

The Sun

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The Perplexity of North Dakota.

The State of North Dakota has not yet come into the enjoyment of that wonderful prosperity which was expected to follow its admission to the Union. The State is heavily in debt, and there is no money in the Treasury.

The casuistic arguments by which the principle of the bill is supported may be judged from these remarks of Mr. A. W. Sanderson, a man of importance in Bismarck.

Public feeling on the subject is greatly stirred up, and petitions in favor of the bill and remonstrances against it are coming from all parts of the State.

The scheme is in the interest of a notorious lottery company, and there seems to be a strong suspicion that a conspiracy has been formed in the Legislature.

The banks are promised large deposits and specific moneys which will be certain of them would get. The farmers are told that it will not only relieve the State of its present financial embarrassment, but that it will also enable the State to meet its obligations.

We lately drew attention to some interesting statistics collected by the English Radicals regarding the shortcomings of the House of Commons.

To English Radicals it seems a shocking incongruity that while the extinction of privilege and the promotion of equality have been the capital aims of reform in the House of Commons, the number of privileged persons constituting the House of Lords should have been signally increased.

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than \$8,750,000 a year. They own collectively 15,812,000 acres of land, whose total annual rental (carefully underestimated) does not fall short of \$64,100,000. If we include in our computation the Peers of Scotland and Ireland who do not have seats in the House of Lords, we find the whole number of acres monopolized by the privileged caste raised to 16,565,000, with an aggregate rental of \$69,000,000. Capitalized at 4 per cent, the value of this stupendous rental would considerably exceed two billion dollars.

By way of recalling to the people the nature of the services rendered by the privileged caste, the English Radicals have compiled and circulated a table of memorable dates in the history of the Lords. Thus, not to go beyond the present century, one is reminded that in 1807 the Lords threw out a bill intended to promote common school education, and that three years afterwards they rejected a bill abolishing the punishment of death for stealing goods valued at five shillings.

The first annual report of the new State Commission on Lunacy, which was organized in 1874, is a very interesting document. The Commission is headed by Dr. CARLOS F. MACDONALD, a well-known physician who has had long experience in the care of the insane.

Some Curious Little Islands. Now and then a traveller shows that it is not necessary to go far from the ordinary highways of trade to discover novel and interesting facts. In the island, for instance, that an explorer never picks up in a very limited field of research, he may find some of the most curious and interesting facts.

The chief industry of the group is the pearl fishery; it employs about 2,000 men for six months in the year. The divers, who are mostly negro slaves from Africa, live in bamboo huts along the coast. They steadily resist all innovations in the way of diving apparatus and other improvements, and by long persistence they have acquired the ability to remain under water for a length of time that to the unaccustomed spectator seems incredible.

These islands are among the few places where the medieval sport of hawking may still be observed. A small gazelle is abundant on the desert of Bahrein, and often the sportsmen of the island are seen on gayly caparisoned horses, each having on his arm a hooded falcon, and by his side a Persian greyhound. As soon as the gazelle is sighted, the falcon is let loose. There is no escaping him. Skimming swiftly over the sand, the bird attacks the head of the animal, and so confuses it that it usually falls a prey to the hunter.

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retro Islands in the thousands of tumuli that cover the desert. Of their origin we have no knowledge until about the year 1800. It is not until the year 1800 that we find any other part of the world have these enormous mounds found in such enormous numbers.

What is There to Hide? Here is an interrogatory which merits the most careful and conscientious meditation: "I am acquainted with a young lady for almost two years. She says she is very fond of me, while I must admit that I love her. Now, would you like it, if I were to keep company with her? I am, I think, a very good fellow."

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deeds to examine the medical record of the institution to permit the medical officer of the institution to see the records, and they declare that there should be no authority in a Court to discharge a person from the custody of an asylum without first informing himself of the mental and physical condition of such person, and determining whether it is safe, legal, and right to let him out. This is perfectly true, and we doubt whether there is any authentic instance in which a Court has exercised this power without making the inquiry which the Commission thus pronounced necessary.

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the child's ear gets its training without much trouble and at trifling expense; and thus to one great branch of learning a royal road is opened.

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LETTERS OF IMPORTANT SUBJECTS. A Question of Training. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In several articles which have appeared from time to time in THE SUN on the subject of the Presbyterian doctrine of election, you substantially argue that the coexistence of God's attribute of foreknowledge is incompatible with the liberty and consequent responsibility of man as a free moral agent. It seems to me that your drawing this conclusion is a very important fact by which it is vitiated. That man's will is free to commit or abstain from sin, we know through common sense, intelligence, and experience.

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The great social event of the week has undoubtedly been the colossal Bradley Martin banquet and ball at Delmonico's on Friday evening. The meagre reports of the press in a yesterday morning's issue fail to convey any just idea of its beauty and brilliancy. It is unanimously declared by all who were present to have been excellently well managed and gloriously successful. There was, as might have been expected, some delay in getting the dinner started, but the dining room was thrown open, the entire company was seated in six minutes, the process being facilitated by diaphanous cards, one of which was furnished to each gentleman with the name of the lady he was to take in, and marked with his own name showing the location of his seat. The menu was short but well chosen, and was gone through in an hour and forty minutes. The plates were hot, and so were the wands. The principal wine was champagne, which was served with the soup and kept up to the end, with the addition of red wine for those who liked it, to drink and eat and drink and eat. After the dinner the room was cleared and made ready for dancing in fifteen minutes, and the subsequent proceedings went on without a hitch.

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THE AMERICAN BISON.

A Project Aiming to Preserve the Animal from Total Extinction. WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Mr. Plumb of Kansas, in the Senate, and Mr. Peters of the House, in the House, have introduced measures setting apart a tract in No Man's Land for the propagation of buffaloes.

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Crowded Out of School.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Will you allow your valuable journal to shed its light upon a subject which has become a serious one in our schools? I refer to the fact that the number of children who are crowded out of school is increasing.

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The Charge Against Brewer Mayer.

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Mark Twain Accused of Plagiarism.

Mark Twain having dedicated a recent book of his to "Mr. Bull," wherever he is found, will doubtless be interested to learn that the gentleman in question is to be discovered in the current London Pall Mall edition of the "Lords of the World," a volume of sixteen and a half columns. But Mr. Twain is surprised to hear that the notice of the "Lords of the World" in the "Lords of the World" is a plagiarism of his own work.

An Exciting Rural Game.

A citizen said this morning: "I have just seen a very exciting rural game. It is a game of chance, and is played in a very interesting manner. The game is played in a rural setting, and is very popular among the people of the country."

A Good Word for the Bees.

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