The Sun.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1889.

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

## Not for a Day.

Our esteemed and lately renovated Republican contemporary, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, thus perpends:

"THE SUN will probably have to move out of the United States if GROVER CLEVELAND is nominated for President again in 1892."

Don't worry. THE SUN has beheld a great many candidates for President, bad and good, and has judged them according to their deserts. Some of them have been elected, and only one has ever got in without election. Yet the earth has continued to revolve, and the seasons, with their glories and blessings, have followed in their courses. For half a century, no defeated candidate has been nominated again by the Democracy, no matter how hard he had worked for it, not even though he was a free trader and the free trade cause had been smashed in his well-merited and providential downfall.

And, evermore, through the meandering of intrigues, the clash of low ambitions, and the multiform gushings and swellings of platitudinous cant, THE SUN shines for All with the living light of true Democracy; and its sincere independence of party dictation, and its hearty contempt for the hypocrisy and the cant, has been well pleasing to the intellectual public. And the great heart of Democracy beats in accord with the Sunlight, and its noble intelligence never shrinks or shies from the pathway of Truth!

## The Price of an Admiral's Flag.

Gen. BUTLER quotes in full in another column the celebrated letter of DAVID D. PORTER to GIDEON WELLES, originally printed in THE SUN of Dec. 2, 1870. FARRAGUT had died, President GRANT had appointed PORTER as Admiral, and the nomination was pending in the Senate. The publication of this letter, exhibiting as it did in the strongest light the real character of the man whom GRANT believed to be his friend, and whom many people then believed to be a brave, loyal, and frank-hearted sailor, produced an extraordinary sensation. Its effect upon GRANT'S mind is a matter of record. As GRANT told PORTER, the letter made him lose his faith in human nature.

It is incredible that Admiral PORTER should now attempt to deny the authorship of this letter. Is it possible that he has forgotten his experience in the same line of defence nineteen years ago, with all the dirt-eating, personal humiliation, and self-abasement it involved for him at that time?

When the letter to Secretary WELLES was first published, PORTER saw in it a fatal blow to his ambition to hold for life the office to which FARRAGUT'S glorious fame had lent distinction. Yet he pulled through, although at a terrible cost. We cannot believe that he has forgotten the circumstances.

In 1870 the Vice-Admiral at first squarely denounced the letter as a fabrication. Then he denied all recollection of having written such a letter. Then, when Gen. GRANT demanded from him a written denial of the authorship, he violently attacked GIDEON WELLES for publishing the letter, and wrote to GRANT one of the most abject epistles ever produced by the hand of man, declaring that he had been mentally irresponsible at about the date of the letter attributed to him, and, in crawling phrases, retracting the sentiments therein contained.

"You and others know what I had to undergo bodily and mentally," was his pitiful plea to GRANT. "I presume it was while under this excitement that I wrote the letter which you say has made you lose faith in human nature."

That his covert and vainglorious attack on GRANT behind GRANT'S back should be brought to light at a time that put his ambition to great inconvenience seemed to Vice-Admiral PORTER "a contemptible breach of confidence."

It can hardly be that Admiral PORTER has forgotten all this; vanity does not so soon lose remembrance of its sorest wounds.

Two or three days after this extraordinary episode in the career of a distinguished naval officer, certain patriotic Republicans in the House attempted to get rid of PORTER and his pretensions by abolishing the offices of Admiral and Vice-Admiral. Gen. LOGAN introduced a bill for that purpose on Dec. 6, 1870. Even PORTER'S friends in Congress admitted the genuineness of the letter to Secretary WELLES, and sought to excuse the author on grounds that must have been very humiliating to his enormous self-esteem. We quote from the *Congressional Globe* of Dec. 12, 1870:

"Mr. SCOFIELD—I know very well that Admiral PORTER has written a letter that was not very wise—I believe at least that it was not very wise: but I believe Gen. SCOTT used to write letters sometimes that were not very wise. A great many men have made this mistake of writing foolish letters.

"Mr. PERRISS—Some of us on this side of the House would like to know to which letter or Admiral PORTER the gentleman refers. [Laughter, and cries of 'Excellent!' 'Very good!']

"Mr. SCOFIELD—I know that when any man has committed some folly all the wits of the country can turn in to put him down. I remember the laugh raised against Gen. SCOTT for some letters that he wrote, and I suppose he was laughed out of the Presidency; but he was a gallant and brave man. It is not uncommon for men to write foolish letters. There are some Generals, members of this House, that once in a while do a foolish thing. [Laughter.] A gentleman near me said the other day that 'a man had his fool's day, and with some of them it lasts more than a day.' [Laughter.]"

Mr. S. S. COX of New York used still plainer language about PORTER'S performance:

"Mr. COX—I know very well, as does the public, that Vice-Admiral PORTER has, in one sense, played the sycophant and disgraced his high position. I am willing to concede his bravery and skill as a naval officer in every relation in which he served during the war, but I shall vote to abolish the office of Admiral because I am in favor of good administration and responsibility at the head of the navy. I know it was said by the late Admiral FARRAGUT, for it came to me directly, that it was a strange thing that he had to obey the orders of the Secretary of the Navy issued by this Vice-Admiral PORTER. * * * I will vote, not on personal grounds, not because of these shameful letters, not because of the humiliation of our navy and the Admiral of our navy by this sycophancy, to vacate this office, because I would reform the administration of the Government, and especially in naval affairs."

Gen. BUTLER himself was a member of the House at the time, and his way of looking at the PORTER letter maligning GRANT is interesting:

"Mr. BUTLER—If gratitude could control my vote in favor of Admiral PORTER, after the publication of that letter, I would certainly give him that vote, for he has put before the country a piece of evidence for which I am deeply grateful, showing that it was predetermined that the commander of the army in the expedition against Fort Fisher should never succeed. He has settled that point for all time, and I am deeply grateful to him for so doing. But while I tender him my grateful thanks for what he has done in that regard, yet I cannot believe that it is the duty of this Congress to keep up the grade of Admiral even for the sake of having as good letters written as the two to which I refer.

"Mr. GARFIELD of Ohio—In his second letter he takes back all of the first letter."

The bill to get rid of the officer who was thus exhibited in a ridiculous and contemptible aspect, passed the House of Representatives under a suspension of the rules by more than a two-thirds majority. The Senate so amended it as to continue the office of Admiral during PORTER'S lifetime, meanwhile confirming his nomination to that office. The House disagreed, the Senate insisted, and PORTER secured, through GRANT'S magnanimity, and his own hard work in his own interest, a life lease of the post he still occupies.

How he wriggled into it, and at what cost of self-respect and public esteem, may be judged by the present generation from his own two letters to Secretary WELLES and to Gen. GRANT, and likewise from the remarks which we have printed above, made by Republicans and Democrats in the House when the bill to get rid of him was pending.

## The Suspension of Hostilities in France.

Although there has been a lull in the strife of French political factions since the opening of the Paris Exposition, we should not take for granted that the era of apparent peace and good will will outlast September, even should it remain unbroken throughout the summer. The Boulangist wolf is by no means defunct, although he has been driven outside of the sheep-fold; and there is still an ominous glitter in the eye of the Radical lion, although he is lying down just now by the side of the Opportunist lamb.

Every working member of the Paris population, from the largest banker or merchant to the humblest artisan, has so much to gain from the tremendous influx of visitors to the World's Fair, that any deliberate disturbance of tranquillity at this juncture would be apt to be looked upon as the act of a public enemy. What made BOULANGER'S victory in the Department of the Seine so amazing was the fact that the election took place at a date so near the opening of the Exposition, when self-interest was likely to range the mass of voters on the side of the constituted authorities. Now that Paris is full of strangers, whose apprehensions of disorder it is of the utmost moment to allay, no Boulangist demonstration would be tolerated, and the friends of the General are too sagacious to attempt any.

But although the Paris voters will devote the summer months to money getting, they will not lose sight of the politicians or of the proceedings in the Senate, organized as a court of impeachment. Because they are resolved to bide their time and exercise unwonted self-restraint, their ultimate verdict will be the more peremptory and irrevocable. Thus there may be in October a vehement reaction in favor of BOULANGER, should events confirm the assertion of a Paris newspaper, in an article apparently proceeding from an official source, that the Senatorial Court finds difficulty in framing a specific charge against the General. The article in question goes on to say that some Senators desire to enter a *nolle prosequi* in the case; that others would have BOULANGER tried at the assizes, and still others avow a wish that he should be court martialled.

If the impeachment of BOULANGER should so utterly break down that not even a *prima facie* case can be made out against him, it will go ill by and by with his opponents. The General, it will be remembered, offered when at Brussels to return and be tried in an ordinary court before a jury. He may reasonably have felt that he had nothing to fear from a tribunal which had virtually acquitted his coadjutors by imposing upon them only a derisory fine. Nor should it be forgotten that ROCHEFORT has repeatedly asserted that BOULANGER'S withdrawal to Belgium was due to information that the proposal to impeach him was only a sham, the real purpose being, after his arrest had been effected, to turn him over to a court martial and deal with him in the way which NAPOLEON found efficacious in the case of the Due D'ENGHIEN. This charge has been ridiculed by the Ministerial journals, yet now we find the summary method of treating BOULANGER advocated by some of the Senators whose duty it is to act as judges.

If it be true that M. FERRY means to take advantage of the suspension of factional hostilities to reappear in the tribune, and attempt to publicly display the influence which he has privily exerted throughout the term of his ostensible retirement, it may prove impossible to prevent an outbreak in the Chamber of Deputies. For although the friends of M. CLEMENCEAU might be muzzled, those members of the Right who are secretly favorable to BOULANGER would scarcely refrain from reminding M. FERRY of his disgraceful connection with the Tonquin fiasco. So unpopular is the ex-Premier among the masses of the Paris population that, instead of blaming his accusers for breaking the peaceful current of affairs, they would probably revile him for obtruding his personality at such a time.

After all, it is only what MARK TWAIN has described as a "French calm" which prevails just now among the Paris politicians.

## The Evil Women Are Bringing In.

The women of Boston neglected to exercise their right of voting for school officers until a mischievous appeal was made to their religious partisanship. So also the women of the New Jersey town of New Brunswick took no interest in the elections for school trustees, though they had the privilege of voting at them, until a religious issue was imported into the canvass, altogether without reason, as it seems.

Last year the whole vote cast at the New Brunswick school elections was less than 500, and very few women took the trouble to go to the polls; but on Monday the number of women voters alone was 363. Ladies who had looked on the suffrage as an innovation unbelitting their sex, were then the most zealous of political canvassers, and because of this newly developed interest on the part of the women a citizens' ticket, so-called, was elected by a large majority over the regular ticket. But they all voted as religious and not as political partisans.

It does not appear that there was any real justification for their excitement over the contest as a religious strife. Mr. WOODS, the candidate on the regular ticket, who was accused of a disposition to favor Roman Catholics as teachers at the expense of Protestants, is himself a strict Presbyterian, and he denies that he has ever had any such purpose. Of the sixty teachers in the New Brunswick schools only six are Roman Catholics, and none of the number, Catholic or Protestant, has any opportunity to inculcate religious doctrines, for the schools are wholly secular. It is also contrary to the spirit and genius of our institutions to discriminate against any applicant for public office on religious grounds. The question of religion should not be raised at all when the appointment of a public school teacher comes up for decision. The moral and intellectual fitness of the candidate, not his religious creed, is what the school trustees must regard solely, if they are not false to the duty committed to them by law. To do otherwise would be to stir up reasonable hostility to the schools on the part of the religious communion so unjustly treated, and thus to imperil the existence of the school system.

Yet both the women of Boston and the women of New Brunswick have signalized their entrance into politics by inviting and stimulating a religious strife so dangerous to the schools, and so lamentable on all accounts. If they had started out to assist those Roman Catholics who desire the destruction of our existing school system, and the distribution of the school fund among the different church schools, they could not have worked more effectually to that end. For nothing is more manifest than that the continuance of free public education depends on keeping the schools safe from religious controversy. They must be neither Catholic nor Protestant, but wholly secular, if they are to last. Questions of religion must never enter into consideration when it comes to the appointment of teachers; and text books must be selected which give no opening for theological controversy. If parents wish their children to receive a religious education under teachers of their own faith, they must send them to other than the public schools, in which Catholics have as much right as Protestants to become teachers, Jews as Gentiles. Protestants cannot contend for the possession of the schools without exciting Catholics to like efforts, with the result that in the struggle the school system will be torn to pieces.

It will last only so long as it is kept out of religious controversy by being altogether secular. Whenever it becomes a bone of contention between Protestants and Catholics, its doom will be sealed. Each side must keep off its hands, if the school system is to remain. If either wishes different schools to satisfy its religious opinions, it must set them up for itself. The public schools would soon go to ruin if they were conducted with reference to the gratification of either party in the selection of teachers or text books.

It is a bad sign, therefore, that women are using their newly acquired privilege of the suffrage to introduce religious partisanship into contests for the election of school officers.

## Give the Horse a Chance.

Those who hate to see a good thing spoiled, will read with interest a remark made by the owner of Proctor Knott, which we find in our contemporary, the *Spirit of the Times*:

"Would he have won the Derby with a strong jockey in the saddle? Don't talk to me that way, when you know as well as I do he couldn't have lost. See here, my horse could have run the Derby in 2:32, and don't you forget it, and I'll bet half of all the money I've got he can run a mile over the Louisville course in 1:38."

This has too strong a ring of genuine confidence to be classed as a hollow boast. A little reflection on the Derby running will show that if properly rated throughout the distance Knott could almost certainly do the Derby course close to Mr. BRYANT'S mark.

But mention of the figure 1:38 for the mile always sends a thrill through the racing world. The sum of money it would yield in individual subscriptions at a dollar a head to see it done, would be enormous. Yet Proctor Knott's chances for doing it will scarcely ever be what he deserves so long as his preparation must be made by his present owner.

From the time that the poor horse began to stretch himself in the spring, his training chronicles have been full of physic and enough gallops to fit a stable of horses. The night of the Derby saw him a used-up beast, and physic again has been his drink, as could be seen by the despatch in THE SUN of yesterday. He is now sick. The old-fashioned but tenacious humbug about the value of physic which still inspires so many trainers of prize fighters, seems to possess completely the now famous SAM BRYANT.

We sincerely hope in the interests of the turf, and for the chance that Ten Broeck's 1:39], now grown so tiresome, may be beaten, that some one will buy Proctor Knott. We hope for Mr. BRYANT'S sake that he will sell him. A horse, though proverbially strong, compared with man is the most delicate and unrecuperative creature in civilization. This particular horse should change hands. Animals capable even of suggesting the possibility of their running a mile in 1:38 are more than half national property and justly demand the best and wisest treatment.

## Advice to Southern Democrats.

The proposal of Mr. PARSONS and Mr. SEDDON to hold a convention and erect a political organization of Southerners opposed to free trade, is making some noise in the South.

This invitation includes both Democrats and Republicans, but, of course, the Southern Democrats of influence and intelligence who might be expected to take part in such a movement outnumber the Republicans ten to one—probably a hundred to one.

If the plan could be carried out, therefore, the damage inflicted upon the Democratic party would be tenfold or one hundred fold that which the Republican organization in the South would suffer.

We advise all Southern Democrats who are earnestly in favor of the protection of American industries to hold themselves aloof from Mr. PARSONS and Mr. SEDDON, and to continue to work with might and main within the lines of the Democracy for the principles they have at heart.

It appears that the Protective Tariff League idea originated at the Natural Bridge. There is no natural bridge between the Democracy and the Republican party, at the South or elsewhere, tariff or no tariff.

The Hon. FREMONT COLE has become a statesman. The members of the Assembly gave him a couple of diamonds on its death day. These diamonds are now Mr. COLE'S most glittering talent, but in mere point of hardness they yield to his rock-hewn and impregnable cheek.

One of the interesting features of poetical composition is the frequency with which men inspired with that divine frenzy, express themselves in the character of women, while the lady poets take a similar delight in figuring in literature as it were in men's clothes, and in writing poems of passion in the masculine gender. Here, for instance, is Miss LIZETTE W. REESE, who prints in the *Courier-Journal* a fanciful little ballad of which a certain MAUDE appears to be the heroine. We borrow a couple of stanzas:

"The sad South lurks about her mouth.
The North is in her eyes;
She is the touch with bloom of snow,
The sweetest weather that we know,
She is both warm and wise.

"The rest's out. If South and North
He both at MAUDE'S command,
Is it great wonder she's so sweet
And sends us poor lads to her feet
With one touch of her hand?"

On the other hand, no less a writer than Mr. JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY, publishes a poem of extraordinary melody in the *Pilot*, in which the sentiments of a loving and sad young female are strikingly declared:

"Oh, I'm longing for his coming—in the dark my arms outreaching,
To hasten you, my love, see, I lay my bosom bare!
Ah, the night wind! I shudder, and my hands are raised beseeching—
It wailed so like a death sigh that passed me in the air!"

We explain these transpositions of femininity and masculinity in such accomplished authors as simply manifesting the protean character of the human imagination. "And one man in his time plays many parts."

Since Gen. GORDON'S death only the most meagre and contradictory reports relating to matters in the Egyptian Soudan have reached the civilized world. If an enterprising reporter could be smuggled into that land he would find rich material to add to the history of the times. We know almost nothing of the present fanatical ruler of the Soudan, whose tyranny has made him hated by many of his people. We know nothing of the battles he is believed to have fought last year with the forces of EMIN Pasha, and almost nothing of the long struggle in which Darfur and the best part of Kordofan have been wrested from his power. It would be most interesting, too, to be able to watch the progress of that movement, led by the son of the founder of the great Senoussi sect of Mohammedans, which now threatens the complete overthrow of the Mahdi's successor. These are events which are bound up with the future of a large region in Africa, and the happenings of the past four years show us, too, that they will have their influence upon the outside world.

Truly, THE SUN is hard to suit, or else it is in hard lines politically. Which is it?—*Epoch.*

It is hard to suit. Humbug and hypocrisy it rejects always; and as for hard lines politically, it has never known what they are.

The Hon. B. PLATT CARPENTER, whose name was once famous in this State, and who had the distinction of being the most beautifully beaten candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, is a delegate to the Montana Convention. He has been Governor of the Territory, and may win a prize in the State. This country, fortunately, is big enough for a politician to whom fate is unkind in one State to try his luck in another. Mr. CARPENTER can say to himself: "If my bark sink 'tis to another sea."

A learned and industrious Hebrew gentleman of this town, Mr. SAMUEL HUEBSCH, has translated the Proverbs of SOLOMON from the original text into chaste and fluent Volapük. We have the result of his labors in a pamphlet entitled "Tuheds de SALOMON." The wise man says, according to Mr. HUEBSCH'S version:

"O son oba, sentiolis vödis oba lü ola lenamonöls sagoti oba. No depuhomsö lozes ös, konsetöfö omis, in dilbada olik. Ibs binoms lü alme, tavol omis, e sin Rops Lilik."

But what son that is not a crank will attend to words like these, or incline his ear to this jargon, or keep it in the midst of his heart?

Our friends, the anti-tobacconists, must admit that the weed is sometimes useful, as in the case of the Pennsylvanian who recently robbed a savings bank, and was detected by means of a cigar stump which he had left upon the floor. It may be contended, to be sure, that he would never have robbed the bank had it not been for his passion for cigars; and it must sorrowfully be conceded that there are some cigars which are worse than many crimes.

We learn of still another proof of the incompatibility between greatness between a horse and man of the same name. Just before the unexpected failure of Proctor Knott in the Kentucky Derby, Gov. PROCTOR KNOTT of Kentucky State had marked his now promising career by a very able address at the Scotch-Irish Congress at Columbia, Tennessee. After that it was in the air for his equine contemporary to get left.

A jury in Union county, N. J., appraised the damages done to eight cherry trees at $800. If the father of the Father of his Country is allowed to revisit the glimpses of the moon and New Jersey, he must feel a pang to think what a sacrifice of valuable property Master GEORGE made when he was a young feller, so to speak.

## A FEW OFFICES PASSED AROUND.

### Mayor Grant is Very Likely to Disappear Again To-day.

Mayor Grant made no appointments yesterday, and he said on going home that he might not be down town to-day.

Commissioner of Public Works Gilroy handed out no prizes yesterday, either, and said that the list of unbenceable veterans in the department is not yet made out. The jokers about the City Hall say that the list, when finished, ought to be known as the roster of Gilroy Post, G. A. R.

There were appointments in other departments, however, and the procession has not halted altogether, although it moves but slowly. The Excise Commissioners appointed John J. McDonough cashier, in place of Ansel L. Parkhurst. The salary is $3,000. McDonough is a new man as an officeholder, but has handled money in the office of the Second Avenue Railroad Company. He is a Twenty-second district Tammany man.

Judge Hoime yesterday appointed David Arbuthnot a court officer of the City Court in place of Louis Schlamm, removed a day or two ago. Arbuthnot is an Eleventh district Tammany man. It is a $1,100 place.

Thomas P. McEvoy, who resigned his $1,200 clerkship in the Tax Receiver's office on Thursday, was yesterday appointed a Deputy Police Court clerk by the new Justice, McMahon. It is a $2,000 place. Mr. McEvoy has left the Fifteenth district, and is now a Twenty-third warder, but he is as much of a Tammany man as ever.

Two more vacancies for the faithful to fill were made yesterday by the resignation of Excise Inspectors John A. Brown and Patrick Roche, both are County Democrats. Brown, who is better known as Butcher Brown, is a Second district lieutenant of P. J. Walsh, and Roche, who is designated as "Red Paddy," to distinguish him from the ex-Assemblyman, is a Fourth district man.

### The Utility of the White House Back Door.

*From the Philadelphia Times.*

The mystery that accompanies arriving and departing guests at the White House is astonishing. They are smuggled in and out of the rear door in closed carriages and the public is none the wiser. Nobody outside of the inmates of the White House knew that Russell Harrison paid his parents a visit yesterday. He did, though, and the back door was the mode of his entrance and departure. He left last night for New York. In the same manner Mrs. McKee returned from New York on Saturday night.

### Minnesota and Nebraska Going Backward.

*From the St. Paul Globe.*

The gum chewers among the females seen upon the streets in this city are much less numerous than some time since, and many of classes not addicted to exemplary usages, but in Nebraska lowns the practice has become so numerously prevalent that even the pulpits take note of it.

One preacher, on a recent Sunday, paused, and looking over the audience, said they looked like a corral of munching cattle, all ages and sexes chewing. That State is a missionary field.

### They're Men of One Idea.

*From the Atlanta Constitution.*

David B. Hill, according to THE SUN, is the *Extremest* Democratic Governor of the day.

What is the matter with the Governors of North and South Carolina?

### Is Iron Overhauling Steel?

*From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.*

A revulsion of feeling regarding the supposed superiority of steel over iron for heavy shafts for steamboats has been gaining strength for some time, and it is said that nearly all steel shafts that break now-a-days are being replaced by iron. It is also stated that those made by Krupp, the German iron worker, have fared no better in builders' estimation than some made in this country.

### A Maxim of Matrimony.

*From the Hartford Times.*

There is a bright bit of humor in the telegram received at a golden wedding in Windsor Locks last evening, from a former pastor, now a missionary among the Mormons: "It is better to live with one wife fifty years than with fifty wives one year."

### A Mugwump on Governor Hill.

*From the Detroit Free Press.*

The *Free Press* has no special admiration for Governor Hill, but it is simply justice to say that he dealt fairly and frankly with the Saxton bill.

### Mr. Childs Speaks in the Language of Base Ball.

*From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.*

The Phillies evidently believe in working a clinch for all it is worth.

### The Caucasian Played Out.

*From the Pipe of Peace.*

The Indian club has now played four games of ball with the white boys and has won all of them.

### Milk and Water Not Useful.

*From the Atlanta Constitution.*

We must fight the devil with fire.

### Briefest Yet Truest.

THE SUN
No. 1.

A performance for one of the healthiest forms of charity, the Burnham Industrial School, in Columbia county, will be given at the Lyceum Theatre on Monday next. Gilbert's "Sweethearts" and Mrs Kemble's "The Day After the Wedding" will be acted by a company of eminent amateurs.

## THE PROPOSED TARIFF LEAGUE.

### A Call for a Convention of Republican and Democratic Protectionists in the South.

LOUISVILLE, May 17.—A movement to hold a convention of protectionists has been in progress in the South for some time, and a number of prominent persons here have recently received the following circular:

*Thomas Seddon, Esq.*

MY DEAR SIR: Since our brief conversation I have determined to write this letter.

We differ in all our past political association and in local politics, but we agree that no free trader can, of right, represent any one of the thirty-three Southern Congressional districts of which we spoke—four in West Virginia, two in Maryland, six in Virginia, four in North Carolina, four in Tennessee, four in Kentucky, one in Georgia, two in Alabama, five in Missouri, one in Arkansas, and two in Texas—in the Congress of the United States; and that it is in the province of those who hold the prosperity of the South above all partisanship to make such misrepresentation impossible. In these white districts the race question is not paramount, and it is due ourselves that we demonstrate to the world that the right of citizenship is held as sacred as in any other part of this nation.

I suggest, for myself and those I may fairly represent, to yourself and those who assert a like independence, that we meet in Chattanooga in May next in Convention, and organize a Southern Protective Tariff League, confined to the mineral districts and to national politics, which shall so educate and organize our people that they may assert the balance of power they rightfully hold to protect and advance the material development of the South. I further suggest that when 1,000 names are secured a call for such a convention be issued.

Yours truly, H. C. PARSONS.

NATURAL BRIDGE, Feb. 22, 1889.

*H. C. Parsons, Esq.*

MY DEAR SIR: I have your letter of Feb. 22. I approve heartily of your suggestion. We will meet and cooperate with you in the organization of the Southern Protective Tariff League. Yours truly,

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 4, 1889. THOMAS SEDDON.

DEAR SIR: The accompanying correspondence explains itself. Will you, if you approve of this movement, secure a personal number of signatures from your neighborhood, irrespective of their business, politics, and also the place at which they would prefer the meeting to be held.

Send paper when completed to Charles P. Nair, Natural Bridge, Va., or to ———, Birmingham, Ala.

H. C. PARSONS,
THOMAS SEDDON.

The undersigned approve of a call for a convention to be held in May or June next, in accordance with the suggestions of the above correspondence.

Mr. Parsons is a Republican. Mr. Seddon is a prominent Democrat of Birmingham, and the son of the late James A. Seddon, who was a member of the Confederate Cabinet. It is understood that the circular has been signed by a number of Democrats in Virginia, Tennessee, and Alabama, and it will be signed by many in Kentucky.

Many Democrats, who are also protectionists, object to signing it, because they regard it as a step into the ranks of the Republican party. They urge that protection Democrats should make the fight within the party lines, and suppress the free trade element that threatens the very existence of the organization. Not a few life-long Democrats in this city voted for Harrison, and a still larger number refused to vote for Cleveland, preferring not to sever their relations with the Democracy until they abandon all hope of bringing the organization back to its historic position on the tariff and internal revenue. But one more nomination of Cleveland and another St. Louis platform would unquestionably result in a general exodus of Southern protection Democrats to the Republican ranks.

## LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

### "The First Born New Yorker."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I read with special interest, as an old New Yorker, the communication under above caption contained in issue of your valuable journal of 9th ult.; however, I am satisfied that the writer is mistaken in claiming that Isaac Bellow, whom he states to have been born in 1648, was the first born New Yorker of white parents, for, on the contrary, in the year preceding, to wit, on the 21st of April, 1642, Isaac, the son of Philip du Trieux and Susanna, his wife, was born in this city, as appears by the records of the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam for 1642, also transcribed in Dr. E. B. O'Callaghan's "New York Genealogical and Biographical Record," vol. x. No. 1, January, 1874, and which is the acknowledged standard authority on the subject.

Philip du Trieux, the father, a walloon from the French Netherlands, was one of the first company of colonists to Manhattan Island or New Amsterdam, history records him as a gentleman of erudition and affluence and a worthy burgher of the infant municipality.

Shortly after the cession of the colony to the English in 1664, the name du Trieux, besides that of many other of the early settlers, became somewhat Anglicized, du Trieux being rendered into Truax, the same as that of our Judge, Charles H. Truax, who is a direct lineal descendant from Philip du Trieux of the eighth generation. GEO. A. HALSEY.

### A Country Woman's Answer to a City Criticism.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In our Fitchburg *Sentinel* is an article taken from your paper under the heading of "Country People in New York." I am glad to know what New Yorkers think of us, and I am proud to say I am one of those "country people" of the beautiful town of Leominster, Mass. The article to which I refer is the experience and opinion of two school teachers regarding the appearance of country people in New York.

I think God more and more every day that I was born a free woman. I enjoy visiting the city, where we see displayed the beauties of art—everything that is attractive to our varied senses—and how glad I am that God never took us to walk through the streets with our eyes or our mouths closed, or whether we should wear a felt hat or a spring bonnet with flowers, or a Directoire coat or some other garment by the way. I have got a spring bonnet, for we do wear such things in the country, but we are to walk just as we are, all in every avenue of adversity open, that we may appropriate unto ourselves all the elements which shall help us to grow more beautiful.

I would be glad to have those teachers come out here into the country. I should be pained to have them come with closed eyes. We will give them plenty of room on the sidewalk and time to "gawp," at all that may interest them, and they may assume whatever attitude they please. We have children who can probably tell them many interesting things which they know nothing about, and they are welcome to them as escorts.

Oh New Yorkers, criticise us all you will, but when you get through you will leave us as you find us, independent. We can live without you, but you cannot without us. FREEDOM.

### Aghast at the Vice in New York.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* When I visit New York I am each time amazed that some influence, legal or moral, does not succeed in suppressing the too visible appearances of the social evil. It is impossible for any man unaccompanied to walk over the ground mentioned without being solicited and continually followed. The girls seem to frequent the houses on Thirteenth street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, and in order to satisfy myself as to this before stating it on paper, I walked through the street to ascertain for myself. I found a single woman in front of almost every house, and my ears were treated to such language as can be alleged to suit the purpose. I departed sighing that such things could be in the heart of the great metropolis. A PRESBYTER.

### Among the Good Things in The Sun.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I am well aware that THE SUNDAY SUN stands in need of no recommendations from me. But I cannot refrain from expressing a few words of praise and gratitude for its able and instructive articles on the historical events connected with the inauguration of the first President of the United States. They are undoubtedly of much interest to the reader of American history, and especially to our rising generation, which, contrary to many mistaken views held heretofore on that period of our nation's history. To the intelligent American there is no subject of livier interest and greater importance than our country's past history. We confidently hope, therefore, that the many readers of THE SUN will appreciate the value of these articles, and that it will continue to instruct them on that delightful subject.

LEWISTON, Pa., May 11. W. H. HOFFMAN.

### The Penumbration of Brother Blaine.

Where are the blazing fires of old,
The rush, the dazzle and the hold
Capers that made the Mugwumps scold,
Brother Blaine?
Why this strange quiet? Do you sleep,
Or are you thinking still a heap
Of the best year that comes a leap,
Brother Blaine?

Where are your lures and pleasing art
For winning votes and firing hearts?
Where are your rows in foreign parts,
Brother Blaine?
Your enemies believed that you
Would raise a grand old hullabaloo
From Cochin China to poor Peru,
Brother Blaine!

All of them were prepared to swear
That you were loaded full for bear;
That you would bully, brag, and dare,
Brother Blaine.
But, lo! the pigeon hath more gall;
You roar not, sing exceeding small,
And show no warlike front at all,
Brother Blaine.

You mind your business, do your work,
Wear not a bludgeon or a dirk,
And quarrel not with Christian or Turk,
Brother Blaine.
You let the Hoosier go his gait.
'Tis yours to calmly meditate
On '52 and '88,
Brother Blaine.

What splendid golden dreams come through
The gates of fancy, smiling at you,
And beckoning on to '92,
Brother Blaine!
You're quiet now, but if once more
Your friends shall call you with a roar,
You might have fun, and you might have gore,
Brother Blaine!

The fifteenth volume of the *Century Magazine*, now issued, forms a handsome volume, with all the attractions concentrated that have given such interest to the individual numbers. It is admirable alike for its literary and its artistic contents.

## BRIBERY IN BALTIMORE.

### Members of the Council Approached in the Interest of a Gaslight Company.

BALTIMORE, May 17.—About two weeks ago Councilman McIntyre of the Eleventh ward shook up the politicians by charging in the first branch of the City Council that an attempt had been made to bribe several members of that body in the interest of the Washington Automatic Gaslight Company. Inasmuch as Mr. McIntyre is a Republican, it was thought at the time that the charge was a political move, and little was expected to come of it. An investigating committee was appointed, before which all the parties concerned were summoned to appear. Almost among the first implicated by witnesses were two Republican members, and since then others holding important offices have been implicated.

The fraud was brought to light through the introduction of an ordinance to give the contract for attending to the gasolene lamps in the city to the lowest bidder. Heretofore the contract has been awarded by an ordinance, and the price paid was $14 per lamp. There are in all about 900 lamps. Other companies repeatedly tried to compete for the contract, but in vain. The Automatic Company until recently was controlled by Mr. Samuel Regester, a leading politician, and now one of the Board of Fire Commissioners. Immediately after assuming office he sold his shares, so he says, to his brother. The active worker in securing the contract was Charles C. Nicolai.

Councilman Hayden, a Democrat, swore that Nicolai had offered him money, and Councilman Wiener, also a Democrat, testified that Nicolai wanted to retain him as counsel. Two witnesses, who said they were Nicolai's agents, testified that they had understood that Nicolai had convinced Councilmen Brown and Budnitz, two Republicans, but the latter strenuously denied having been approached.

The committee went back to last year to determine how the contract was then obtained, and the witnesses summoned have given sensational testimony. L. D. Passano, the representative of a company which is said to be a branch of the Standard Oil Company, charged James W. McElroy, the examiner of titles for the city, and partner of Thomas M. Lanahan, with saying that the only way to get the ordinance providing for competition out of the committee's hands was to pay $500 to L. Freeman Rasin, now the Naval Officer at this port.

Passano said he did not think the goods worth the money, and he would go to see Rasin in person, whereupon McElroy is alleged to have warned Passano that Rasin was a dog, and would want it all. Several other political leaders have been named in connection with the scandal, but McElroy is the only one directly charged with advocating the use of money. Regester carries water on both shoulders. He promised to help the opposition to secure competition and secretly worked against the ordinance.

## COLUMBIA STUDENTS AS SANDWICHES.

### Masquerading in Fifth Avenue to Advertise their Operetta.

As the result of some banter on Wednesday evening, at a meeting of the Columbia College Dramatic Club, Robert Livingston Cutting, Jr., offered to bet $50 that none of his fellow students would make fools of themselves by parading Fifth avenue in burlesque style as an advertisement for the performances of the operetta "William Penn" that are to be given by the club at the Berkeley Lyceum this afternoon and evening. Nine boys took him up and entered into an ironclad agreement to march as sandwich men, bearing advertisements of the show, from the Lyceum down Fifth avenue to Fourteenth street and back. The start was to be made at 3:45 yesterday afternoon. These were the nine: Robert Lee Averell, Julian Gerard Buckley, Edwin Main Post, Jr., Frank Chickering Warren, John Christopher Willmerding, Jr., Louis Candler, H. D. Bates, D. O. Ridley, and J. Ranger. Twenty-five dollars for a club banquet was to be the penalty of each delinquent.

Police Superintendent Murray saved the boys their bluff, however, by refusing to grant a permit for the parade. After this point was settled, the nine turned up right valiantly and wasted a deal of breath in suggesting ways in which the police edict could be evaded. They didn't try any of them, however, but sent a committee to all the precincts in the neighborhood, trying to get a captain, sergeant, or roundsman to reverse Superintendent Murray's ruling. Even the genial Schmittberger, down in Capt. Reilly's district, wouldn't accommodate them, however, and so the boys compromised by hiring the Windsor Hotel 'bus and riding up and down the avenue on top of it, displaying their sandwich placards on every side and making faces at every policeman.

## INTERESTING GOSSIP OF THE DAY.

A story has been current among school people that Commissioner Grace H. Dodge is planning to lengthen the spring term, or have the fall term begin earlier than usual, or do something else of that kind so as to give the teachers more work than they now have to do. The tale has been widely spread by many who are opposed to Miss Dodge as a Commissioner of Public Education, but like many of the unfavorable reports about her and her sister members of the Board, the story is absolutely false.

In an architectural way, Grace Church was the wonder of the town when it was built, and so was Trinity Church, and so was the Catholic cathedral, and so was the Jewish Temple in Fifth avenue. It looks as though the new Episcopal cathedral which is about to be built would be the next of our metropolitan wonders in ecclesiastical architecture.

Many people who have passed through the City Hall Park lately have spoken with praise of the luxuriant lawns of grass that have been made to appear there within the last few weeks. Although for nearly a fortnight previous to the rain which fell at the beginning of this week there had not come from the skies a single drop of water, still the newly placed grass did not seem once to lack wet refreshment. It has been admired by many who have watched the growth of the lawn that, first of all, the surface was spaded thoroughly, and that then seeds were put down. But these seeds at first did not appear at all promising, and yet the lawn to-day looks as if it had been under cultivation for one or two summers. The reason lies not so much in the care that has been given to it during the day as in the labor that has been expended upon it after dark. Every night men go all over the lawns with long rubber hose, and squirt water by the barrelful on the recently laid seeds. This watering is kept up every night when there is no rain from 7 o'clock until 3 in the morning, and very often the sidewalk opposite the Post office is flooded so that it is sure to wet one's feet.

Little Elsie Leslie, the *Little Lord Fauntleroy* of the Broadway Theatre, is visiting at the house in Plainfield of Mr. Morgan S. Taylor, a brother of the President of Vassar College. The popular little actress is getting as brown as a berry, spending her time in romping in the fields. She has made friends of all the girls living on Rockview Terrace, Washington Park.

On the outskirts of Rahway is a body of water that is dignified by the name of Milton Lake. It lies in the centre of a circle of low hills and is not a pleasant sight, because its surface is