The Sun.

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THE SUN, New York City.

Now Chicago!

Though it is not yet certain that the Senate will decide that the World's Fair, to celebrate the discovery of America by COLUMBUS, shall be held in Chicago, the probability is that way, especially when we consider that the majority of the House of Representatives made their decision emphatically upon political considerations. In Chicago all the expenditures will be in the hands of the Republican party; and skilful manipulation may make them advantageous to the Republican cause elsewhere. In New York there would have been no politics in these expenditures; there had even been an unjust outcry that they would be directed by Tammany Democrats; and the Republican politicians in the House could not expect to gain any partisan profit from having the Fair in this city.

We do not refer to this circumstance with any view of complaint, for when we are squarely beaten in an energetic contest we do not believe in whining about it. But while our Chicago friends are rejoicing over their victory, they ought not to be blind as regards the causes which give it to them. That, however, is of minor importance. What we insist upon, and what the whole people will insist upon, is that the Fair shall be worthy of the occasion, worthy of the country and its history, worthy of modern art and genius—a mighty, magnificent, all-embracing, splendid, and ever-memorable display of the science, the art, the invention, the industry, the education, the progress, and the resources of Humanity!

To this end the first thing our Chicago contemporaries must do is utterly to dismiss from their minds all idea of making the Fair a money-making, paying, profitable transaction. If they go in for dividends; if they expect to get back the cash they invest and more; if they manage the immense enterprise upon what are ordinarily known as business principles, they will make it mean, shameful, ridiculous, disgraceful. Here in New York we had made preparation to lose five million dollars upon the Fair; and before the buildings had been completed, supposing that the Fair had been granted to us, the guarantee fund raised by our people would have amounted to ten millions; and we make no question that it would all have been consecrated and sunk in the splendor and grandeur of the exhibition.

Now Chicago should understand that when she takes the Fair, she has got to outdo not only the great show of 1889 in Paris, but the greater show that New York would have furnished. Here on the Atlantic we have given proof of what we can accomplish in such a direction. The Centennial in Philadelphia was an immense advance upon everything that had previously been achieved in the way of international expositions; and the public of this city understood perfectly that we must not merely outdo that, but must outdo that wonderful, that well-nigh indescribable, display which so many of us went to Paris last year to examine. But for Chicago it will not be enough to rise to that high mark. She has taken the great prize away from the commercial metropolis, and she can only justify the act by surpassing not merely all that has been seen or imagined, but all that New York would have done.

We have no doubt that these ideas are already familiar to the minds of the enterprising gentlemen of Chicago who have planned and managed, and so far have carried their point in Congress. To them we are not giving any novel information. They intend that their work shall be as superb as the pretensions of the Inter-Oceanic metropolis. But there is often a lamentable gap between the programme and the performance; and we remind them now betimes that they will be held to a serious responsibility, and that they, too, must prepare themselves. They, too, must be ready to sink their five or ten millions for the glory of the country and the reputation of the town of which they have shown themselves such vehement and cocky, and also such stalwart trumpeters.

A Committee Afraid of Lawyers.

Some time ago the State Senate directed its Committee on General Laws to make an investigation of the subject of electric lighting in this city. The inquiry has begun, and the second session of the committee here in New York was held on Monday. The investigation will proceed again on Friday next.

The evidence already taken shows that from 1886 to 1889, inclusive, fifteen persons were killed by handling electric light wires in this city.

At the session on Monday the members of the committee seemed to be very sensitive on the subject of counsel. They took pains to notify two gentlemen who were present that they could not be heard if they represented any electric-lighting corporation or were interested in any such company. These gentlemen were Mr. DANIEL L. GIBBENS, who said that he appeared as counsel for certain members of the Board of Electrical Control, and Col. GEORGE BLISS, who told the committee that he had hoped to procure the attendance of Mr. THOMAS A. EDISON as a witness, but that the distinguished electrician was connected with an electric-lighting company, and would be disqualified from testifying under the rule which had been announced.

Mr. GEORGE Z. ERWIN of the Twentieth Senate district, who is the Chairman of the Committee on General Laws, declared that no counsel would be permitted to interfere. "The Senate," he said, "would not allow us counsel." He also remarked that the committee only wanted information "in the interest of the public." In response to Mr. BLISS, however, he disclaimed any idea of excluding the testimony of persons who are interested in electric-lighting companies, but added that they could not testify in behalf of their own companies. All the witnesses, including Mr. EDISON, "must confine their evidence to such matters as interested the public."

If the legislative investigation relative to electric lighting is intended to add anything to the existing general knowledge of the subject, that end will not be attained by laying down rules about counsel or witnesses which will only have the effect of hampering and restricting the inquiry. Why should the committee fear to be attended by any number of counsel, or refuse to be aided by their services in the examination of witnesses or the suggestion of questions? If the lawyers do anything to prevent the whole truth from coming out, the committee can speedily unhorse them. What difference does it make whether the witnesses testify, as Mr. ERWIN puts it, "in behalf of their own companies" so long as they tell the truth?

The way to investigate is to avail yourself of all information which is offered you from any responsible source, whether it proceeds from parties who have any particular interest to serve or not. As in a court of law, the fact that a witness is interested should be taken into consideration in weighing his testimony, but it should not operate to discredit him entirely or to exclude him from the witness stand.

A broader and more rational policy in the conduct of its inquiry must be adopted by the Senate Committee if its work is to be of any real value.

Indiana.

New York is not the only State in which there is no election of a Governor in 1890. In Indiana a Secretary of State, an Auditor, Treasurer, and Congressmen, are to be chosen, but no Governor. Indiana is no longer an October State, but the fact that this year's contest will be the first held there since the beginning of the HARRISON Administration will make the result important, in a political sense. Under the circumstances, little doubt can exist as to the rebuke which will be administered to a President who secured the electoral vote of the State by a narrow margin, through the unpopularity of the opposing candidate, rather than by any popularity of his own; and who, since his installation, has done little to justify the support of his fellow citizens.

In the election in Ohio immediately following the inauguration of R. B. HAYES, the State went Democratic by the decisive majority of 20,000; nor did the rebuke administered to the Fraudulent Administration stop there. The Democrats elected every man on their State ticket, and swept away the Republican majority in the Legislature, carrying the upper branch by a majority of 15 and the lower by a majority of 22, and preparing the way for the choice of a Democratic successor in the United States Senate to the late STANLEY MATTHEWS, who was a conspicuous feature in the HAYES fraud.

A similar result is not likely to follow in Indiana this year, though a United States Senator is to be chosen. The present Indiana delegation in the House of Representatives at Washington consists of ten Democrats and three Republicans; and the most sanguine Democrat does not expect to make a gain from these figures. The Legislature of Indiana is now Democratic, and for this reason State issues will form a part of the battle, and, it may be, the most important part. The United States Senator whose term is to expire is, like his colleague in the Senate, a Democrat, and consequently the HARRISON Administration will not alone be on trial. This year's contest is likely, therefore, to be a battle between the two parties on familiar party lines, and to turn more upon State than national questions.

The many friends of ISAAC P. GRAY in Indiana have been advocating his election to the Senate in the place of Senator VOORHEES; and this discussion must direct attention to him as a candidate for Vice-President upon the Democratic ticket, for which post he would probably have been nominated in 1888 but for the intervention of WILLIAM L. SCOTT. So far as can be observed at this distance from the election, Governor GRAY is a coming man for 1892, provided the Presidential nomination should come to the East. His defeat in his Senatorial aspirations, should he be defeated, would rather help than hinder his nomination for Vice-President.

In the next national election the electoral votes of New York and of Indiana will determine the result as surely as they have done in previous contests; and the selection of an Indiana man for the second place upon the ticket would be as natural as was the choice, in 1876 and in 1884, of THOMAS A. HENDRICKS for the same post. But from whatever point regarded, the few friends that the HARRISON Administration may have in the State of Indiana can gain small encouragement from any contemplation of the situation there. The sun of HARRISON has set in the region of the Wabash. Whether this year's contest will mark the way to a Republican awakening, or will serve rather to disclose another dawn in the hopes and aspirations of the Democracy, is the only question.

Shall the Deserters be Pardoned?

For many months a project has been on foot for the issue of a proclamation by the President pardoning deserters from the army. This movement is on the point of success, although some distrust it as misdirected philanthropy. Desertion, they say, is a very costly evil, as it requires constant recruiting to offset its drain; besides, the fugitives sometimes take arms, clothing, horses, or other Government property with them. It is demoralizing, also, because of the impunity with which it is usually committed, only a small proportion of the culprits being captured, and because of the extra work thrown on the garrisons whose effective strength is thus reduced.

The argument on the other side is that there are thousands of men at the West who, having deserted in the recklessness of youth, perhaps in some cases not wholly without grievance, have since settled down into law-abiding citizens; and that it is neither expedient nor humane to keep them under the peril or the stigma attached to desertion. Sometimes of late years the desertions have exceeded 2,500 or 3,000 in twelve months, and, as only a few hundred are caught, it does not take many years to roll up a list of tens of thousands of deserters at large. While Gen. GRANT was President an amnesty to deserters was proclaimed, and this has been made a precedent for the present demand. The view taken at that time was that it would be well to wipe old scores from the slate and start afresh. Since then, however, some years seem to have shown a still greater proportion of deserters to the whole enlisted strength. It has been estimated that the number of new cases to which the proposed amnesty would apply exceeds thirty thousand.

When the advocates of amnesty had secured from President HARRISON a favorable consideration of their scheme, the War Department officers made the point that the convicts in the Leavenworth prison, serving out sentences for desertion, were as much entitled to pardon as those who had made good their escape. It would be preposterous to hold that the heinousness of the offence had been increased by getting caught; besides, the convicts have at least paid a part of the prescribed penalty for breaking the law, while the uncaptured have paid none.

Accordingly, although this feature of the scheme did not occur to many at first, it was determined to count up the convicts and still carry on the plan. The rather startling report was made by the officer in charge of the prison that, out of 550 persons confined there, all but 28 had been guilty of desertion. This implied a sweeping jail delivery under the plan of general amnesty. It has, accordingly, been suggested that, instead of bringing the amnesty up to the date of its issue, it should be made good only for desertions up to Jan. 1, 1889, or perhaps to Jan. 1, 1888. But a desertion committed two months ago is no more of an offence than one committed two years ago, so that such a proposal looks like an excuse for keeping the Leavenworth prison running on its present scale, at whatever inconsistency. It might be simpler to release also the 28 other offenders, some of whom may have been no guiltier than the 522 deserters, or else to transfer them to State penitentiaries and close up the Leavenworth prison.

But a further examination discloses the fact that 99 of the deserters were also convicted of other offences, most of them for taking Government property off with them; and this will be a sufficient ground for holding these ninety and nine. On the other hand, the part of their imprisonment due to desertion should clearly be remitted under a general amnesty, which is the compromise likely to be reached. By the time their sentences expire there may be enough new convicts, including fresh deserters, to secure a numerous tenantry for the military prison.

While the kindly purposes of the coming amnesty are clear, it must be admitted that the Government is taking a great deal of trouble on itself in order to secure deserters of past years entire immunity from worry. The danger of recapture run by them is not very great, considering how few are caught even of those whose terms of enlistment have not expired. It may also look a little like playing at cross purposes to find bills in Congress for increasing the rewards offered for apprehending deserters, while the doors are thrown open for those already caught and confined.

The Great Religious Interest.

On Monday the Rev. Dr. PHILLIPS BROOKS of Boston began at Trinity Church a series of Lenten lectures to men. The church was crowded with a very serious audience, composed in chief part of business and professional men who escaped from warehouses and offices to spend an hour in prayer, and listen to religious discussion and admonition. Yesterday the attendance was even greater, and there is no doubt that at all these services, held in the vicinity of so great worldly activity, the venerable house of worship will be filled at midday with similar throngs.

Yet this is not a period of religious enthusiasm. There is nothing like a revival of religion in progress after the fashion of what was known as the great awakening, when midday prayer meetings in John street and Fulton street were crowded with men of affairs oppressed with a sense of sin and trembling with anxiety about their salvation. But, all the same, it is a period remarkable for the extent and earnestness of religious inquiry. The minds of the people were never before so much occupied with the subject of religion. It is the great theme of discussion. Never since the Reformation has it engaged a larger share of the public thought. Every Protestant Church is examining and testing the foundations of its theology and seeking for the reason of the faith that is in it. Of them all there is none more conservative than the Presbyterian, yet to-day it is the communion most radically affected by this new spirit of investigation. Perhaps it would not be going too far to say that the majority of Presbyterians have awakened suddenly to the conviction that they have been professing to believe what they really detest and abhor. Their theological seminaries are full of rebellion against their ancient standard of faith, and the theological professors who are most critical of it are the most popular among the students. The same is true of the Congregationalists, and a like spirit of inquiry has entered into the Baptist and Methodist bodies. In doctrinal sentiment they are very different from what they were a quarter of a century ago. The Episcopal Church is also undergoing a transformation as to belief which is none the less real because it is less apparent on the surface.

The great change which has taken place has been with regard to the doctrine of future retribution; and it has occurred within very recent years, within ten, nay, five years. There has suddenly sprung up a feeling of invincible repugnance to the doctrine of eternal damnation, a central and fundamental article of all orthodox faith and theology. The conviction that it does violence to every reasonable conception of Divine justice has spread rapidly among clergy and laity both, with the consequence of stimulating belief in a future probation that amounts to Universalism.

Of course, this implies and makes necessary a radical reconstruction in theology, and favors the way for what Prof. BUNGE of the Union Theological Seminary calls a new Reformation, when the theological foundations will be builded anew. The terrors of hell have lost their power. They are no longer preached in Protestant churches. The great missionary society of the Congregationalists is in confusion because the ablest and the most sincere of the young candidates offering themselves for heathen evangelization, are leaning toward this doctrine of future probation, which destroys the main reason for the existence of the organization. Even at the Methodist camp meetings it is the mercy and loving kindness of GOD, and not the terrors of His law, which are proclaimed.

But this discussion has awakened a new interest in subjects of religious inquiry. The Westminster Confession is no longer a book unread by the laity, and preachers who seek to adapt theology to the prevailing tone of thought, are heard with eager attention. Having lost their old faith, men are searching for a new which will justify itself to their new state of mind.

Mole St. Nicolas.

Several newspaper correspondents at Port-au-Prince, writing independently of each other, have asserted that the HIPPOLYTE Government in Hayti is about to subsidize the Clyde Steamship Company at the rate of $125,000 a year for weekly ships between Hayti and New York; and that the arrangement is to include the concession of a coaling station at Mole St. Nicolas for the exclusive use of the vessels of the Clyde line and the men-of-war of the United States.

The curious thing about these reports is that they assume as a matter of general notoriety in Hayti certain negotiations begun by the State Department at Washington, of which people here at home are still profoundly ignorant. The story, in substance, is that the HARRISON Administration has been endeavoring through Admiral GHERARDI and Minister DOUGLASS to obtain a foothold in Hayti through the concession of coaling privileges at the Mole St. Nicolas; that these negotiations have failed, possibly on account of the jealousy of French influences in the island; and that, owing to the friendly disposition of Gen. HIPPOLYTE'S Government toward the United States, there is to be a sort of compromise, the steamship company getting the concession of Mole St. Nicolas, and the United States Navy getting its coaling station, and likewise its coal, indirectly through the steamship company.

That would be a very interesting partnership, but we prefer to await more definite information before giving full credit to the stories that come from Port-au-Prince. It is proper to say that at the New York office of the Clyde line no one has been found willing to grow any knowledge of the alleged arrangement. Perhaps Brother BLAINE knows something about it. At any rate, he must know what his predecessor in the State Department tried to do or did not try to do in the way of getting possession of a coaling station of such important possibilities.

Give a Congo porter his rations of rice and dried fish and he is fully equipped for his trying marches along the river. The increasing number of negroes in the service of white enterprises on the Congo, and their large consumption of fish, have resulted in a company formed in Belgium, with $20,000 capital, to catch and dry fish on the lower Congo. Companies are constantly coming into view to carry on various industries on the Congo. Among them is the company of Congo Products, which already has a herd of 600 cattle on an island in the river and a large establishment for making palm oil; and the Society of the Upper Congo, which has just increased its capital to $600,000, and has steamers on the river and ivory selling in the Antwerp market.

THE DEMOCRATS ARE AFTER YOU, DAVID.—*New York Times.*

Correct! And they are pretty well in line; and keeping step to the music.

The struggles of foreign writers and typesetters with the English language are sometimes painful to witness. The only distinctively scientific book yet written on the Congo River was recently published in Paris. It contains the announcement that the station of Kimpoko is occupied by the "Bishon's Taylor herself supporting American Mission." A Belgian newspaper the other day printed the advertisement of an English book which, it said, contained "thersy four illustrations. Price sex shellings," and its author was the "chef editor" of a newspaper. Our foreign contemporaries seem to have been studying that valuable treatise known as "English as She is Spoke."

The Archbishop of Canterbury has taken out a license to sell beer and wine for the entertainment of the clergy of his diocese. An English Bishop said in a public address not long ago that one of his ambitions was to keep a public house. His Grace of Canterbury will now have an opportunity to show his talents as the keeper of a "pub," and doubtless his stock of refreshments will be pure.

It is said that the CASS monument, perhaps the most ludicrous of the art productions of Boston, will be removed from the Public Garden to some less frequented spot. The bottom of the Charles River is the most appropriate site for most of the public monuments of Boston; but the Lord pity the poor fishes!

As Anecdote of Sam Houston.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

Houston was beaten for the Senate by Louis Wigfall, who cut such a brilliant and yet ineffectual figure at the outbreak of the war. Old Sam Houston was asked what kind of a person this Mr. Wigfall was who had succeeded to his place. Houston said: "Gentlemen, I know him well; he is the most eloquent, brilliant d——n fool in all Texas."

When Houston had been beaten by Wigfall it occurred to Iverson of Georgia, who was not much of a man, to get up in the Senate and lacerate the old hero. He called attention to the fact that Houston had been repudiated by the people of his State, and said he hoped that would be the fate of all men who were traitors to the South.

The Senate thought nothing of Iverson, and everybody was curious to know what Houston would say. The old man sat there whittling a piece of wood with a knife. He was six feet five inches high, held himself very erect, was a remarkable actor, and always impressive when he desired to be. Hardly any body looked at Iverson, for his speech was felt to be in the light of an attack upon human nature. Sam Houston, the hero of Texas, the former Governor of Tennessee, was down, and this little fellow misapprehended the real feelings of men, and thought he had a chance to injure him.

After Iverson concluded, Houston sat still a while till he concentrated upon himself the attention of the Senate. He then rose, and, in a commonplace way, referred to his defeat. "It is true, gentlemen, that I am politically dead. There appears to be no breath in my life, as far as the public service is concerned, hereafter. The condemnation of me at the polls has been condign. I did not think, however, that after my defeat the State of Georgia would be the one to come and taunt me with my disaster."

Here he changed his manner from the simple to the impressive, and there began to be sensibilities stirred up in every one around the Senate as he continued: "Not the state of Georgia should have thought it necessary to attack me upon this floor." said Houston, "for when I was a boy I shed my blood in Georgia for the people of that state when the tomahawk and the scalping knife were raised against them. At such a battle (which he named) I was left among the slain, as it was supposed, and I always thought that Georgia at least would have some respect for my memory. But gentlemen, this is not the first time that a dead lion has been kicked in the face by the heels of a cowardly ass."

A New York Teacher Honored by the French Government.

Our distinguished French-Canadian fellow citizen, Prof. Batchelor, well known as the author of the "Practical French Instructor" and the "Pronouncer," has received the following letter from the Consul-General of France in this city:

NEW YORK, Feb. 18, 1890.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to inform you that at my solicitations seconded by Mr. Spuller, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Public Education and Fine Arts, by a decree of Dec. 31, last, has conferred upon you the palm of "officer of Academy."

I esteem myself flattered, dear sir, in having obtained for you a distinction so well earned, after long years consecrated to teaching English to our compatriots and French to Americans. Our colony, which entertains feelings of gratitude and friendship for the devotion and perseverance you have always shown in your labors, will be happy to see a French decoration on your breast.

Receive, dear sir, the assurance of my very distinguished consideration. PAUL D'ABZAC.

Every one who knows Mr. Batchelor will say that the compliment of the French Government has been most worthily bestowed.

A Neat Trick.

From the Chicago Tribune.

A pony glass of whiskey and a pony glass of water are placed side by side both glasses brimming full, and a wager made that the liquids can be made to change glasses without pouring either of them out. If the wager is accepted a thin card is placed over the glass of water, and held tightly on it while it is turned upside down and placed on top of the pony of whiskey. The card is then carefully slowed aside until one end of it is a hair's breadth beyond the rims of the glasses, and the whisky will then work itself slowly into the upper glass, the water descending to the lower. Care should be taken that both glasses are full to running over, and the card should be thin and moved aside very slightly, or the opportunity for capillary attraction, on which the perfect completion of the trick depends, will be lost.

New York's Esteem for Hill.

From the Washington Post.

"While there is considerable talk about Cleveland for the Presidency in 1892" said the Hon. T. P. Merriman yesterday, "it might as well be understood that he cannot get a member of the New York delegation to the nominating Convention unless Governor Hill gives his assent to the proposition. Our people have repeatedly shown their estimation of the Governor, and notice has been served upon Cleveland and his friends, in a manner not to be misunderstood, that this admiration is based upon a good and lasting foundation."

Can He Deny It?

From the Chattanooga Times.

We are to understand that Dr. Talmage has no answer to make to the charge that he entered into a conspiracy to deceive the public by branding—or allowing his agent and publishers to brand—as "special cables" from Palestine, Greece, &c., a string of sermons written out a month before he crossed the ocean and put in type. Well, if the Doctor sees fit to admit the truth of this indictment by "standing mute" the rest of the country can stand it, but can he survive many more similar confessions of dishonesty?

Southern California's Wonderful Climate.

From the Indianapolis Journal.

Mrs. Cordollo of Pomona, Cal., is a great-grandmother at the age of 50. She married when 15 years old, her daughter when 17, and her granddaughter at the age of 16.

A Triumph of Good Taste.

From the Philadelphia Record.

The "sickly green postage stamp" is gone, and a fresh plume waves in the cap of New York journalism.

Talent and Good Looks Not Incompatible.

From the Garden Springs Herald.

There is a girl in Caldwell who can put a whole egg in her mouth and close her mouth over it and she is not a bad-looking girl, either.

The Secret of Executive Ability at Home.

From the Atchison Globe.

The only secret that a woman should keep from her husband is that she manages him.

Blew Out the Gas.

"Is Foraker dead?"

"No, only asphyxiated. He blew himself out."

LEGISLATION AT ALBANY.

Very Little Business of Importance Transacted in Either House.

ALBANY, Feb. 25.—In the Senate to-day the Chase Registration bill went over on account of Senator Chase's absence. It comes up on Thursday, retaining its place as a special order. Senator Fassett offered a resolution on the subject, which was adopted. It requests the Commission on Statutory Revision to report a revision of the laws on registration to provide for such a system of registration in the incorporated cities and villages in this State as is now used in New York and Brooklyn.

Senator Stewart handed up a bill giving Police Commissioners authority over all special officers, to decide who may wear uniforms and badges, and making it a misdemeanor for any one to wear without authority the uniform of a policeman. This measure probably grew out of the long-standing difficulties between the New York policemen and the American District Company's door tryers, who wear helmets and blue clothes with brass buttons.

Senator Cantor introduced a bill which proposes to pension at half pay teachers in the New York public schools. Male teachers 60 years old who have taught for thirty years may be retired upon application. At 65 they may be retired by the Board of Education without making application, and at 70 the Board is required to retire them. Female teachers who have taught twenty-five years may be retired upon application at 50 years of age, at 55 without making application, and at 65 they must be retired.

Senator Brown handed up for his constituents down the bay a bill fixing the price of gas on Staten Island at $1.25 a thousand, and imposing penalties upon the gas companies when the gas isn't up to the required standard.

Senator Pease put in an amendment to the Ives Pool law extending the tax of five per cent. on the gate receipts of racing associations so as to affect all receipts from membership dues, premiums, and the sale of all privileges, from pool selling and bookmaking to peddling peanuts.

In the Assembly Mr. Haffner introduced a bill providing that the ferry rate between Forty-second street and Weehawken from 5 A. M. to 8 A. M., and from 5 P. M. to 8 P. M., shall be two cents; at other times, and all day on Sundays, five cents.

An amendment to the banking laws, introduced by Mr. Rhodes of Westchester, a banker, provides that savings banks may invest their funds in bonds of cities in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Missouri, or Colorado having more than 50,000 inhabitants, when the issue of bonds does not exceed ten per cent. of the value of taxable property, and where the city has not defaulted within ten years.

STORRS AND HIS WIFE.

He Describes Her Quite as Harshly as She Describes Him.

In Allien F. Storrs's suit in Judge Ingraham's court for separation from her husband, George M. Storrs, son of the late Emory A. Storrs, letters of the plaintiff were read yesterday to show that during the times of her husband's alleged cruelty to her she remained on affectionate terms with him. The defendant testified that he was a married man when he first became intimate with the plaintiff. His wife had procured a divorce on Oct. 4, 1884, and he had married the plaintiff the same day.

He admitted slapping his wife's face under provocation. After marriage he said they had put up at the Sturtevant House. She had said there: "Now we're married, it's awful stupid." He wanted to say a prayer that night, but she had sneered at him. He had grave doubts about the parentage of the child "Tot." He admitted writing a statement on Aug. 12, 1884, in which he avers that he had hoped to get a divorce in time to save the honor of the plaintiff and his child. He said he would take the first opportunity offered to right the wrong he had done Allien.

Concerning his famous father, he said that Emory A. Storrs had not left enough to bury him, and had to be buried by the charity of his friends. As for himself, he said: "I have nothing except this light suit, and haven't an overcoat."

Decision was reserved.

THE SYNDICATE GETS THE FERRIES.

J. S. T. Stranahan Says a Trust with Vast Schemes is Contemplated.

Messrs. H. B. Hollins & Co. have given notice to Matthew Bunker, Esq., Treasurer of the Union Ferry Company, that to-day they will transfer 5,260 shares of the company's stock. This is a majority of the capital stock, the whole number of shares being 10,000.

J. S. T. Stranahan, a director of the ferry company, said yesterday that the scheme to get control of the ferries was undoubtedly the operation of a trust which contemplated even vaster schemes than had been intimated, and the individual factors in which calculated in a few years to be rolling in wealth. But the directors proposed to fight for the interests of the stockholders and of the public. The matter of the syndicate's securing control of the company's stock Mr. Stranahan said was one of secondary importance. Such control would be gained. But there was something behind this question of stock, of which he would say nothing. The directors knew now on what stockholders they could depend. If they so desired they could wind up the affairs of the company next November, but such a step would probably be just the thing the trust would like to see, for it would give them a chance to organize a corporation on a much grander scale.

Foreign Notes of Real Interest.

A new color, amethyst mingled with gold, has been introduced into Venetian glass, and is dividing popularity with tender sea green.

It is said that the marriage of another daughter of the Prince of Wales has been arranged, and that it will be publicly announced in April.

The German Government has decided to connect Berlin with the Baltic by means of a ship canal. The work will be commenced in a few months.

The English criminal authorities are seriously discussing the advisability of adopting the French system of identifying criminals by anthropometrical measurements.

All the Czech women's associations are about to address a monster petition to the Austrian Reichsrath in favor of the admission of women students to the University.

By new regulations at the British Museum Library, recent novels are not given out to readers, and manuscripts and newspaper files can be inspected only in special rooms.

An effort is being made to bring cameos into fashion. The other evening Mme. Carnot wore a bandeau of cameos in her hair, the front of her bodice being also decorated with them.

It having come out that most of the survivors of Balaklava are now paupers, a great benefit performance is being arranged in London for the purpose of getting them out of the workhouses.

During the last seven years the land under tillage in Victoria, Australia, has increased by 1,000,000 acres, and the taxable value of country lands has increased from £10,000,000 to £20,000,000 sterling.

Ralph Disraeli, a brother of Lord Beaconsfield, has retired, at the age of 80, after fifty years of public service, from the office of deputy clerk of the Parliaments, to which he was appointed by Lord Beaconsfield.

The sudden appearance of a mouse on the floor of the English House of Commons a few nights ago upset the dignity of the eminent gentlemen near it and led to a little panic that made it necessary to drop business for a while.

Prince Albert of Monaco is said to intend to devote the $150,000 per year that he gets from the gamblers to the completion of the Cathedral and other public improvements. He is very wealthy himself and has an enormously rich wife.

"The Court Bureau, Limited," is the name of a company organized in London, under eminently respectable directorship, to act as a sort of social clearing house through which cards may be exchanged and invitations issued and received.

Dr. Roger Williams of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, has found that out of 12,936 cases in which chloroform had there been used during the past ten years, ten had resulted fatally, while there had been only three deaths out of 12,581 cases in which ether had been used.

A second consignment of nine tons of mummified cats from the great Egyptian cat cemetery has been sold at auction at Liverpool. The bulk of it brought £5 17s. 6d. per ton, but some single pieces went for fancy prices, such as 40s. 6d. for a head and 3s. 6d. for a perfect body without the head.

English stoats and weasels are being exported to New Zealand from England in large numbers to kill off the rabbits, and the rats which have been food for the stoats and weasels in England, are increasing enormously in some districts. There is talk of a movement to prevent the exportation of any more rat destroyers.

The London papers say that the contract of the English Government with Lieut. Zalinski is not for the purchase of pneumatic guns, but for the right for the Government to make the guns itself, and use them in the army and navy. Work on the guns has already been begun at the Woolwich arsenal. Fifty or sixty are to be made at once.

The German War Office has issued a general order that in future no officer is to be served before dinner at a military club with more than one small glass of spirit or liquor; and absinthe is absolutely prohibited. It has hitherto been the practice of officers to stimulate their appetites for the heavy early dinner by libations of kummel or kirsch, cognac or gin.

A YOUNG MAN'S ENTANGLEMENTS.

Attempting to Find Out Why Clayton Grumman Shot Himself.

What caused Medical Student Clayton Grumman of Rye to shoot himself Monday morning was inquired into yesterday by Coroner Mathews and a jury of seven. They met in the back parlor of the old-fashioned homestead on the Boston post road built by the suicide's grandfather, to which, as the only son of his father, he would have fallen heir. The body lay in the front parlor. Up stairs in his bedroom everything was as it was found when the door was broken in. An old-fashioned square mirror was tilted back on one chair in the corner, and opposite it stood another chair beside a reading stand on which lay an open book. It was entitled "The Spiritual Life," and a lead pencil mark surrounded this passage: "It is folly to conceal a secret from one who ought to know it, because it will surely betray itself sooner or later." On the margin were the words in lead pencil: "Were truer words ever spoken?"

Three pistols were found in the bed in which he had shot himself, but only one of them had been discharged, and that had been fired but once. The bullet had passed through the head from the right side. There were two wounds in the left side of the head. It is supposed a fragment of the skull caused the second wound in the left side. These facts were brought out by the examination of Dr. A. J. Mixsell of Rye Neck. Dr. Mixsell reinted a conversation he had with the young medical student two weeks ago. Grumman, who was only 21 years old, told him he was in trouble on account of women. He was engaged to be married, he said, to one of the nicest girls in Rye, but he had got entangled into an engagement with a New Haven girl, and he had a widow in New York who was causing him great embarrassment. He had just seen the widow and offered to settle her claims for cash, but she refused to accept his terms. The only girl in Rye to whom Grumman had been paying especial attentions is Miss Ada Pomeroy, the daughter of old Mr. Grumman's housekeeper, who owns the adjoining farm.

She is a few years older than he was. She denied on the witness stand that she was engaged to be married to the young man, or was already married. She said they were only very good friends. He had called on her constantly for more than a year, sometimes as often as three times a week, and sometimes only once a week. He had called the Sunday evening before he shot himself and stayed until 9:30 o'clock.

Old Mr. Grumman, a white-haired man of 70, said his son came home Sunday night at 10. He had never noticed any symptoms of insanity in his conduct, nor were any of the family ever insane that he had heard of. The boy had an independent income of $2,000 a year. He had been attending lectures at the Bellevue College for about five weeks. Mr. Grumman knew no possible cause for suicide.

The inquest was adjourned at 1 P. M. to get the opinion of Prof. Doremus of Bellevue College as to the young man's sanity. It will be concluded Friday at 11. Neither of the Drs. Doremus connected with Bellevue remembers Grumman.

THE LANE WILL CONTEST.

The Defence Introduces Testimony to Show that the Testator was of Sound Mind.

Yesterday's hearing in the trial of the suit to break the will of the late Maltby G. Lane was principally devoted by the defence to proving the testator's capacity for business. David Dudley Field, the first witness, remained standing while answering the few questions addressed to him, and showed few traces of his ninety years. He said that he considered Mr. Lane a good business man, and never saw anything irrational about him.

Architect Stead of Washington, who designed the Maltby house in that city, said it cost, with the land, about $116,000, and was worth $140,000. Mr. Lane had said the building would be a monument to him after his death.

James R. Brevoort said that Mr. Lane had taken care of his and his brothers' estate, and that he had no fault to find with the management. He never transacted business without consulting Mr. Lane. On cross-examination the witness acknowledged that, while Richard H. Lane was alive, the statements showing the condition of the Brevoort estate were in his handwriting, and not in that of Maltby G. Lane. He also admitted that $5,000 of the estate's money was lost through Mr. Lane's investment.

Henry Hurd, director of the Washington and Georgetown Street Railway Company, identified reports made by Mr. Lane when President of the concern, but acknowledged that only the signature was in Mr. Lane's handwriting.

J. Sergeant Cram, who is temporary administrator of the Lane estate, identified a package of documents as having been taken from Maltby G. Lane's safe in the Stuyvesant Safe Deposit Company's vaults. The package consisted of the papers in the divorce of Richard H. Lane from his first wife and some newspaper clippings containing reports of the case.

Franklin Bartlett offered the whole in evidence as proof of Mr. Lane's knowledge of the circumstances of his son's second marriage and consequent disapproval of the woman who now, as the son's widow, contests the will in behalf of her two children. The package was marked "Private papers of Richard H. Lane," and ex-Judge Curtis contended that as Richard H. Lane jointly occupied the safe with his father, these papers were not only his, as they were marked, but that there was no proof that his father had ever seen them. Judge Daly decided to defer the admission of the contents of the package until ex-Judge Curtis should have an opportunity to prove the joint occupancy of the safe.

The defence will finish to-day and the contestants will have an inning for rebuttal.

They Take No Annexation in Theirs.

OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—On behalf of the negro race in Canada, now numbering about 30,000, C. A. Johnson has addressed a memorial to Sir John Macdonald, assuring him of the unswerving loyalty of the colored population to the British Crown, in which he says: "In these times, when the question of the loyalty of the negro race is considered, I desire to inform you, as their representative, that my race views with alarm the disloyal sentiments of traitors who, in our opinion, seek to unite our glorious Dominion to the United States of America, a thing which, if allowed to occur, would bring destruction to the Dominion in any way considered. Therefore, in the name of her most gracious Majesty the Queen, we wish to inform you of our true devotion and loyalty to this Government that we, the negro race, possess, fully believing that any effort on the part of any person to bring about any means by which the Dominion of Canada would be annexed to the United States, would result most seriously to this great country of ours."

Reminiscences of Sawtelle.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I became acquainted with "the modern Cain," Isaac B. Sawtelle, in the year 1866. He then flourished under the alias of "Jim Elliott," for the reason that he was ashamed of his father "Yankee Doodle" Sawtelle, whose occupation and peculiarities were truthfully described in THE SUN. Isaac at that time was a telegraph operator, stationed at the American House, on Hanover street, Boston. He always dressed well and wore good jewelry, and generally carried diamonds, which he sold or traded as opportunity offered. He was a constant attendant at the Tremont Temple, and received his religious training at the hands of the Rev. J. D. Fulton, Jo Cook, and the other big theological guns that were in the habit of thundering forth anathemas in that famous "sermon mill." Mrs. Isaac B. Sawtelle, a beautiful and refined woman, received the most vile and outrageous treatment at the hands of her husband. In 1871 Isaac was convicted of assault on a little girl's person. I am not quite sure, but I think he was sentenced to the Massachusetts state prison for fifteen years on each of two counts in the indictment. From my observations of the man I am not surprised at his last and crowning infamy. AN OLD BOSTONIAN.

Confessions of a Stout Person.

For tariff reform clubs and picnics
I turn out letters to suit;
At various banquets and blow outs
On the trumpet of speech I toot;
I shout for the kangaroo ballot,
And Chinese reform, to boot.

The value of advertising
I perfectly understand,
I am ready to give the Mugwumps
Whatever they demand
And they love to serenade me
With their loudest brassy band.

But thoughts of renomination
Never come to me. O no!
For I know that public office
Is a burden and a woe;
Yet, if the country calls me,
Why, of course, I'll have to go.

And lest the country shouldn't call
I cast upon myself,
For though I utterly despise
All office, place, and pelf,
I find it most unpleasant
To be laid upon the shelf.

Not to address the public
Would make me feel most blue,
And I am really persuaded
By the Mugwumps' loud hurroo,
That I shall be dragged from retirement
Again in '92. G. C.

He Sticks Closer Than a Brother.

"Is John Wanamaker stuck on himself?"

"No, unfortunately John is stuck on the country."

An aggravating sore throat is soon relieved by Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, an old-time remedy for Bronchial and Pulmonary Affections.—Adv.

WHAT W