The Sun.

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A Ladies' Guild.

The Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association of Illinois is said to include four-fifths of the farming population of that State. The better half of that population, however, is not included in the association. The women folks of the farmers are left out. They have therefore formed an auxiliary organization, which they call the Ladies' Guild of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association. Membership is limited to wives, daughters, sisters, and widows of farmers. The declaration of principles has this preamble:

"*Whereas*, In times past the weaker members of the common people of the human race have suffered most from whatever injurious causes have obtained, whether oppression, tyranny, or barbarism; and

"*Whereas*, We rejoice in the progress of modern society toward the equalization of burdens and are in full accord with our fathers, brothers, husbands, and sons in their effort to secure the betterment of human conditions; and

"*Whereas*, The rigid economy and self-denial forced upon us having to begin at home, falls most heavily upon woman, the weaker; and

"*Whereas*, We deeply feel the present embarrassment, indignity, and oppression to which all laborers are subjected, and the urgent necessity for the effort for freedom from monopolistic greed, with its resultant evils, social inequality, and mental inferiority; and

"*Whereas*, The American home is the hope of the nation and woman its maker, we realize the need of the education of American women on a broader basis in the practical every-day business of life, as we do in things which pertain directly to the narrow sphere heretofore assigned to her; and

"*Whereas*, A perfect co-operation between all members of a class is necessary to the best results, and the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association having been organized for such purpose, we now believe that for ourselves self-help, through organization, is the first adequate means to be used for the betterment of our condition and the improvement of our homes."

Therefore the Ladies' Guild was organized. But there is to be no hocus-pocus about admission to it. "We detest," the declaration of principles continues, "the antiquated initiatory proceedings so common in all secret orders, and request the ladies everywhere to ignore such useless repetitions, and use instead good, fresh, educational matter." There is to be "no secret work except an admission password." The motto of the Ladies' Guild is "Our Homes Shall Bless the Land." The members will advocate equal wages for equal labor for both sexes, the use of the ballot, and everything else "that will tend to defeat the threatened decline of our civilization." The Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association is already showing its power in local elections. If the ballot is given to women, as the members of the Ladies' Guild demand, the farmers' ticket may be hard to beat.

Far better than any feminine dabbling in politics is this humane and generous purpose to which the Ladies' Guild is committed by its constitution:

"To visit the sick, help the needy, and relieve suffering as far as possible in our community.

"To encourage all good men and women in whatever line of reform in business or society they engage, and to discountenance any one given to any vice or corruption, and to assist in the education of the masses in all that contributes to human happiness."

Moreover the by-laws require that each member shall try to give at least one hour a day to careful reading, and shall help keep the farm accounts. The educational and charitable work of the Ladies' Guild ought to be useful, whether its ambition for social and political reforms is gratified or not. But why Ladies' Guild? Why not the broader and greater name of Woman's Guild?

The End of the Hemispherical Congress.

The Conference held at Washington during the past five or six months, under the auspices of Brother BLAINE and International Amity [Limited], has adjourned, and the delegates have started South on another personally conducted tour. There has been a vast deal of talk and rather more than a reasonable amount of juncade. As to whether anything has been accomplished that will count, and just what has been accomplished by the deliberations of the American delegates and the esteemed guests of the nation, people generally have a somewhat hazy idea.

The actual results of the Conference, outside of its indirect influence on sentiment and commerce, are embodied in the resolutions adopted from time to time during the session, in accordance with the recommendations of the several committees. Some of these resolutions are of minor significance. The Conference recommends, for example, the adoption of a common nomenclature for the commodities of trade between the respective countries. We do not understand that this means that there shall be a sort of Custom-House Volapük, bestowing new names upon wool, hides, mowing machines, and so forth, but only that the exact English, Portuguese, and Spanish equivalents of each article of commerce shall be ascertained and tabulated for the convenience of Custom House officers, consuls, and merchants.

The Conference also recommends the general adoption of the metric system of weights and measures; reciprocity in the matter of copyright, trade marks, and patents of invention; a general adoption of the quarantine and sanitary regulations prescribed by the International Sanitary Convention at Rio Janeiro in 1887, and now in force at most of the South American ports; that all port dues shall be merged in a single charge assessed on gross tonnage, but that war vessels, ships in distress, vessels under twenty-five tons and pleasure craft shall be exempt; and that consular fees shall be classified and made as nearly uniform as possible.

The report of the Committee on Banking calls attention to the absence of any organized system of exchanges or credits among the countries represented in the Conference, and it recommends the establishment of a great International American Bank, to be chartered by the United States Government, with branches or agencies in all of the Pan-American countries. The United States delegates are requested to ask President HARRISON to recommend to Congress a law chartering such an institution. This report of the committee, signed by Mr. HURTADO, Mr. CHARLES R. FLINT, and Mr. SALVADO DE MENDONCA, was adopted by the Conference last Monday.

The Committee on Extradition recommended the general adoption of what is known as the Montevideo treaty, accepted two years ago by the representatives of seven South American nations and now awaiting ratification. The Conference, however, passed a resolution last week recommending the Montevideo scheme to the Latin-American nations only, and advising that each of those Governments conclude with the United States special treaties as nearly uniform as possible.

The Committee on International Law, of which Mr. WILLIAM HENRY TRESCOT was a member, reported that the formulation of a code of private international law in civil and commercial matters would be too big a job for the Conference, but recommended a study of the treaties adopted at Montevideo in 1888, with a view to adhesion to the same; and the Conference adopted this report.

As to the remaining and weightier subjects considered by the Conference, the results are hardly more impressive. The Committee on Monetary Union started in with energy. By a vote of six to one it recommended an international coin or coins of uniform weight and fineness, the same to be legal tender in all of the American States. Mr. T. JEFFERSON COOLIDGE, the representative of the United States on this committee, presented a minority report, showing very clearly that the compulsory legal tender feature of the scheme was impracticable. That provision was dropped on account of the opposition of our delegates, and the resolutions finally adopted by the Conference merely recommend the appointment of a monetary commission to "consider the quantity and kind of currency, the uses it shall have, and the value and proportion of the international silver coin or coins, and their relations to gold." In other words, the Conference has settled nothing with regard to a monetary convention between the American republics.

The matter of international communication, involving the subsidy question in all of its immense importance, is also left open. In February the Committee on Railroads reported in favor of a north and south railway, connecting all or a majority of the nations represented; the appointment of an international commission of engineers to study the possible routes; that the Governments invite proposals for the construction and operation of the line, and that "a work of such magnitude deserves to be encouraged by subsidies." This is practically the Three Americas Railway, so long advocated and promoted without tangible results by Mr. HINTON R. HELPER. It is a starter for a scheme of private enterprise, if private capital sees a way to profit in the construction of a railroad from Alaska to Patagonia, let us say. The Committee on Communication on the Atlantic likewise recommended Government aid to steamship lines between the United States and ports of Brazil and the Rio de la Plata, to be subsidized in the proportion of sixty per cent. by the United States, seventeen and a half per cent. each by Brazil and the Argentine Republic, and five per cent. by Uruguay. The Committee on Pacific Communication made a similar recommendation with regard to steamship lines on the west coast, the subsidies to be apportioned according to the population of the subscribing nations. A third committee had charge of the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea; and the Conference adopted its report recommending subsidies to steamship lines in that part of our hemisphere. It may be said in a general way that the merit of all these remarks of the Pan-American Congress lies in the application; and when the application for subsidies is made to the Congress of the United States we shall see whether the Republican party will be willing to shoulder the responsibility.

As to any comprehensive system of commercial union or hemispherical free trade, the result is nil. That this would be the case has been apparent from the first. On April 10, with the dissenting votes of Chili, Paraguay, and the Argentine Republic, a report was adopted recommending that reciprocity treaties be negotiated between the several republics of North, South, and Central America, "each making tariff concessions so that the peculiar products of all of the countries may be introduced free into the others." There is also a resolution recommending the establishment of a central union bureau of information and customs statistics; something, we suppose, like the *Exarts Magazine* on a larger scale. There has been much useful discussion of the minor details of custom house administration, but the fact remains that in a broad sense the American republics have failed to get together.

The most satisfactory and probably the most important achievement of the Conference is that which provides for a comprehensive system of arbitration. The Committee on General Welfare recommended a general treaty of agreement to refer to arbitration all disputes in matters of diplomatic etiquette, territories, boundaries, questions of navigation, the enforcement, construction or validity of treaties, and all other quarrels except where the national independence of the nation involved may seem to it to be at stake. The proposed treaty is to be good for twenty years. The arbitrators chosen under its provisions may be Governments, scientific societies, public officers, or private citizens, according to the nature and size of the emergency. Arbitration is to be compulsory when this useful and truly Christian treaty has been ratified; but it is superfluous, perhaps, to add that until it has been ratified the gunpowder mills of North and South America will continue to grind out their horrid product.

This is the story of Brother BLAINE'S Columbian enterprise. It has done no harm; perhaps it will help along the millennium. We hope that the esteemed Latin-Americans who are the guests of the nation will enjoy their trip through our Southern States.

Free Trade in the Pulpit.

The Rev. H. L. SIMMONS, pastor of the First Unitarian Church at Minneapolis, preached a sermon last Sunday on "Free Trade from a Pulpit Standpoint." He told his hearers by way of prelude that "free trade was a theme which he thought it was the duty of the pulpit to take up. It was a holy cause." According to a despatch from Minneapolis printed by our esteemed contemporary, the *Herald*, "the congregation was somewhat startled by hearing free trade doctrines promulgated from the pulpit, and some of the good Republican members have not recovered from the effects yet."

There was no reason why the members of Mr. SIMMONS'S congregation should have been surprised if they knew that their pastor was a free trader. However puzzled they may be to detect the connection between free trade and the religious and ethical teaching which it is natural to expect from the pulpit, their perplexities will be solved if they would only consider that free trade to its enthusiastic votaries is a religion in itself. It is a kind of inspired political economy, a system of axiomatic truth to be accepted without inquiry and prescribed in season and out of season, and especially out of season. In the narrow view of the protectionists of Mr. SIMMONS'S congregation there might seem to be an impropriety almost scandalous in their pastor's preaching the gospel of St. COBDEN to them. They forget that what seems to them doubtful or false is to the disciples of free trade the solid truth. Moreover, as some clergymen have listened to the appeals of the civil service reformers, and preached in favor of civil service reform, and to the appeals of the ballot reformers, and preached in favor of disfranchisement, why shouldn't Mr. SIMMONS give reasons for the faith that is in him, and pound protection to the best of his ability?

There is something very fascinating about the free trade craze to those who are its victims. Why should anybody be surprised that a clergyman hard up for a subject discourses upon free trade, when there are politicians who have had an opportunity to get their eyes open and to see the world as it is and as it appears from a clergyman's study, yet who deliberately sacrifice a great political party and its noblest hopes and opportunity for public service for four years to this fetish?

But the efforts of blind politicians and doctrinaires and the sermons of gentle enthusiasts like the Rev. Mr. SIMMONS will avail nothing. Mr. SIMMONS might as well for the present preach against gravitation as against protection. Protection is no great moral truth. Its advocates do not maintain that it is infallible. But it is an economic necessity in these United States, and will be so for many years to come.

False Charges of Electoral Corruption.

Our widely read contemporary, the *Philadelphia Press*, which probably shares the earnest desire of all Republican journals in Pennsylvania for an Australian ballot law in those States which are Democratic, and their equally earnest opposition to its adoption in those States which are Republican, makes a very sensible comment upon the recent Rhode Island election:

"Rhode Island has long had the reputation of being the most corrupt State, politically, in the Union. If statements made by Rhode Island papers and stories current elsewhere are to be believed, about one tenth of the vote of the State is purchasable. But the poll of the recent election hardly bears out these assertions. As the Democrats were asserted to be the sellers and the Republicans the buyers of votes, the Democratic vote under the Australian system ought to have shown a large increase this year. The fact that it did not, proves that the suffrage in Rhode Island is not so corrupt as has been charged, or that Democrats vote the Republican ticket without being paid for it."

This is a simple statement of the facts. It is worthy of attention on account of the charges often made, but never sustained, of wholesale corruption in our elections. There is no more fraud or corruption connected with the exercise of the elective franchise in the United States than is incident to any other pursuit or proceeding in which so large a number of men engage. In times of great political excitement, it is customary for heated partisans, surcharged with zeal and enthusiasm, to accuse their opponents of the lavish and unauthorized use of money to carry an election. Such charges made at every important contest during the political history of the country have come to be expected as a matter of course. When an election is over, especially if the contest has been close, some of the defeated party are apt to continue these assertions. But when rancor has been taken from defeat by the lapse of time, and men are again brought face to face with the truth, it is seen and admitted that there is not, and never was, any substantial ground for such accusations.

If it establishes nothing else, the result of the Rhode Island election certainly proves that no such corruption has existed among the voters of Rhode Island. And as no cause exists for the adoption of any new, cumbersome, and unsatisfactory system of voting in Rhode Island, where the evil of corruption was said to be greatest, there can be no possible justification for its introduction elsewhere. For many years the so-called Democratic leaders in Rhode Island were quoted as declaring that all that stood in the way of their party's success was its inability to cope with the Republicans in the expenditure of money. The truth was, that what the Democrats suffered from in Rhode Island was not the bribery of dishonest electors, but the disfranchisement of honest ones who were deprived of voting by the property qualification which formerly existed. When that property qualification was swept away by an amendment of the Constitution, the State became Democratic. It would have continued Democratic, by a large and probably increasing majority, but for the introduction of the Australian system, which has deprived the Democrats of the full fruits of manhood suffrage which they had so long battled for, and has furnished their Republican opponents with an easy method of regaining the State.

Because allegations of vote purchase have been freely made is no sufficient reason why they should be seriously regarded until they are proved. In the city of New York to-day, as always, those districts form the stronghold of Democracy which are inhabited by workingmen and by those not rich or prosperous, who might, on that account, seem less likely and less able to withstand the temptation of a bribe. Enormous campaign funds, we are told, are raised at every Presidential election by certain Republican leaders. There is, we are informed, a deluge of dollars, submerging the independence and stifling the convictions of thousands of voters. But the fact is that no election in the city of New York was ever changed by the use of money on election day. It is quite true that whenever the Democratic party has been diverted from the advocacy of its cherished principles, and reluctantly compelled to go to a museum of anatomy, or a menagerie of political freaks, for its candidate for an important office, and to assume the burden of applauding policies which are foreign to the wishes of its voters, there has been a falling off in the Democratic strength in populous localities, but only from such candidate, and not from others running, as Democrats, upon the same ticket and upon the same day.

If by the use of money the Republican managers could change the result of an election in this country, undoubtedly the Southern States would furnish a fair field for such illicit investment; but to the great credit of the voters of the South they have never been swerved from their Democracy, since the war, except by force: never by corruption. It is equally to the credit of the Democrats of the Northern States, displaying as they do their greatest strength in those localities where the population is dense and the battle of life keen and constant, that they have never been affected by the unauthorized use of money to an extent sufficient to change a result. The great and overwhelming body of American voters are honest and incorruptible. It is the defeated and discredited candidates who, beaten in an honest race, manufacture the monstrous excuse that they were beaten by the use of money, and thus unconsciously ratify the justice of the verdict which their fellow citizens have passed upon them.

A Sweeping Change in the Law.

An important change in the law of evidence is proposed in a bill now before the Legislature of this State, which appears to have been favorably reported from the Judiciary Committee of the Senate as long ago as the 7th of February, but the text of which has only just come to our notice.

The first section of this bill provides that testimony once given upon the trial of a lawsuit or other legal proceeding can be used and given in evidence on any subsequent trial of the same matter; and the third section gives the same effect to testimony used under the provisions of the act as the oral testimony of the witness would have before the same tribunal.

The result of this legislation would be that upon the second trial of any case either party could read the evidence of any witness who had testified upon a previous trial, instead of calling the witness, putting him on the stand, and making him tell his story in the presence of the court and jury. A privilege of this sort would be of great advantage to any litigant whose case depended upon the testimony of a witness whose personal appearance and demeanor were such as to produce an unfavorable effect. It would also enable a party whose witness had escaped with a very mild cross-examination on the first trial, from exposing him to the danger of a more severe cross-examination on the second trial.

We believe that cases ought to be tried and decided, so far as possible, upon the oral testimony of witnesses given in open court, instead of upon their written depositions. A distinguished Judge once said that all witnesses look alike in affidavits. The privilege of reading testimony given on a prior trial now exists in the case of witnesses who have died; but it ought not to be extended, as this bill proposes, so as to embrace the testimony of all former witnesses, whether living or dead.

We are surprised that such a measure should have received the approval of a committee presided over by so sagacious and able a lawyer as WILLIAM H. ROBERTSON.

The Struggle Begins.

To-day the national business of fighting for base ball championships begins in full earnest, with a double rank of players where in previous years there has been but one. Besides the National League we have the Players' League, a doubling up of forces on the same field which must bring an entire disarrangement, redistribution, and apportionment of individual honors and public attention.

It would, perhaps, be too much to say that the appearance of two organizations, each of the biggest calibre, would halve the interest that was once given to the old clubs, but it will come very near it. Between the two leading associations of last year, the League and the Association, there was no rivalry. Now the National players and the Brotherhood players must, fortunately or unfortunately, strive for glory on substantially the same ground; and the enormous public interest that centred upon the doings of the old clubs must for the present be split between the two leagues, with the result that so long as both remain in the field all chance of the season ending with a satisfactory championship is gone. There will be an amount of good ball playing to exceed anything yet known, but it will no longer supply the great attraction of conclusively assigning the honors of the year. There will no longer be any supreme honors, so we must look for a decline of interest in the success of this or that club, and an increase in the attention given to individual skill at the game. The other country of great athletics, England, has a magnificent league for her national game, in the cricket elevens representing the various counties. They make the most undisputed and best of rivalry for keeping national interest in the sport at the sharpest point, but we have now in base ball just what she would have if another set of county clubs should suddenly be put in her fields to claim the honors that had been held for the organization already established.

Apart from this consideration, it is a case of the fewer the better fare, but the more the merrier. There are more high salaries for more players. New York has two grounds instead of one, with a proportionate increase in the number of good seats. The best of ball should be seen on both. The Brotherhood organization, we believe, still presents enough of the principle of co-operation to make theirs an interesting experiment, though scarcely enough to justify the sly capitalists behind it in permitting it to be paraded as peculiarly the guardian of labor. Nor is there as yet any championship of the Players' League or any greater right of the New York Players to call themselves "The Only Champions" than a retired pugilist would have to call himself champion after he had left the title and the ring.

On the whole, however, the great ball-seeing public can wish both leagues luck. And if there is any justification for backing probabilities, the outcome of the season for 1890 may be set down as this: The championship of the National League will belong to New York, and the championship of the Players' League will belong to New York also. In the language of the technical turfman, we shall win the double event.

Consider the way of a man whose honesty is not sham, and whose patriotism is not humbug. At the present moment the entire press of the United States is united in declaring with an almost vociferous accord how great a patriot and how incorruptible a man was SAMUEL J. RANDALL.

Yet no one ever heard RANDALL prate of his honesty, or pretend that his patriotism was of a superior sort to any one else's.

He had the true and only style of honesty. There was no fraud in SAM RANDALL.

Here is a question which frequently presents itself:

"A bets B that the son of an American Minister born in a foreign country during the time his father was serving his country as an accredited Minister to a foreign court, is eligible to the office of President of the United States. B bets he is not, as the Constitution says that a person must be a native-born citizen to be eligible to the office."

Congress has passed an act according to which the son of an American born abroad under the circumstances specified by our correspondent, is declared to be American born, and to enjoy the same rights and privileges as if he were actually a native of this country. But it is by no means certain that this law is valid. There has never been a judicial decision on the subject, and as it is not probable that any party will ever nominate a candidate whose right to take the office would be subjected to question after his election, it is not likely that the doubt will very soon be removed.

Our correspondent will see, accordingly, that neither party can be said to win the bet.

Going Back on Democracy.

From the Chicago Herald.

The intimations which Gov. Boies of Iowa threw out in his inaugural address two months ago that he was not a regular Democratic Governor, and which we commented on at the time as auguring no good have now been explained. The Governor's face is turned away from the people who elected him.

If there was any one service that the party had a right to expect of Gov. Boies and of the Democrats in the Iowa Legislature it was a correction of the present infamously unjust apportionment of the State. But in this most vital measure of all, the Democratic Governor and members of the Legislature have disappointed the party hope. At the last moment the Democrats ignominiously abandoned their own bill for a reapportionment and accepted that of the Republicans, which makes matters no better than they are now. The excuse they give is that Gov. Boies could not be counted on to sustain them by calling an extra session. To which we have to say that in that case, they should have done their own duty as Democrats, and left the disgrace of timidity and treachery to the party entirely on him.

One of Randall's Memorable Utterances.

From the Boston Transcript.

It was to Mr. Reed that Mr. Randall made that famous remark, nearly two years ago, that secured unity in the Democratic party. One morning, at the most critical stage of the session, with the Presidential Convention almost at hand, and the party apparently hopelessly divided, Mr. Reed asked sarcastically, "Which wing of the Democratic party will be in power to-day?" Mr. Randall, pale and ill, but determined, was in his place, and, with his old vigor, shouted, "Both wings of the party will flap together soon enough for you." A roar went up from the floor and the galleries.

A Wise Course.

"I fell over the rail," said the sailor, "and the shark came along and grabbed me by the leg."

"And what did you do?"

"I let him have the leg. I never disputes with a shark."

PICTURES AT THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN.

First Notice.

Good portraits do not abound in the sixty-fifth annual exhibition of the National Academy of Design. Especially rare are those which are interesting, both as renderings of individual character and as pictures. Chief among these last, perhaps, is Mr. Dewing's charming little three-quarter length of a lady standing against a dark blue background (No. 493). In treatment it is somewhat unlike his small portraits of former years. There is not as much pure pleasure in seeing how the effect has been reached, but perhaps there is still more interest. The artist seems to have searched a good deal; but it was worth while searching to be able to present so dignified yet graceful a figure, so attractive and individual a head, and so pleasing a scheme of color.

Yet above this, for the qualities of pure portraiture, one might easily rank Mr. Kenyon Cox's full-length life-size figure of little Roger D. (No. 447). How the subject of a portrait should be seen by the painter is a most interesting question. Should he be posed, or "caught in the act?" And if posed, should he show that he is conscious of the fact, or appear occupied with very different ideas? Of old the first alternative was almost universally preferred. In our own day the genre-like or anecdotal portrait, embodying some incident, or at least the casual attitude such as a snap camera might catch, is often chosen, and most often, perhaps, when children are the sitters. Mr. Cox clings, however, to the good old path, and amply justifies his choice. His youngster stands very firmly on his feet, in an attitude which is quite natural to youngsters, yet deliberate enough for pictorial dignity; and he evidently knows he is looked at. The head could hardly be more lifelike. Its treatment is more generalized, perhaps, than the eye of the average visitor demands, but here, as in the general conception of the work, we feel that a serious interest has lain behind the painter's skill.

Much fault will doubtless be found with the green tones in the face of the young girl whom Mr. Bunker has painted (No. 303) standing at full length in a thin black evening dress. In truth, it is hard to decide just why they were there, or why the painter liked to paint the head under such conditions. But, apart from this problem, the portrait is a good one. Here again we find those most desirable of all qualities, dignity and refinement, and a vigorous as well as skilful brush has revealed them. There is less refinement, technically speaking, in Mr. Chase's portrait of a gentleman with a blond beard (No. 345); but it is brilliantly done, and the figure, if not very interesting, has a convincing air of veracity. There is more of the quality of interest in the same painter's full figure of a little girl with a curious shock of black hair, and a gay, Spanish-looking costume (No. 475). The head is admirably vivid and solid; and if the rest of the figure seems a little slighted by comparison, we can remember a time when the converse was apt to be true; and certainly a painter is advancing who once seemed to care most for the accessories in a portrait, and now cares most for the head. Mr. George Butler's rendering of Mr. Marquand's well-known figure (No. 434) is refined and pleasing. Mr. Fowler sends a vigorous study of a fellow artist (No. 534), and Mr. Collins a portrait of a gentleman (No. 421) which is better in character, apparently, than in treatment or color. Mr. Tarbell's "Girl with a Violin" (No. 279) belongs in the class of genre-like portraits, although it is a reticent and wholly tasteful example of its class. The figure is about half life size and three-quarters length, seated with the head in profile, and the low-necked dress is black. Character is suggested with great delicacy, and the general effect is harmonious and agreeable. In the same class, but once more a quiet example, is Mr. Benson's "Girl in White" (No. 458), another rather small figure, standing by a table and a jar of yellow daffodils, with a light blue shawl in her hand. Here we have a very generalized kind of treatment, the sort that goes for the moment under the name of "impressionist," but the rudeness so often combined with such treatment is here replaced by a delicacy that almost oversteps the limits of weakness. Still, this weakness permits of charm, and, especially when young ladies are portrayed, charm is, perhaps, preferable to vigor, if both cannot be had together. Of course, both can be had together, but not as yet from Mr. Benson's brush. Yet there is more force in his other portrait, a profile view of a young girl with a red shawl about her shoulders (No. 72). Composition has been so little studied in this case that the work seems a sketch rather than a picture, but it has interesting points. Mr. Robert Reid's head (No. 295), another study, should not be overlooked, nor Mr. Lockwood's little figure of a man in evening dress with a cigarette (No. 426), which is clever, and has a good deal of character. Pleasing in character and attractive in the treatment of light is Mr. C. Y. Turner's little genre portrait called "Interested" (No. 642), where a girl in green sits with an open book on a red divan. Mr. Dolph's "Sir Kitten" (No. 516) is a true portrait of a truly delightful little Tom. A number of big and showy portraits of ladies gorgeously attired make, of course, instant demands upon the visitor's admiration; but not one where millinery is prominent is successful, as we remember, even as a picture of millinery. We are almost driven to look with respect, by comparison, on sundry old-fashioned men and women portrayed in the old, artless, ante-bellum, academic way.

Figure subjects are comparatively frequent this year, and there is a satisfactory number which deserve at least a little examination. Much more than this is deserved, however, by Mr. Millet's "Antony van Corlear, the Trumpeter" (No. 468), or a more conscientious, sincere, skilful, and agreeable piece of painting does not ornament the walls. For once, Mr. Millet has left the eighteenth century and the English soil, gone further back in time, and crossed the ocean to give us an illustration of one of Irving's famous Knickerbocker scenes. This is a picture in the true sense, gaining an added interest from its title, but clear and interesting enough without it. One does not need to know just who this jovial, rotund, and rubicund trumpeter is to see the artist's intended point. The attitudes and faces of the women who gather about him, and his own half-fatuous smile, would tell their story even without the presence of the other individual, who sits solemnly smoking by the fire-side, ostentatiously indifferent to the folly of the women. It need hardly be said that the picture is carefully composed, excellently drawn, and ably painted; but its strength of tone and the agreeable quality of its color, culminating in the orange-colored doublet, which we fancy the girls admire almost as much as its Falstaffian wearer, are points of equal consequence. The most interesting point of all, however, technically speaking, is the illumination of the canvas, light falling clear from the window, and being also cast by the fire which lies out of sight beyond the frame to the left. As so careful a painter can put in nothing without due warrant, the odd-looking map on the wall which seems to represent no known country will doubtless excite comment. It is a map of Antony's "old country," with the eastern side turned where the northern should be, after a fashion common in our ancestors' days.

Very different from this picture, but excellent, too, is Mr. Maynard's "In Strange Seas" (No. 560), where a group of mermaids are disporting in the foreground of a vividly blue summer sea while a huge galleon towers in the distance. Mr. Maynard has painted similar themes before, but never so successfully. Of course the scheme is artificial throughout; one does not imagine mermaids in a realistic sea; but given the standpoint of pure fantasy, everything holds together, and the effect is true and genuine. As a piece of color, decoratively considered, the picture is very attractive. One may not care most for subjects of this sort, but there is a place in art for them, and it is a pleasure once in a rare while to see it adequately filled.

If we turn from this to Mr. Henry Oliver Walker's No. 485 we shall see the most perennial, the most universally acceptable of all subjects treated with freshness of feeling and much charm of manner. This "Mother and Child" are not duplicates of any of the thousands we have seen before, but are individual, as well as interesting and pleasing. Refinement of type, of sentiment, of color and handling go hand in hand to produce an effect which, had it a trifle more vigor, would be wholly satisfactory. Yet we may say once more, art is wide, and perhaps it is wrong always to be asking for vigor on canvas. Grace and gentle sentiment and nice workmanship suffice in a lyric or an idyl in words; why not in an idyl in paint? Something the same may be said of Mr. Low's circular picture (No. 427), called "Love Disarmed." Here is another world-old subject, "Venus Disarming Cupid," painted with more delicacy than force. But here, as was not the case with Mr. Walker's work, the aim is primarily decorative. It has been well realized, and if the Venus is more like a well-bred modern woman and the Cupid like a pretty modern child, the fact is not emphasized so as to injure the purity and charm of the result, and doubtless adds to its piquancy and individuality. So far as our memory serves, it is the most successful picture that Mr. Low has recently exhibited.

LOVE AND MANHOOD.

Mrs. Frank Leslie Explains Her Views in Some Particulars.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN: *Sir*: Will you allow me to explain in your columns the passage in my paper upon "What I Would Do were I a Man," which seems a little to have shocked your sense of propriety, and to have so puzzled some one in Bridgeport that I am inclined to quote for his benefit Goethe's lines:

"Fools from their folly 'tis hopeless to stay:
Mules will be mules by the law of their nature;
So be advised, and leave fools to their foolishness;
What from an ass can we get but a bray?"

The simple explanation of my statement that if I were a man I would "make love" to two or three women in a manner less coarse and less commonplace than men make it, is that I was thinking of different epochs of life and different modes of manifesting admiration at different stages of one's experience of it.

I do not suppose that any man with a character for veracity to maintain will pretend that he has never been in love more than once in his life; and few women would wish to confess that their attractions had been so unappreciated that no more than one man had acknowledged their power.

A man makes love to a woman during the summer at a watering place, and in the autumn they part. A tender memory remains and they quote Whittier to the effect that "it might have been," and as neither of them is dead there is no occasion to unpeace one another. So the Bridgeport man's question is answered.

If, however, the quotation means more I will refer to a suggestion further on in my little paper:

"I would never let any woman know me for just what I was by nature."

Probably the person referred to neglected to adopt this suggestion.

But, after all, if I became a man, I should probably sink to the level of other men in these matters, and should, as they almost universally do, make love to as many women at a time as I could get to listen to me; and I should not know any more than the average man does that all these women laughed at me behind my back, and while I flattered myself with the idea of being very deep and Don Juanish, I was only a feather-headed shuttlecock flung from one battledore to another.

If I were different from this, I should not be a man, and so cannot tell what I might do. I suppose a being with a woman's intuitions, delicacy, and adaptiveness, combined with man's freedom, opportunities, and aggressiveness, would be quite "too bright and good for human nature's daily food," and will not be seen around here just yet; and my notions of educating the rougher sex into some of the attributes they lack are much dampened by perceiving that they cannot even understand my gentle hints, but insist upon reading into them a meaning so purely masculine that I can only console myself with my Goethe, and give up any attempt to "paint the lily and adorn the rose," or to convince man that there are about him points susceptible of improvement. Yor, truly yours,

FRANK LESLIE.

THE MAJOR-GENERAL COMES.

They Didn't Expect Him So Soon and the How-d'ye-do's Came Late.

Major-Gen. Clive Justice, commanding Her British Majesty's forces in the West Indies, is in town, on his way home for a visit. He called on Major-Gen. Howard at Governor's Island yesterday, and was no doubt surprised and dumfounded for a short time at the sort of reception he got. It is military courtesy for an officer of commanding rank to notify a port in advance when he expects to make a visit and for the post to turn out on his arrival and salute him with a cannonade. This ceremony is very carefully observed when high officers of a foreign power visit a military post. Gen. Justice had every reason to expect such a reception yesterday, for he telegraphed Gen. Howard in the morning that he would arrive at noon. Gen. Justice was accompanied by Gen. A. J. Smith and ex-Gov. Long. They were in plain clothes. Nobody recognized them at the ferry at this end or on the boat, and when they reached Governor's Island no attention was paid them by the few soldiers and officers standing around. The place was same as when they reached the top of the hill the green was deserted. About the only person in sight was Major Tully McCrea, commander of the post, and he passed by without so much as looking at them. Presently the ferry boat went puffing off and the British general was left alone with his two friends.

It was nearly half an hour before they were discovered, and then there was a time. Gen. Howard and other officers apologized profusely. Gen. Wingate rounded about 50 men and he hurried to the barracks and turned out all the men who could be got at half a minute's notice—about fifty altogether. Capt. Morris marched them hastily to the field battery, and while the visitors stood near first thirteen guns in Gen. Justice's honor. Major McCrea bit his lip, but protested that he could not be expected to recognize a British officer in the person of an undistinguishing looking man in civilian's clothes standing under a tree. Gen. Justice was urgently entreated to the quarters offered him. Gen. Howard had received his telegram, but as the change in the immigrant barges from the Battery to the Barge Office had disarranged the Governor's Island Ferry, he had telegraphed Gen. Justice not to come until half-past 1 o'clock when the ferry would be working smoothly. Gen. Justice did not get that telegram.

AN INTERESTING MEDICAL CASE.

Brief Comments by Scientific Observers.

From the Albany Journal.

Mr. Cleveland may yet become famous in medical history.

From the Washington Post.

If the Schweninger system of fat reduction fails to produce the desired result the ex-President might as a last resort come to Washington and try the boarding house treatment.

From the Philadelphia Times.

If Grover Cleveland goes on gaining twenty-five pounds a month by the time the next Presidential campaign comes around he will be a good man weighing about a thousand pounds.

From the Boston Herald.

NEW YORK, April 16.—Mr. Cleveland's obesity is provoking as much discussion here just now as the ex-President's chances for another nomination for the Presidency provoked a few months ago. In fact, Mr. Cleveland's weight is now more of a subject of controversy than his political future. It is well known that he is very stout, and that instead of allowing for diminution in his weight there has been a steady taking on of flesh ever since his retirement from office.

A Vow for His Colt's Sake.

From the Spirit of the Times.

ST. LOUIS, April 12.—Mr. T. Tracey has a George Kinney 2 year-old which he has named St. Leo, and, in order to start the colt auspiciously on its racing career, he has vowed to the church of St. Leo in this city, to give it the whole of the first maiden purse the youngster wins. The Tracey vow of a purse, as well as an altar cloth, vowed by Mrs. Tracey, must be looked upon as being an unfair and unusual mode for one horseman to adopt in order to get the better of his brethren.

A Reasonable Request.

"I have one last request to make," remarked the trout, as the fisherman carefully removed the hook.

"Name it," said the fisherman.

"It is that you will not refer to me as a 'speckled beauty.'"

An opportune friend will be found in Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant when racked by a severe cold and the many lung or throat affections which sometimes follow. This old remedy has met the approval of two generations, and is to-day as popular, safe, and effective as ever.—Adv.

THE MANIA FOR MONUMENTS.

Congress Finds No End to the Invitations to Erect Them at Public Expense.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The latest contribution to the numerous projects for expending the surplus on statues and monuments comes from Senator Squire, who proposes that $100,000 shall be devoted to an equestrian effigy of Grant at the national capital. In the last Congress somebody wanted a bridge built across the Potomac, which was to be called a Grant memorial bridge; but the new Senator from the far Northwest, in proposing to add to the remarkable collection of marble and bronze horses and their riders at Washington, at least contemplates a less expensive structure than the bridge.

A tribute to Columbus at Washington, to include not only a statue but a building, whose foundations are to be laid in 1892, is another recent project. In Mr. Morrill's version of the plan, for there are several, the image of the great discoverer is to be of bronze, and the naval monument is to make way for it, going to a new site. Another costly proposal of this sort is the erection of a Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park, by an appropriation from Congress, in honor of the first century of American independence. Mr. Grout of Vermont has presented a bill to erect a centennial monument to our national existence. A $100,000 monument for which something can be said is the one which it is proposed to erect at old Fort Greene, in Brooklyn, in honor of the victims of the Jersey and the other British prison hulks of the Revolution, that used to be moored in the Wallabout below. These victims, with those of the other New York military prisons, numbered more than all the patriots that died on all the battlefields of the war. And yet it must not be forgotten that the Tammany Society long ago erected a fine monument to their memory in New York. The fact is that a completely neglected subject for a really important monument is hard to find nowadays, so that the Committee on the Library has a genuine sensation when it stumbles upon one. The proposed Grant monument, for example, must take into account the one proposed in New York, and the Philadelphia Memorial Hall cannot ignore New York's Memorial Arch.

However, the Revolutionary field is still worked over with diligence, and some subjects are still found there in which new monuments and statues will not be simply other bronzes added to those already rendered. Such is the battle of Point Pleasant, which, to be sure, preceded the Revolution a little, but is allied to its era and asks a monument. The Senate has passed a bill to contribute $25,000 to a monument for the battlefield of Trenton, provided the local association raises as much. A like bill is pending to put a monument on the battlefield of Princeton. Senator Daniel of Virginia, who makes rather a specialty of such matters, has a bill appropriating $10,000 for a statue of Patrick Henry, to be erected in Charlotte county of that State, and another bill of $25,000 for a similar contribution to the monument at Fredericksburg to Mary Washington, the mother of the first President, which has been unfortunately mixed up with a very bitter suit at law. South Carolina's desire to have Revolutionary memorials on her soil, too, has been heard from, one being to the field of Guilford Court House, from which he was obliged to retreat, but not without inflicting severe loss on Cornwallis, and the other to Brig.-Gen. Davidson, who was killed while commanding her militia at Cowan's Ford. Then there is a bill for a monument to Gen. Knox, to be erected at Thomaston, not that he fought any battles there, or even that he was born there but on the ground that there he died and was buried.

To go back once more, however, at the Revolutionary monument bills, the story becomes a long one. Mr. Moffitt proposes to erect a memorial to