The Sun.

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## How the Force Bill Affects New York.

The enactment of the Force bill would take from the Empire State a power and a right which it has exercised for a hundred years, namely, the right and power to supervise its own elections of Congressmen and to certify the results.

The destruction of local self-government having been to this extent effected, the control of our elections would pass into the hands of political judges and partisan adventurers, irresponsible to the people of New York and beyond the reach of our ballots, our courts, and our processes of law.

The name of Returning Board has become odious enough, in all conscience, to a liberty-loving people; but the Returning Boards of the 1876 type in Louisiana and Florida were respectable and legitimate as compared with the Federal despotism which the Force bill seeks to establish. The former, infamous as they were in their operations, were at least created by the States themselves and under the control of the people of the States. The new Federal Returning Board in New York could no more be reached by the votes of the citizens on whom the Force bill fixes its tyranny than the Third Section of the Administration of the Russian Czar.

The principal Federal despot thus established in New York would be JOHN I. DAVENPORT. He would control the entire machinery of the Congress elections in this State. He would be responsible to no authority on earth save the secret caucus of the Republican party managers, and, to a certain extent, the Republican Judges invested with political authority by the Force bill. He would hold office for life. No power in New York could remove him. To render him still more independent of the freemen over whom he is to be set, he is provided with unlimited funds from the national Treasury by a permanent appropriation, like the appropriation for the interest on the public debt. His requisitions for cash must be paid on demand without delay, so long as he has secured for his account the approval of a partisan Republican Judge, like himself appointed for life.

So Federal despotism in New York would be self-sustaining, self-renewing, self-perpetuating. It would be an autonomy, vested in JOHN I. DAVENPORT. Once fastened upon our people, no majority, however overwhelming, could shake him off. New York might return a majority of two hundred thousand for the Democratic candidate for President, her electoral votes might send Democrat after Democrat to the White House, her Legislature might elect Democratic Senator after Senator, and still JOHN I. DAVENPORT would be there, with his iron cage, his house to house searches, his arbitrary arrests of Democrats on any pretext, however flimsy, that might prevent the casting of a Democratic vote for Congressman on election day. DAVENPORT would be there to see to it that the House of Representatives remained Republican, no matter what else might change; and there he would remain in the despotic exercise of his powers, unrestricted save by the limits of his own partisan audacity and capacity for evil, until it pleased GOD, in His infinite mercy, to remove him from the face of the earth.

Such is the direct concern which the people of New York have with the gallant resistance which the Democrats of Congress are making to the attempt to pass the Force bill. The Republican scheme of revolution and usurpation threatens the South direly; but it threatens Manhattan Island also, and not the less; and every Democrat in New York should understand the importance of upholding the Democratic Senators in their patriotic fight, under Senator GORMAN's leadership, against heavy present odds.

## The Master and His Pupil.

The decision in the heresy case of the Rev. HOWARD MACQUEARY has not yet been rendered by the ecclesiastical court, and the questions involved are so important to the Church that it is not likely to be promulgated before several weeks.

The heresy of Mr. MACQUEARY seems to have been proved beyond doubt, if his denial of the virgin birth of JESUS and of the resurrection of the body is contrasted with the declarations in the formal creed of the Church and with the spirit and actual utterances of many of the collects. But he contends that as the Bible is the supreme test of faith, the court must interpret the creed by its teachings, which bear more than one construction. His own construction may be different from that of many or most of the clergy, but it is reached in accordance with the principles of Biblical criticism, inculcated and defended by Prof. BRIGGS, and indirectly sustained by Bishop POTTER in his commendation of the Presbyterian theologian.

The court, therefore, has before it this whole method of Biblical criticism to discover whether it is consistent with the faith of the Church. As defined by Prof. BRIGGS, it proceeds on the theory that the test of divine inspiration is the truth of the utterances of the Scriptures. The old belief that the very language was inspired and dictated by GOD to human penmen, he dismisses as mere superstition, or Bibliolatry, as he terms it. The divine authority, he teaches his Presbyterian pupils, "is not in the style or in the words, but in the concept," or what is conceived by the mind. Hence he brings in man's reason to determine whether there be inspiration from GOD. If what is said is true, it is inspired; if it is not true, it does not come from heaven.

In other words, if we follow the precepts of Prof. BRIGGS, the Bible is to be examined and criticised like any other book of religion. He does not hesitate to teach that while it contains inspired truths, it also contains unexplainable errors. He makes of it a fallible book, instead of the wholly true and awful Word of GOD. The revelation of the Almighty he finds not in the Bible merely, but also in the Church and in the reason. He gives the reason the right to separate the chaff of human error from the wheat of divine truth and authority.

Hence he rejoices at "the age of rationalism, with all its wonderful achievements in philosophy," since it is "preparing men to use their reason" for this critical purpose. Neither is it surprising that he looks forward so confidently to "a happy reconciliation" between faith and reason, though he would have defined this outcome more correctly if he had called it the surrender of faith to reason. No scientific skeptic asks for more than a rationalistic judgment of the Bible on its merits solely, and not as a book singled out as beyond human criticism because it is the Word of GOD, and therefore of indisputable authority.

This view of Biblical criticism is not new with Prof. BRIGGS. It is borrowed from the German school of Biblical critics who have arisen of recent years, and whose principles of exegesis, interpretation, and analysis have been followed by Mr. MACQUEARY in his study of the Scriptures. He seems even to be a more conservative believer in inspiration than many of the rest of the clergy. He does not go so far in the work of undermining the ancient faith as Prof. BRIGGS goes, probably because he has not the coolness and certainty of the scholarship of the other. Yet Bishop POTTER himself declares that in honoring Prof. BRIGGS the Presbyterian Theological Seminary "has given all reverent and earnest students a new pledge of the large wisdom and courageous fidelity with which it will continue to administer a great and sacred trust."

Thus we see that in trying Mr. MACQUEARY the ecclesiastical court at Cleveland, to use the words of an Episcopal clergyman writing upon his case, was really trying "a school of thought supported by an illustrious company of clergymen." It cannot condemn him without condemning them; and if he is driven from the Church, they ought to follow. As compared with them, he is small and feeble. Punishing him would be like whipping a pupil for following the instructions of a master whose wisdom he had been taught to reverence.

## Chili.

The precise causes and aims of the present insurrection in Chili have not yet been made known to us. To those, however, who are conversant with the political arrangements of that country, the wonder is that a revolution did not break out long ago. It was to be expected, too, that the movement for reform, whenever it should be started, would find conspicuous supporters among the naval officers, who, as a rule, are well educated and have had opportunities of learning in the United States and elsewhere what republican government really means.

What our citizens understand by republican institutions is a system based on universal suffrage, which provides sufficient safeguards for local self-rule. Of such a scheme democracy and decentralization are the corner stones. We do not consider France the right type of a true republic, because it is intensely centralized. Neither should we deem the term democratic republic fairly applicable to a country where the franchise is confined to those possessing property qualifications. In both of the fundamental features which distinguish our system Chili is lacking. The suffrage is restricted, and there is scarcely a semblance of local self-administration. Under the Constitution of 1833 the law-making power, instead of being divided, as in the United States, between a multitude of State Legislatures and the Federal Congress, is monopolized by a National Assembly consisting of a Chamber of Deputies and a Senate. The members of the former body, over 100 in number, are elected for a term of three years. To vote for these Deputies a citizen must not only be 21 years of age, if married, or 25 if unmarried, and be able to read and write, but must also pay yearly taxes to a considerable amount. The Senate, like that of the United States, is chosen by indirect election in each province, but its members hold office for nine years. The President, also, is chosen by indirect election, and retains office for five years, after which he is not reëligible until five years have elapsed. His powers, owing to the absence of ministerial accountability and to the extremely centralized character of the Government, are greater than those of any European sovereign with the exception of the Czar of Russia. He designates the five Cabinet Ministers, who are not responsible to the Legislature, though they may be impeached for treason. This non-accountability, strangely enough, is coupled with the right to take part in all debates in the two Houses; and, if a Minister is a Senator or a Deputy, as he legally may be, he has a right to vote. The President virtually dictates the nomination of all the higher judicial and legal functionaries, and of the ecclesiastical dignitaries, because he appoints a majority of the Council of State, in whom the nominating power is ostensibly vested. When he assumes command of the army and navy in person, he can bestow commissions without the sanction of the Senate, which otherwise would be required. But it is when we look at his relation to the provincial governments that we perceive him to be practically omnipotent. Imagine our President authorized to appoint the Governor, and through him the local administrative functionaries of every State in the Union, and we shall have a clear conception of the tremendous powers wielded by the President of Chili.

What we see in Chili may be defined as a highly centralized oligarchy, whose executive functions are committed to a dictator. The present system is the outcome of a violent reaction against anarchy, and, as usually happens, the reactionists went too far. For a good many years after the attainment of their national independence the Chilians had more than their share of revolutions. When the actual Constitution was framed in 1833 there was a widespread inclination to construct a strong Government, and if strength means the suffocation of democratic impulses and energies, the purpose was fulfilled. So firmly compacted and all-pervasive was the executive power created by the organic law, that to subvert or even to resist it seemed altogether hopeless. It is due to the sheer sense of helplessness that in fifty-eight years the Chilians have made only one attempt to overthrow the Government, and that in vain. It is not to be supposed for a moment, however, that the progressive elements of the population are satisfied with the existing régime. There is a Radical party in Chili which has been for some time pushing its propaganda among the educated classes, making universal suffrage and decentralization the cardinal features of its programme. This party has been greatly encouraged by the success of the revolution in Brazil, and would not be likely to overlook the conspicuous part played by the navy in the triumphant outbreak at Rio de Janeiro. If it be the Radicals who have organized the present movement against the constitutional authorities, they undoubtedly deserve the sympathy of all men who think that poor men should have some political rights, and that a so-called republican government should confer the substance as well as the name of liberty.

## No Man Can Hold Two Such Offices.

Our esteemed contemporary, the *Buffalo Courier*, a stanch yet courteous supporter of GROVER CLEVELAND, argues that in case no extra session of the Senate should be called to meet on the 4th or 5th of March, Governor HILL, the Senator-elect from New York, may remain in Albany and perform the functions of Governor until the regular session of Congress in December next.

This appears to us an utterly unsound and pernicious view; yet the legal argument against it is not the most important.

Governor HILL is a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination. We trust that he may be nominated, and we shall do all we can to promote his election. This is one reason why we are strenuously opposed to his attempting to hold at once two such offices as that of Senator in Congress and Governor. It would weaken him most dangerously as a candidate.

There is no principle that is more firmly intrenched in the minds of intelligent men of every party than that no man should occupy at once a Federal office and a State office. Especially is this true when the question relates to the simultaneous tenure of two such places as that of Governor and that of Senator. It will not do to say that, because Congress is not in session, the Senatorship may be treated as a mere unimportant appendage, such as a gentleman can wear about him as he wears his watch chain. This is not the doctrine of the Constitution, nor is it the doctrine of statesmen. It may pass among politicians playing a small game with little care for the importance of the stakes, and using for their own ends the highest dignities of government.

When Governor HILL comes forward as the Democratic candidate for the Presidency, we want to see him appearing with a spotless record, and not with a blot upon his political escutcheon that must mark the very starting point of the campaign with serious danger of defeat.

## Mr. Hoar as a Bold and Wicked Man.

Poor old Mr. HOAR, who appears to far better advantage in his accustomed part of Senator PICKWICK than as either BILL SIKES or the Artful Dodger, was forced by circumstances on Thursday to register this extraordinary opinion:

"I think that the American people by this time thoroughly understand and believe that we are here not to talk, but to legislate. That is the only constitutional purpose in the creation of the Senate."

This is not so extraordinary for its novelty, since Mr. HOAR merely paraphrases a famous remark of Speaker REED's, as for proceeding from the Senator who wrote a few months ago and published in the *Youth's Companion* of Nov. 13, 1890, for the instruction of the coming generation of American citizens, the subjoined essay on the immense importance of unrestricted debate in the Senate:

"In this Assembly speech is absolutely unfettered. Every measure can be discussed fully without restraint, and amended without limit. This is of immense importance, not only to the perfection of legislation, but also to the dignity of the Senate, and, in my opinion, to civil liberty itself."

All of the other Senators have read Mr. HOAR's contribution to juvenile literature, and some of them taunt him with his own words when he arises to plead for the abrogation of free speech and the destruction of civil liberty itself. The consequence is that poor old Mr. HOAR hates the sight or even the mention of the *Youth's Companion*.

He is a fine companion and mentor for patriotic American youth!

## The Sun.

Some recent expressions concerning THE SUN's relation to one of the most important topics of the day are interesting as well as satisfactory. This is our esteemed contemporary the *Atlanta Journal's*:

"THE SUN gets on the right side once in a while. It is the only paper in New York that favors the free coinage of silver."

The *South Bend Times* speaks with slightly greater fulness to the same effect:

"Of all the great newspapers of the East, THE SUN enjoys the honorable distinction of having, under any and all circumstances, been the most persistent and determined champion of the silver dollar and fair coinage. All honor and praise to THE SUN for that."

The same fact is thus recognized by that unyielding Southern champion of Democratic principles, the *Augusta Chronicle*:

"Southern newspapers should bear in mind that it is infinitely to the credit of THE SUN that it is the only New York daily that advocates the free coinage of silver."

We listen to these remarks of friendship with pleasure, and we beg leave to assure our esteemed contemporaries of another fact that we may be pardoned for asserting with emphasis due to the unrivalled importance of its nature. THE SUN is for the Democracy, for the principles and ideas of JEFFERSON, JACKSON, and TILDEN, first, last, and all the time.

It does not appear that the stability of the new Government of Brazil is in any way menaced by the recent action of the Constituent Assembly. That body is engaged in revising the Constitution that was drawn up by the Provisional Government, for its own guidance, after the proclamation of the republic; and there need be no surprise over the fact that the revision is likely to interfere in some ways with the policy of the authorities. In the formation of a Constitution for Brazil, the Assembly has full power, and is responsible only to the electors. By censuring the Provisional Government for certain deeds that had been left unexplained, it brought about a Ministerial crisis; but here again it acted within its authority, and this fact has been recognized by the Ministry itself as well as by the Provisional President, DEODORO DE FONSECA. In truth, there has as yet been no ground for doubting that peace will be maintained in Brazil until the work of establishing its political institutions is completed.

By our advices from Rio de Janeiro we are led to believe that Gen. DE FONSECA will be elected as the first President of Brazil under the new Constitution. He has administered the affairs of the country with discretion since the dethronement of the Emperor Dom PEDRO. He is a man of energy, intelligence, and sound judgment; and, amid all the difficulties of the past year, he has demeaned himself in a way worthy of his office.

A great deal of good work in this city is done with care and intelligence by the United Hebrew Charities. This organization requires a revenue of $100,000 for the present year, and there need be no doubt that that sum will be promptly raised for its service by the Hebrew community. Those Christians who may desire to contribute to the fund have an opportunity. Their gifts will be used with discretion for the alleviation of suffering.

Two rival steamers reached San Francisco after a lively race across the Pacific Ocean from Sydney, Australia. The time between the two ports was twenty-four days for the winner and a day more for its beaten rival. The racers are the property of two competing companies, and it is probable that better time will hereafter be made by the vessels of both of them, through improvements in their machinery.

The Canadian Government has recently subsidized a British company that is to establish a line between Australia and British Columbia, and the company gives assurance that the voyage between Sydney and Vancouver will be shortened to twenty-one days. Some of the steamers of this projected line are to visit several Australian ports, and then, in crossing the Pacific, are to touch at the Sandwich and Fiji Islands on their way to Vancouver.

A British naval expedition is engaged at this time in exploring the bottom of the Pacific for the purpose of finding a route for a submarine cable between Australia and British Columbia. When this cable is laid, and when the fast steamships of the Sydney-Vancouver line are running, there is sure to be a great increase of the commerce of the Pacific Ocean.

JONES of Nayland was a plain country parson, but a man of great learning.—*Ann Anon.*

JONES of Binghamton was a plain Lieutenant-Governor, paying the freight every time and cultivating a pair of moustaches that leave the great Chief Justice's in the shade; but now, without any exertion of his own, he has been put in the way of promotion, that changes for him mightily the whole prospect of the future. He says to himself:

"All hail Macaryo, that shalt be king hereafter!"

But the coast is not altogether clear for JONES. ROSWELL PETTIBONE FLOWER stands in his way; and CHAPIN of Brooklyn is also not without danger. But JONES has the advantage in the prospect of controlling for his own benefit, the great power of the Governor's office. It is a most interesting situation:

"We are living, we are moving, in a grand and awful time!"

## PARNELL AND THE IRISH CAUSE.

### An Important Irish Nationalist Demands His Retirement.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It seems to me, after a careful study of the Irish question in its present aspects, that those who blindly support the former Irish leader and insist that he alone is capable of leadership are influenced by Mr. Parnell's great and undisputed past services rather than by considerations of his future usefulness. A leadership that does not lead—the head of a minority of a once united party—such leadership can destroy a movement, but is utterly powerless for good. Even were the Irish people a unit in supporting Parnell, without the coöperation of the English masses home rule could never be achieved. With divided ranks, faction fighting faction, rival leaders, and the present state of affairs continuing, Ireland's cause for this generation will be hopelessly lost. To those who believe that by force of arms Ireland can win her independence no argument can be of any avail. The lessons of the centuries are wasted on the hillside men and the adherents of the new fraternizing factions of the Clan-na-Gael.

Strangely enough, what has caused a division in the ranks of the Irish National League has brought together "triangles" and "anti-triangles" in loving relations that are too cordial to be lastink. The constitutional movement, if wrecked, clears the way for the old denunciation of Saxon rule and the revival of race hatreds that have, until the past few years, arrayed the English masses against their Irish brethren. It was the crowning merit of Parnell to have changed these past relations and to have made possible the solution of the Irish question on lines of equality and justice. Unhappily, his present course is a reversal of this wise policy, and a drifting toward the hillside idea—a catering to the mob that in his heart he despises. While playing upon these prejudices, he very calmly announces that he will not cross the Rubicon, and he safeguards what at first blush appear to be pronounced physical force sentiments, leaving himself ample avenues of escape. It is not strange then that those who pin their faith on physical force support Parnell—the unthinking, because of his language; the more superficially educated, because a continuance of Parnell's course means a destruction of the constitutional policy. To those who believe in that policy and yet support Parnell a few considerations may be of service.

In no spirit of personal hostility my own convictions from the commencement of the present unfortunate division were that Mr. Parnell should have withdrawn, not from the party, but from a leadership that no longer presented the united front that alone gives value to command. The result in North Kilkenny, the utterances both here and in Ireland, show that he can at best have only a partial support in any efforts he may make. Meantime, in all probability, will come a dissolution of Parliament, and the almost certain success of the Tory party at the polls. Seven years more of coercion; seven years more of postponement of even the consideration of home rule. Such are the prospects ahead of Ireland if division should continue. As the division hinges entirely on Mr. Parnell's personality, he alone can heal it by stepping down and out. If Mr. McCarthy or Mr. Sexton or half a dozen of the majority retired, while Parnell headed the other side, no union would result. Is it wise that, whatever his services may have been, Ireland shall be sacrificed because Parnell insists on a factional leadership that wrecks all chances of success either for him or for the movement? Had no division occurred, the Liberals in the coming election would have been successful, and a home rule measure—in the framing of which the Irish party would of necessity have a large voice—would have been passed. In the upper House this measure, no matter how moderate or restricted, would be thrown out. A new election would result, and under the most favorable circumstances years would be required before an Irish Parliament would convene in Dublin. This would result in all the energies of the Irish people and their supporters. With a dreary stretch of fifteen or twenty more years of effort, with two factions in the field, more eager to fight each other than the enemy, it requires no prophet to tell what the outcome will be—the destruction of Parnell, of his Irish opponents, and the home rule movement itself.

AN IRISH NATIONALIST.

### A Letter From Mme. Diss Debar.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In to-day's issue I find the following statement made in your valuable columns which upon the slightest investigation you will find to be wholly incorrect:

"Gen. Diss Debar, the spouse of the spook princess, Ann O'Delia Diss Debar, has a suit pending in the Supreme Court to recover the alleged spiritualistic pictures, which so captivated Luther R. Marsh, from Property Clerk Harriott of the Police Headquarters."

The above is false in every respect. The oil paintings thus referred to are veritable old masters, once the property of the late Lola Montez, and given to her by my father, Ludwig I. of Bavaria, from his own royal gallery at Munich.

To class them as spiritual productions is a grave mistake, since the Hon. Luther R. Marsh has now in his possession every spirit picture obtained through my sensitive organism as a medium.

The paintings in question were deliberately *stolen*, and without the slightest authority on their part, by the police authorities of this city, and in defiance of law and good order, and detained for now two years and a half without the slightest attempt on their part to restore them again to their rightful owners, Gen. Diss Debar and myself.

Permit, then, a truthful beam of your mighty orb to illumine certain minds as to the truth concerning all the property at the Police Headquarters in which I am interested. Respectfully,

E. L. DISS DEBAR.

### The Great Fight Against the Force Bill.

*From the Augusta Chronicle.*

No journal has done more than THE SUN to defeat the Force bill. Day after day THE SUN has denounced this measure as infamous and as a disgrace to the Republican party. It has called upon Senators to resort to any and every means to defeat the bill, because it sees in it a conspiracy to cheat the popular will and a purpose to put the Republicans again in control of the House of Representatives. It encourages our Senators to hold the fort because "they are fighting not merely for the control of Congress in 1892 and subsequent years, but for the integrity of Democratic-Republican self-government. The Democrats are fighting for free debate and free elections."

THE SUN is now making a great fight for the South, the freedom of debate, the freedom of the press, a free and pure ballot, and the sovereignty of the States.

### We Believe These Reports are False.

*From Mr. G. W. Childs's Philadelphia Ledger.*

There are reports current that there has been an understanding reached by the Hill and Cleveland factions, and that henceforth they are to cease their contentions. If true, that would mean a rather more than reasonable assurance of the ex-President's renomination by his party in 1892.

### Up in Nautical Affairs.

"My ancestors came over on the Mayflower," said Miss Bronson.

"Aw—I say," said Chappie, "you must have made a—aw—mistake you know. The Mayflower novah came ovah, you know. It was the Genesta came ovah."

## THE NEW SENATOR.

### Opinions Upon the Various Features of the Situation.

*From the Boston Daily Globe (Democrat).*

Governor Hill's choice does not necessarily involve an abandonment of his other legitimate ambitions.

*From the Fall River Globe (Republican).*

In Governor Hill the Democratic ranks in the Senate will be reënforced by one of the most astute politicians and able statesmen which the present generation has produced, and his own State will be represented in that body as it has not been since the retirement of Roscoe Conkling. His entrance into the national arena is a matter of more than ordinary importance.

*From the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (Republican).*

Now that the decisive step has been taken, the Cleveland men will emphasize the old tradition that Presidential candidates are never selected from the United States Senate, but it will not be safe to assume that the precedent will hold good interminably. We suspect that the Governor is not a superstitious man, and we know that he is an adroit politician. He is the acknowledged head of the Democratic party in this State, and he has used his opportunities to poor advantage if he suffers a seat in the Senate to greatly weaken his grip upon the machine.

*From the Buffalo Times-Republic (Cleveland Democrat).*

On the 3d of December last the *Times* said: "It is argued that as United States Senator Governor Hill would have less chance of receiving the nomination for the Presidency in 1892, but the argument does not seem well founded. With his headquarters at Washington he would certainly be well situated to render great service to the party and extend his acquaintance with influential men from all parts of the country. It seems to the *Times* a wise step for Governor Hill to accept the proffered Senatorship, both for his own and the party's advantage."

*From the Globe-Democrat (Republican).*

Governor Hill is the most adroit and resourceful party manager which the New York Democrats have had since Samuel J. Tilden's days of activity, and he is not likely to lose his power over the organization in his State by the transfer of his base of operations from Albany to Washington.

*From the Chicago Mail (Independent).*

Governor Hill is now merely a New Yorker. His next six years will be spent in a post where he may be of service to the whole nation. There is little doubt that he will so discharge the duties of this stewardship as to deserve still further promotion at the hands of his party.

*From the Newburgh Evening Press (Democrat).*

For the sake of harmony Governor Hill has permitted himself to be elected to the United States Senate. It is our opinion that no act of the Governor's life partakes more of self-immolation to the best interests of the country. Ambition has been cast to the winds, and the man stands before the country as the embodiment of a patriotism matchless in these days, and only equalled in the legends of history, and in them only on the basis that these legends are facts. His fame will lose nothing by this act, but rather gather volume with time. Satisfied that "the champion of Democracy" has placed himself in the best possible light before the country, and that he will not lose anything by this his latest act, his friends are content to abide the time when the reward which is sure to follow such a noble act is placed in his hands. That the reward will come neither friend nor enemy doubts.

*From the Wilkes-Barre Newsdealer (Democrat).*

Governor Hill owes it to his friends to decline the proffered nomination. He has so far made no mistakes in his political ambitions but will certainly make a most serious one if he accepts the Senatorship.

*From the Scranton Times (Democrat).*

Governor Hill has had the confidence of the Democrats of the Empire State for many years, and he has never betrayed his friends. For the past ten years he has been a power in the politics of the State, and has more than once snatched victory from defeat. He is foremost in the ranks of the Democratic party of the nation, has a warm place in the hearts of the people of New York, and his election is a deserved recognition of his services to the party and his talents as a man.

*From the Scranton Truth (Independent).*

His friends and supporters are determined that that will not call a halt on his Presidential aspirations. No doubt ex-President Cleveland would be greatly gratified if there were a constitutional restriction to prevent United States Senators from becoming candidates for the Presidency. Hill has not done much talking since the recent election, but, in the language of the song, he manages to get there just the same.

*From the Savannah Daily Times (Democrat).*

David B. Hill is one step nearer the Presidency now.

*From the Baltimore American (Republican).*

While we do not believe, as the Mugwump press professes to do, that Hill intended his acceptance of the Senatorship to mean that he had abandoned his Presidential aspirations, we think his boom would have been stronger had he refused the Senatorship and maintained his grip on the machine until 1892.

*From the Baltimore Sun (Cleveland Democrat).*

Governor Hill's acceptance of the Senatorship may be taken to indicate that he submits to the general demand of his party that he shall not engage in the senseless conspiracy against Cleveland promoted by chronic marplots and spoilsmen.

*From the Minneapolis Tribune (Republican).*

This act of heroism on the part of the leader of the rock-ribbed, straight-out Democracy of New York will be worked for all it is worth in his behalf. His "I am a Democrat!" his active work in last fall's campaign, when Cleveland was hobnobbing with Mugwumps; the fact that Cleveland has made all his speeches since the campaign, calmly claiming for himself the credit of the victory; Hill's brilliant faces in New York State and Cleveland's not so brilliant—with a single exception—will all be utilized to the best possible advantage by the Governor's friends, and it will not be surprising if the Senatorship, accepted under such circumstances, shall prove not a shelf but a stepping stone to the coveted nomination in 1892.

*From the Utica Daily Press (Democrat).*

The suggestion made by pretty much everybody is that United States Senators do not become Presidents. There is no good reason why they should not, and certainly none why they cannot. It is surely possible for Governor Hill's Presidential boom to go right on as it has commenced. All there is about it is a sort of a myth that it is not a good thing for a Presidential candidate to be a United States Senator, and no good ground is advanced for the theory other than the circumstance that heretofore Senators have not become Presidents. There is nothing in the premises to prevent Hill from receiving the nomination of his party new if he could have had it before.

*From the Springfield Daily Democrat (Democrat).*

The *Democrat* believes that the "spoils," so-called, are the trophies of the victors, and that the victors are entitled to them on the shortest notice compatible with the good of the public service. Mr. Cleveland's mistake was in hearkening to the drivel of Mugwumps, who succeeded in impressing him with a belief that fanatical adherences to an impracticable idea was paramount to recognition of devoted party service.

*From the Philadelphia Record (Cleveland Mugwump).*

The election of Governor Hill to the United States Senate practically takes him out of the list of candidates for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency, and clears the way for Grover Cleveland.

*From the Richmond Times (Cleveland Democrat).*

The Democracy in 1892 can now nominate Grover Cleveland for the Presidency without serious opposition.

*From the Richmond State (Cleveland Democrat).*

The nomination of Governor Hill as Senator puts him out of the race for the Presidential nomination in 1892.

*From the Holyoke Daily Democrat.*

Those who think that Governor Hill's election to the Senate consigns him to the shelf are mistaken. An election to the Senate would mean a relegation to obscurity in the case of a thick-skulled moneybag, but with David Bennett Hill in the United States Senate that body will become the centre of attraction of the whole United States. The Senate chamber, instead of remaining a kind of a soft cushioned rendezvous for bloated millionaires and alleged statesmen, will become the arena in which the great battles of Democracy will be fought and where the keynote of true Democracy will be furnished. Those who think that David Bennett Hill has decided not to be a candidate for the Presidency in 1892 are making a big mistake.

*From the Buffalo Times-Republic.*

The nomination of Governor Hill for United States Senator and his tacit acceptance of the honor is a signal for rejoicing among Democrats throughout the State. It is the opinion of many, it is true, that the acceptance of the Senatorship may shelve him so far as his candidacy for the Presidency next year is concerned, but circumstances will have much to do with the future career of Governor Hill. The average political prophet is not of much account. There are few safe precedents in politics. One man succeeds where another fails and vice versa.

We do not believe that in accepting the honor of a United States Senatorship Governor Hill in the least impairs his strength with the party either within the boundaries of New York State or beyond them. On the contrary, in the Senate he will make his superior qualities known to the party throughout the country. In all states the Democrats will quickly recognize his ability as a political leader and cordially join with his nearer friends in New York State to make him their standard bearer, if that course shall seem wisest.

*From the Times-Democrat (Democrat).*

Governor Hill's becoming a Senator will remove him from the list of possible Presidential candidates in 1892.

*From the Post-Express (Independent).*

All this will aid Mr. Hill's candidacy for the Presidency, rather than hinder it.

*From the Brooklyn Citizen (Straight-Out Democrat).*

There is not much more to be said about the election of Governor Hill to the United States Senate unless he himself should furnish the text. The whole Democracy has expressed its pleasure, the Republicans have pursued their usual course in such cases, and the Mugwump has growled his familiar, ugly, and impotent growl. That the Governor will resign his seat in March, instead of retaining it, as he legally may, until the end of the year, we take for granted, because it is the course most consistent with the dignity of conduct which has uniformly distinguished his public actions. Beyond this there is nothing to discuss, except as we have just suggested, the Governor should make a declaration affecting his own attitude toward the Presidency.

## SOMETHING ABOUT PARROTS.

### It's a False Notion that Their Tongues Should Be Split to Make Them Talk.

A correspondent has asked THE SUN if it is necessary to have a parrot's tongue cut or slit before it can be made to talk, and if so, where the operation can be performed. The question was put to Mr. Charles Reiche, the animal dealer, who answered that to slit a parrot's tongue would probably destroy all chance of the bird's ever talking, and might result in its death. He also told the reporter a good many other interesting things about parrots.

"I don't know how the popular superstition about slitting a parrot's tongue originated," said Mr. Reiche, "but it is very old. I have heard of it in every part of the world, and have seen it stated for a fact in many natural histories. I believe it originated centuries ago, for there are allusions to the subject of splitting the tongues of ravens and mocking birds to make them talk in many old and musty volumes of literature. I think the idea arose in a disease to which certain birds with the power of articulation are subject in captivity. The disease is known among bird fanciers as the "pip," and is accompanied, in soft-billed birds like the mocking bird, and in certain hard-billed birds like the raven and magpie, by a horny growth on the end of the tongue. This growth, of course, prevents the birds from articulating, and has to be removed by cutting with the knife or scratching with a long finger nail. The tongue itself is not cut. The operation restores to the bird its powers of articulation, and it is quite likely that from this originated the superstition that it was necessary to cut or slit a bird's tongue to enable it to talk. Now parrots are not subject to the 'pip' in that form, or at least never acquire the horny growth upon the tongue. Actually to cut or slit the tongue of any bird would probably impair the vocal powers forever, and, as the tongue of birds is an extremely sensitive member, it would also probably result in death. I have handled many thousands of parrots in my life, many of them fine talkers and of great value, but I never personally handled a bird with a cut tongue. But it is a fact that thousands of ignorant persons, particularly in the country districts where this superstition chiefly prevails, cut their parrots' tongues. But I never heard of such a bird talking.

"Parrots are curious birds in very many ways. As everybody knows, they live to enormous ages, but it is not generally known that they are apt to die unexpectedly and for no reason that can be discovered. For that reason they are very risky stock for the dealer to handle. I have had large invoices of parrots arrive in the very best of health, and soon after suddenly all die. If one parrot in an invoice dies, then you may expect them all to die. I don't know why it is—probably some disease, but no one has yet discovered what. Your correspondent, if she wants her parrot to talk, should first make sure that she has a healthy bird, and that it is of a talking variety and very young. Birds caught old and domesticated do not make good talkers—sometimes never talk. The parrot should be taken from the nest in its native woods, or captured immediately after it has left the nest and before it has learned to fly, in order to become a good talker. Then all that is necessary is gentleness and patience. She must win its confidence by kind treatment and frequent feeding, until it ceases to scream and flutter when she approaches, and will climb upon her hand of its own accord and show marks of affection. Then the parrot will pick up phrases of itself, always those sounds or words which it hears most often repeated. If there is a dog in the house it will probably learn to bark first, for that will be the noise it will hear most frequently. Then it will probably next catch up the names of different members of the family. If its mistress wants it to learn special words or sentences she should frequently carry it to a secluded room and repeat those words or phrases over distinctly many times. Let her keep this up patiently for weeks, if necessary, and before long Polly will surprise the family and her mistress by repeating it at some unexpected time. As a rule, parrots do not need any teaching in a family. They may be a long time beginning to talk, but when they once start there is no end to their chattering. If you drink wine at dinner your parrot will pull corks when the minister calls; and if your brother is given to swearing at the cook, your parrot will swear before your callers. If your correspondent has a healthy young parrot of the right species she need not be afraid of his not talking."

"How do you know when you have a parrot of a talking species?" asked the reporter.

"Almost all parrots will talk more or less," said Mr. Reiche. "They are caught young enough; but there are a few varieties which are essentially talkers, and those purchasers should be sure of getting. The best of all is the African gray parrot. It is head and shoulders above every other parrot as a talker, and is also a much pleasanter bird than any other to have in a house on account of its sweet high voice. American parrots all have strident, metallic voices, which are exceedingly unpleasant to most people, and, no matter how well trained they are, never become softened. The gray parrot has a softer voice naturally, and in Europe learns to imitate all my acquaintances in the business, and the voices of members of the family, so that it is difficult often to tell whether it really is your wife or sister who is talking in the next room, or your parrot. Partly for this reason, and partly because gray parrots are all taken to Europe, they are a good deal more expensive in this country than any of the other varieties. They cost from $8 to $12 apiece untrained, and command almost any price trained. The gray parrots are taken on the west coast of Africa. Most of them come from Liberia and Mounrovia. The blacks in those countries catch them in quantities, and trade them to the sailing vessels which skirt the coast. The blacks have regular parrot farms in their coast villages. Catching parrots is a business with them. At breeding seasons whole villages of blacks become depopulated. Men, women, and even children scatter into the wilderness and rob nests. They wait until the eggs are hatched and the young parrots nearly ready to leave the nests, and then shin up the trees and take them. They carry them home in baskets, and feed them till they are strong enough to take care of themselves. Then they clip their wings and turn them loose in the village. The young parrots soon become domesticated, and hop all over the village, returning to the huts to be fed. Some of these villages swarm with young parrots. The first traders that appear generally bargain for the whole lot, and give in exchange arms, ammunition, cloth, calico, and other goods which the blacks need. The trading vessels carry them up the coast and generally dispose of them at ports where steamers in the African trade stop for cargo. The parrots are loaded on the next steamers and taken to Europe, generally to English ports, where they are distributed to other countries. Very few parrots, comparatively speaking, reach England by sailing vessel. Many Dutch sailing vessels carry parrots directly home, however, and they are the best parrots. You see, the parrots are badly treated on the steamers. They are thrust into the dark hold wherever there is a convenient corner, and most of them are stored in and near the engine room, where they are subjected for a couple of weeks to a frightful heat and worse air. They always suffer severely by it, the more so because on reaching port they are transferred directly to a climate vastly different than their natural African climate. The parrots which are brought north in sailing vessels are not poked into hot corners. They are well treated, and, the voyage being longer, they come gradually into the colder clime, and become used to it by the time they reach port. As I said, these sailing vessels are Dutch, and that is why the gray parrots we get here from England generally turn out so much worse than those we get from Holland. They are frequently sickly, and oftener than not they have hoarse voices, and do not make good talkers. Some will never talk. I originally got several big lots of gray parrots from England but they turned out so badly that I patronized Holland afterward with the best results. Naturally the Holland birds are a little more expensive, but it is well for any person who is buying a parrot to pay a little more and get a guarantee that the bird was brought north in a sailing vessel and is young. I am out of the bird business myself entirely now, and am devoting all my resources to elephants, lions, tigers, and other large animals for shows and menageries, but the retail purchaser can depend upon any reputable bird fancier to deal squarely with him in this respect.

"As for American parrots, perhaps the best that can be got is the big Panama parrot. It is green and yellow like the Mexican birds, but much the largest parrot in the market. It is a capital talker, in many ways equalling the gray parrot, but it is expensive, partly because it is seldom brought to this side of the continent. For some reason these birds go to San Francisco almost exclusively, and New York dealers have to order them from there. The most common parrots in this market are the Mexican and Cuban. The Mexican double-yellow-head is a general favorite, green all over, except its head, which has two brilliant yellow tufts. It makes an excellent talker, but, like the gray parrot, is much better when brought north overland or in sailing vessels. We get large numbers by steamer, but more by sailing vessel to Gulf ports and thence overland. The main objection to these birds is their tendency to a disease of the eyes. The Cuban parrots are smaller and green. We get in New York from 10,000 to 20,000 every June and July. They are sold to dealers at from $18 to $36 a dozen. They are caught in the nests in the same way as the African parrots, and raised in yards or corrals in Cuba. I used to have a parrot corral there when I was dealing in the birds. Our