and SPURZHEIM located their organ of Cautiousness, which they found largely developed in timid people. There is still another centre which, when excited by the current, is said to cause "raising of the shoulders with extension of the arms," and both DARWIN and MANTEGAZZA have long since referred this gesture to "the expression of patience, submission, and the absence of any intention to resist." Just here was placed GALL's organ of Veneration, and when this is defective in children, COMBE says, they are regardless of authority, prone to rebellion, and little attentive to command.

It would seem, from the facts gathered and compared by Mr. HOLLANDER, that the founders of what we are accustomed to consider as the antiquated system of phrenology, though unable in what was the state of knowledge at that time to demonstrate their conclusions, must have been extremely shrewd and careful observers of all the facts which lay within their reach, and that the theories which they based upon these observations are well worth a careful reëxamination in the light of modern science.

The Greatest Danger.

Among the speakers at the centennial banquet on Tuesday night were Gen. R. B. HAYES of Ohio and Chief Justice MELVILLE WESTON FULLER of Chicago and Washington.

HAYES made some remarks in which he intimated that the chief dangers which the United States Government had undergone were the whiskey rebellion and the civil war. It could hardly be expected that he should mention the chief danger which has threatened free government. The whiskey rebellion was the not unnatural protest of no inconsiderable part of the young nation against the internal excise system, a system which is no less odious to the majority of Americans now than it was in 1791. The civil war was, after all, a logical thing. The difficulty had been in trying to keep the semblance of concord between irreconcilable ideas. For the whole American people, for the North and the South, the worst danger ended when the manly arbitrament of war was accepted.

Of the greatest danger that has ever arisen against government by the people, HAYES had no word to say. How could he say that fraud vitiating elections and reversing the popular will had been the greatest of dangers to democratic-republican government? We cannot expect that the unmolested thief will confess.

Let us listen, then, to our distinguished legal friend, the fluent, mustachioed FULLER:

"No Rubicon needed to be or was defined, to cross which was revolution, for the supreme tribunal was part of the noble scheme."

As a commentary it may be mentioned that the Hon. JOSEPH P. BRADLEY, *aliunde*, heard both HAYES and Chief Justice FULLER, nor is it recorded that he blushed.

Now that the WASHINGTON centennial is over, let us turn with refreshed energy to the preparation of a grand quadricentennial of CHRISTOPHER COLON—only three years off.

When the "personally conducted" tourist agent reads of the lively doings on the Congo the idea must flash upon his active mind that this great river is nearly ripe for his enterprises. All the money needed to build the Congo Railroad has been offered, and the road is certain to be built. A big hotel will start for the Congo in sections on next Friday. It is made largely of galvanized iron, is 140 by 160 feet, and 40 feet high. When it leaves Antwerp it will be all ready to put up, and it is to adorn Boma, the capital of the new State. A company has been formed to establish general stores at the chief stations along the river, where not only natives, but white men also may supply their needs. There is a good prospect that by using the railroad and the Lomami River, whose great importance as a highway has only been discovered this year, it will be possible in the near future to reach the very heart of the continent in about a fortnight. "All aboard for Lake Tanganyika!" may be the cheerful announcement that many a tourist will hear by and by.

Gen. SCHOFIELD's order forbidding the usual salutes by the troops on centennial day is still the occasion for some interesting observations both in regard to the General himself and to the men of his command. This communication concerns the General:

"The members of the National Guard have taken much interest in your article on 'The Forbidden Salutes.' The officers of the service have been instructed under the text books adopted and used in the regular army, and they refer with pride to the present well-disciplined, armed, and equipped troops of this State. They have hitherto assumed that they knew something about Upton's Tactics, general regulations, and the official decisions promulgated by General Headquarters, but the order just issued by Gen. SCHOFIELD contains certain paragraphs heretofore unknown in tactical language. For instance, he directs that 'all other officers carry the sword at the shoulder, as on inspection.' This is a puzzler. We have always known how to carry arms, and where and how the sword should be held, but to direct that the sword should be carried 'at the shoulder' is a complete innovation. Neither do we understand why reference is made to the manner in which the sword is carried 'at inspection,' for the tactics used alike by the regular army and the National Guard makes no distinction whatever in the way the sword is carried at that ceremony and on other occasions.

"ONE OF THE 'COMMON MILITIA.'"

Probably the original cause of this order was that Gen. SCHOFIELD, an officer of the regular army, found himself in command mainly of militia, and through his anxiety for their soldierly conduct was drawn away from ordinary military usage. For example, he was led into such an unusual course as to half apologize for the order about salutes, by explaining that it was issued for the purpose of insuring greater "uniformity." As a result of being unacquainted with the discipline of the militia, he was provoked to relax his own.

Now that the affair is over, however, the comment should be made conspicuously that the order, after being made and not revoked, was not obeyed. For such a grand review as that of Tuesday the pressure of habit was too strong. It made a breach at the very start in the ranks of the regulars. The State troops fell likewise in greater or less numbers. Even the gallant Seventh was fairly riddled. Sword after sword flashed in descent which should have rested at the shoulder "as on inspection." The uniformity which was sought with such care was noticeably absent.

All of which, being duly considered, may instruct both Gen. SCHOFIELD and the national militia.

The London papers contain reports of Lord SALISBURY's speech at Bristol ten days ago. His lordship spoke with severity of the Irish troubles that are menacing the internal peace of her Majesty's kingdom. In his eyes, the PARNELL movement in behalf of Ireland's rights is controlled by "predatory greed," is criminal in its character, and is upheld by "embezzlement and fraud," by "sophistry and claptrap." The language of Lord SALISBURY gives new proof of the excited condition of the Tory mind at this time. It is language that is disgraceful to its author.

Our esteemed contemporary, the *St. Louis Republic*, libellously charges New York beer with being a "compound of aloes and ditch water." Yet travellers from St. Louis have been known to drink New York beer and to be cheered thereby. St. Louis should not thus betray its envy.

The series of lectures given at the American Museum of Natural History to the teachers of the city and State will close for the present season with a discussion of the Forests of America, by Professor BICKMORE. It will be illustrated by pictures drawn from a great number of stereopticon slides, all relating to subjects which the Professor speaks upon. This is a very valuable course of lectures, and we are glad to believe that they have this year been attended by a most intelligent and profited audience.

A New Zealand woman of thirty years is said to be worth $4,000,000 made in mining. She probably doesn't consider that spinsterhood is a failure. If at any time, however, she finds the cares of managing her property too great for her strength, it is possible that she will find no difficulty in getting married.

Atlanta is bowed down with woe. Her boa constrictor is no more. He was not especially amiable nor was he considered handsome, but as the only boa constrictor in the Gate City he occupied a considerable place in the public eye. Of late he had lost his grip, and homesickness had undermined a naturally strong constitution. Atlanta is now in search of a successor to him. As a growing and wide-awake community, she feels it due to herself to have in her zoölogical congress representatives of all the beasts of the field and the fowls of the air and the fishes of the sea. Anybody who has a dodo or a megalonyx or a dinotherium which he wants to sell should at once apply to the Georgian city.

Since the bison has gone it might be the part of wisdom for the people to undertake the cultivation of the beaver. That is a most valuable fur animal, and it doesn't require the face of the land to live on.

THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY.

The Voice of Criticism Beginning to Be Heard.

From the Savannah Morning News.

The only policy the President is known to have is that of keeping his own counsel. A good many of the leaders of his party who have tried and failed to get his views upon various questions compare him to a clam. He listens, but does not respond.

One of the complaints against Mr. Cleveland when he was President was that he didn't seek the advice of the leaders of his party. The complaint was well founded, particularly in so far as it related to the first two years of his term. During the last two years, however, his conferences with his party's leaders occurred quite frequently.

It seems that the complaint that was made against Mr. Cleveland is now being made against President Harrison, who seems disposed to rely upon his own judgment in most matters which affect his Administration. Doubtless he consults with members of his Cabinet about the things which relate to their respective departments, but if he has asked them about those which affect the whole country, and concerning which the Administration is expected to have a clearly defined policy, the fact has not leaked out.

An impression is getting abroad that he is planning for a second term, and that his reticence with respect to his purpose, and the careful way in which he is selecting men for the important offices, indicate that the second term bee is troubling him not a little.

None of the leading Republican members of Congress know what the President's views are relative to any of the matters that will come before Congress from anything they have heard from him since he became President. They do not even know whether he is guided by any purpose which is not apparent in making appointments. Many of them seem to think, however, that he seeks men who will be Harrison men in 1892, and he will be able to send delegates to the next national Convention favorable to him. He has given no intimation as yet as to what the guiding principles of his Administration are to be, and it begins to look as if he would not, except in so far as it is to his personal interest to do so.

CENTENNIAL JOURNALISM.

The Achievements of The Sun.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In the great and highly creditable centennial contest for the *ne plus ultra* in journalism can we not appropriately and poetically remark that

THE SUN
Has won?

J. W. CARSON.

BEAVER FALLS, Pa., April 30.

From the Star.

It is to be admitted that in volume and particularity of reports of the centennial doings THE SUN has led the newspapers of New York.

THE BIG BATTLE SHIP TEXAS.

A Gratifying Rivalry in Bidding for the Construction of Her Machinery.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—The announcement that five bids from as many well-known and responsible machine works had been put in for the engines of the Texas is especially encouraging from its contrast with the previous offers on the cruiser Maine. These two armored vessels, which are the largest thus far designed for our new navy, are to be built in Government yards, private works supplying the materials and the machinery. Only one bid was put in for the engines of the Maine, although several had been expected, and the specifications were considered to be the most precise and complete ever issued by the Bureau of Steam Engineering. The inference was that the expected competitors had too much work of one kind or another on hand to care to bid. This disturbing suggestion has now been set aside by the offers for the Texas.

Another promising indication is the bringing in of new bidders. Hitherto three or four establishments have been doing about all the work of this character on the new navy. One of these, the Quintard Iron Works, appears also in the present competition; but there are also the Richmond Locomotive and Machine Works, the Southwark Foundry and Machine Company, Charles Reedor & Sons of Philadelphia, and the I. P. Morris Company of Philadelphia. The bidding ranged from the $634,000 of the Richmond company to the $718,900 of the Baltimore firm.

Hitherto the Texas has had rather hard luck. While the Maine at New York has been pushed along with at least appreciable progress, the Texas at Norfolk has been left in her mere lines in the mould loft. Yet both these vessels were authorized, and the money for beginning them appropriated in the summer of 1886, nearly three years ago. The competitive plans for them were opened more than two years ago, April 1, 1887, and the report of the board of experts in favor of the design for the Texas submitted by the Banner Shipbuilding Company was made a little more than two months later, while the order for her construction went out fully a year and a half ago. But there came difficulties. First, it was necessary to prepare the Norfolk yard for her construction, then to purchase or order the necessary tools and machinery, and this caused long delays. Then came changes resulting from the fact that the new designing engineer of the Banner Company, on revising the plans of the Texas, thought a gain could be achieved by giving her a little more displacement. Then came a trouble with the rolls put into the yard for the purpose of bending the plates, these rolls being found too short. However, at last all minor inaccuracies in calculation were adjusted, and the construction plant, with its furnaces, cranes, tanks, and tools, was provided.

The engines of the Texas will be of the vertical, direct-acting, triple-expansion type, with twin screws. Her battery will include two twelve-inch guns, which is a larger calibre than any yet constructed, and larger than any employed on the Maine, although the Maine will carry four ten-inch guns, besides half a dozen smaller ones, in her main battery. The Texas develops the idea of a concentration of armor first at the water line and then at the heavy guns, leaving the intermediate portion less strongly protected. When the contract for her engines is given out it will appear as if all the preliminaries had at last been finished.

A CRAZE OF THE PASSING DAY.

Legislation Against Trusts.

From the American Grocer.

Are our legislators losing their heads? One would almost think so, judging from the ill-considered laws which have been proposed in our State Legislatures and even in Congress itself. As a specimen of these unwise laws we give below at some length the provisions of an act recently passed by the Legislature of the State of Texas.

We ask for this bill a careful reading on the part of our readers in the State of Texas and throughout the country where similar bills are pending. It will be noticed that the penalties prescribed are chargeable against two or more persons or firms who attempt any of the offences given "to create restrictions in trade," "to prevent competition in the sale or purchase of merchandise, produce, or commodities," &c. Let us suppose that in the city of Houston, we will say, there are two grocers on the same block, each of them struggling to make a living, and finding it hard work. Grocer A has an exceptional talent for buying goods. His store is stocked with well-selected goods bought at close figures, but there his talent ends. He is a poor salesman, has no executive ability, his store is badly kept, and his trade is falling away.

His competitor, Grocer B, is just the opposite. His store is well arranged, his customers are pleased with the service, and everything would go along swimmingly except for the unfortunate fact that Grocer B does not know how to buy goods. He buys the wrong articles, has an accumulation of unsold goods on hand, and his customers are leaving him because of the high price which he feels compelled to charge to make a profit.

Now what does the good of the community require? That this state of things shall continue under the plea of competition? Manifestly, no. If Grocer A and Grocer B should form a partnership the talent of the one for buying and that of the other for store service, if united, would enable the firm to give much better service to the community at lower prices, yet leaving a profit from the combination of talents to the firm itself. But unfortunately this is directly against the act which we have just quoted. By combining they have unquestionably "carried out restrictions in trade" and are trying to "prevent competition in the sale and purchase of merchandise" and all the rest of it. But the Texas legislators will say that this is not what was intended, that the law is designed only to meet the case of large corporations. But whatever the design may be the practical effect is to make our grocers, A and B, amenable to the law. Our Texas friends forget that a corporation is nothing but a large partnership, and there is as yet undiscovered no possible way to make a law restricting trade which shall not apply to the case of two grocers as well as to the case of two railroads. It may be that the railroads may need restriction and the grocer not, but if so, some other way than this sweeping law must be devised to reach that particular result.

Now, reading down a little further in the law we find several sections of which this one is a sample. Section 7 says: "In any indictment it is sufficient to state the purpose of the trust, and that the accused was a member of it, without giving its name or description, or how, when, or why it was created."

We wonder if our Texas friends have really considered what they were doing? The Constitution of the United States expressly says that no citizen shall be deprived of his life or his liberty without due process of law, and this has been extended to mean that nothing in the way of a sentence by a court shall be pronounced unless a man has a chance to defend himself to the utmost. This matter of exemption from tyranny of king or of court lies at the basis of our civilization, and is a precious heritage from our forefathers. This bill, however, undertakes to say that if a man is even suspected of an attempt to combine with another man in any kind of business which has for its object the influencing of prices (and what business can escape this suspicion?) he shall be indicted, and, in order that there may be no possible excuse for him, this indictment need not say what he is accused of, what he did, or how he did it, or when he did it, but only that somebody thinks he did it. We do not believe that the citizens of Texas or any other State will tolerate for a moment such a law as this if once attempted to be put in operation; and beyond all this it is unquestionably unconstitutional, utterly wrong in principle, and must fail of its object under any and all circumstances.

A Poker Average.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* At a private boarding house in this city, where a number of single gentlemen make their home, the great national game of poker has been considerably indulged in on a limited scale. As a study of the laws of average, or chances, a record was kept of winning hands, and below I give you the result.

The game, being for amusement only, was played at a ten cent limit, the number of players varying from four to eight. Thirty eight evenings were devoted to making up the record here presented. In 4,667 deals the winning hands were as follows:

One pair took 891 pots, two pairs took 1,116 pots, three of a kind took 603 pots, straights took 258 pots, flushes took 110 pots, fulls took 255 pots, four of a kind took 57 pots, straight flushes took 4 pots, no calls 913 pots. Of 714 jack pots the opener took 365 and lost 329.

The largest winnings by an individual in one evening was $8.10; the largest loss in one evening, $7.05.

Each jack pot and three of a kind or better contributed five cents to the "widow," who generously provided liquid refreshments and cigars for the players. This quiet home game kept the boys from straying away evenings, and was generally voted good economy.

LIMITED.

Has Mary Stolen Lucy's Lamb?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Ordinarily I do not question the dictum of the Boston *Transcript* on the subject of poetry, preferring to accept it as an authority, but with regard to the poem published in THE SUN to-day, it certainly do question.

I have a copy of the "Little Lamb" poem printed over forty years ago, in which the name of Mary does not appear. Mary was the lucky girl who owned the original lamb. When Mary came in possession I do not know, but I am inclined to think it was by larcenous transfer.

1,606 MADISON AVENUE, April 21. DAVID A. CURTIS.

Artificial Coffee.

From the American Grocer.

We are in receipt of samples of artificial coffee manufactured in Cologne, also samples of dark and light roasted beans of the material, of which 50 per cent. is artificial. These samples are open for inspection.

They Will Pay Up Now.

The Pennsylvania and Erie Railroad companies owed Jersey City $185,432 arrears of taxes. They thought the city had overcharged them, and appealed to the Board of Adjustment under the Martin act for relief. The Board decided that the roads had been undercharged instead of overcharged, and increased the amount $66,808. The companies will pay up.

INTERESTING GOSSIP OF THE DAY.

An elderly man with a grayish beard and an air of prosperity stood on the platform of the Forty-second street station of the Third avenue elevated on Tuesday morning and looked about him in a hopeless sort of way. Finally he tackled a brown-eyed young man who stood close by in this fashion:

"Say, stranger, this here New York is a mighty big town, I tell you. I've heard tell about its sights and wonders out in Illinois, where I come from, but I never thought it was anything like this. You see, this is my first visit. My nephew was to meet me at the depot, but my train got in late, and now I don't know what to do."

The young man was a visitor from the City of Brotherly Love, and, although he didn't know much about New York, he concluded to ask the elderly man who his nephew was.

"Well," was the reply, "my nephew's got to be quite a politician, and I dare say you've heard tell of him. His name is Elkins."

"What's his first name?" asked the Philadelphian.

"Stephen B.," was the answer.

"Wha—at! Stephen B. Elkins who ran things for Blaine in '84?" said the young man with a look of surprise.

"That's him," exclaimed the old man; "wonder if you could take me to him."

The Philadelphian, true to the traditions of his native town, escorted the man, who is, by the way, Mr. S. B. Elkins's paternal uncle, and close on 70, to the hotel where the millionaire capitalist is staying. The meeting was a joyful one, as the non-arrival of the visitor looked as if he had fallen into the hands of the Philistines. The Philadelphian was treated like a lord, and then invited to a seat on the grand stand just back of the President.

It was moving day in Wall street yesterday. Many firms changed their quarters. It was remarked, though, that the changes are gradually becoming fewer. The idea prevails among certain Wall street men that frequent changes are not lucky, and many believe in luck. If things are rapid and good in one spot they do not like to change. One of the removals which interested the brokers yesterday was the change made by Henry Danielson from Broad and Wall streets to 8 Broad street. Mr. Danielson is the famous soda-water man of Wall street. Uncle Dan Drew, James R. Keene, Uncle Rufus Hatch, Uncle Russell Sage, Sidney Dillon, Jay Gould, and Wall street men for thirty years have had their tonics at Mr. Danielson's. The place is also renowned because the temperature of every day for thirty years has been religiously kept by Mr. Danielson.

We are pleased to learn from our out-of-town exchanges that the residents of many cities who came here to our centennial celebration give glowing reports of the spectacles which they beheld, and of the way in which they were treated during their stay in New York. Instead of being wronged in any way, they met with fair play on all hands, and instead of the hardships that they had looked for, they found all sorts of unexpected comforts. They are now aware that the metropolis has often been slandered by people who know nothing at all about the virtues in which it abounds.

The scenes that all New Yorkers can behold while rambling through Central Park in these sunny days of May are lovely indeed. Here is the green grass in its beautiful freshness; here are the blooming and fragrant flower beds, and here are the trees of many kinds with their budding leaves. A stroll through the Park or a brisk walk or drive over its roads in the early hours of the morning is good for the health and beneficial to the mind. Any one who has not time to go up there at this season may find some consolation for the loss by gazing at the green things in the smaller parks of the city.

The first general observance of Arbor Day in this State, under the State law of 1886, will take place to-day. The object of the law is to encourage the planting, protection, and preservation of trees and shrubs, vines and flowers, and the work of carrying it out will be pursued, to a greater or lesser extent, in all the counties of the State. The programme of procedure for the public schools which has been issued by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and which has been printed in THE SUN, is very elaborate. It provides not only for tree planting, but for extensive literary and musical exercises by the scholars under the direction of their teachers, and it contains many picturesque features. It also tells what kinds of trees to plant, how to plant them, and how to promote their growth. The day is not a legal holiday, but is to be a holiday in the public schools, and is sure to be enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of the boys and girls of the State. Arbor Day is now observed, at different dates of April and May, in thirty-four States of the Union, and many millions of forest, shade, and fruit trees have been planted in those States in which its observance was prescribed before the Legislature of New York took action in regard to it a year ago.

There is a good deal of bicycling by members of both sexes at certain hours of the day on Lenox avenue, above Central Park, and some stylish work is occasionally done by them. Even a flyer may now and then be seen up there. Of course, nearly all the lady wheelers there, as elsewhere, are youthful and slender, but once in a while a mature and solid dame appears on the scene and shows how several things can be done by skill and pluck. A spectacle of this kind is worth looking at in these budding days of spring.

Some of the papers speak of Mr. Depew as an "old man." This is a blunder. Mr. Depew is just 55 years of age, and he is as lively in his youthful way as he was a long, long time ago.

It is reported from Paris that the veteran traveller, reformer, and New Yorker, Albert Brisbane, who is now 80 years of age, has arrived there from Algiers. He has been exploring some parts of northern Africa which he had not previously visited, and has thus shown his continued interest, at this time of his life, in those adventures which he began in his younger years. The veteran is reported to be as vivacious as ever he was, and to be yet full of the fancies in which he formerly revelled. He will soon leave Paris for London.

The "400" are not expected to move very often, but when it occasionally becomes necessary they do it after a very approved method. The family go to a hotel in the city or take a run to Elberon or Lakewood, and the major domo begins his work. The silver is sent to a safe deposit vault, trained hands come and pack the Sevres and Dresden, the bric-a-brac and paintings, the beautiful furniture is swathed and hooded, and finally a procession of the great padded moving vans conveys these valuables to their new quarters. When milady comes back to her home, except for the new view from her windows she will hardly know her apartment has been touched. The dresses hang in their wardrobes, the lingerie is all folded away in its presses as before, and on the dressing bureau even her toilet case is open ready for instant use. This is the perfection of moving, but the small boy of that family loses one of the privileges of his kind.

Foreign Notes of Real Interest.

John Bright did not like Shakespeare.

Coral is said to be a coming rage. It is to be worn in all forms, even for buttons.

The habit of taking ether is said to be extremely prevalent in the north of Ireland.

There were 10,986 pictures submitted for this year's exhibition at the London Academy.

A copy of John Eliot's Bible has just been purchased by the trustees of the British Museum.

One of the new Cardinals, Schoenborn, Archbishop of Prague, was a soldier in the battle of Padua in 1866.

It has been legally decided that Lady Sandhurst, a woman, is not qualified to be a member of the County Council.

A ton of rope made from the hair of devout women of Japan has been used in building a $3,000,000 temple to Buddha at Kioto.

France thinks that it has a new dramatic author, Jules Lemaitre, the author of "Revolte," recently produced at the Odeon.

Brussels has distinguished herself by a bonnet show. The first prize was given to a "flat, oyster-shell sort of contrivance, decorated with raspberries."

Lady Randolph Churchill is about to make her début in literature, it is said, with an article in Longman's *New Review* on her experiences in Russian society life.

A novelty for personal adornment is the gemmed hairband, an arrangement of fine netting to match the hair, with little jewels fastened thickly in it so that the hair seems to be sewn with jewels.

In discussing the relations of England's power to the world at large, Sir George Baden Powell recently remarked in public that "at least 80 per cent. of the coaling stations of the world could be in our hands, and, that secured, the enemy would be powerless."

The fastest locomotive employed in carrying the Scotch mail, where the highest rate of speed in England is attained, has three cylinders, a new departure in locomotive building, and a seven-feet driving wheel. It has been made specially for high speed with heavy trains.

Hereafter the boats to be carried by Atlantic steamers instead of being made of wood, will be made of steel, in one piece. Wooden boats rot and are easily crushed. The new boats will be built by machinery especially made for rolling them out in all sizes in a single plate.

The military custom of saluting by bringing the hand into a horizontal position over the eyebrows is thus accounted for: It is supposed to date back to the tournaments of the middle ages, when, after the Queen of Beauty was enthroned, the knights who were to take part in the sports of the day marched past the dais on which she sat, and as they passed shielded their eyes from the rays of her beauty.

Here is a verbatim report of the speech of the Chairman of an agricultural show dinner in giving the toast of "The Queen": "Noo, gentlemen, will ye a' fill your glasses, for I'm aboot to bring forward 'The Queen.' [Applause.] Oor Queen, gentlemen, is really a wonderful woman, if I may say it; she is ane o' the guid auld sort, nae whigmaleeries or falderal aboot her, but a douce daecent body. She's respectable beyond a doot. She has brocht up a grand family o' weelfaur'd lads and lassies—her auldest son bein' a credit to ony mither and they're a' weel married. Gentlemen, ye'll maybe no believe it, but I ance