The Sun.

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"The White Company."

We have purchased the right to publish serially in the United States an entirely new and original romance by Mr. CONAN DOYLE. This writer is as yet but little known. We think, however, that he will presently be very well known indeed. "The White Company" is the name of his story, and it is good enough to make an immense fame for any writer.

We commend Mr. DOYLE to the great and growing army of those who seek the ever rich and delightful novels of THE SUNDAY SUN. Our readers cannot fail to confirm the opinion we have advanced, and they will find that Mr. CONAN DOYLE will secure to himself a reputation at least as wide and strong as that which Mr. HAGGARD won with "She."

We shall begin "The White Company" next Sunday.

A Fair Investigation.

The Democrats in the Legislature have made a fair proposition to the Republicans in regard to the canal investigation, for which the latter affect to be so eager. The bill introduced into the Assembly on Friday by Mr. GUNTHER and into the Senate by Mr. LINSON provides for the appointment by the Governor of a non-partisan commission of five members, two Democrats, two Republicans, and one Independent, to investigate the management of the canals. The proposed commission is modelled after the one appointed by Governor TILDEN in 1875, whose investigation had such memorable results. If the Republicans really want a fair and full investigation, they will drop the LAUGHLIN resolution and substitute for it the bill proposed by the Assembly Canal Committee. The Democrats do not admit, and there is as yet absolutely no reason to suppose, that there is anything in the management of the canals that needs to be investigated, but they have no objection to a fair investigation. They will not agree, and they ought not to agree, to have the money of the State wasted on another smelling committee of the FASSETT style.

Of course it is not to be expected that the Republicans will yield. They are not consulting the interests of the State, but the supposed interests of the Republican party. They think they can make a little party capital by having a Republican investigation; or, if that is not to be had, that they can persuade some innocent persons in the rural districts that the Democrats are afraid of investigation, because they will not consent to an unfair investigation. The scheme will not work. The people are not fools to be buncoed by a trick so palpable.

There are but four days more of the Legislature. There will be a good many days afterward for the Republicans to repent their reliance upon humbug.

The Sunday Question.

The Protestant Bishops of the Union demand almost unanimously that the World's Fair at Chicago shall be closed on Sunday out of deference to the religious sentiment of the people and to save the day from a public desecration which would tend to destroy its sanctity and lessen respect for the law of GOD. Now we receive from Alfred Centre, in this State, a vigorous protest against such closing, on the ground that it would be in opposition to true religious sentiment and assist in the perpetuation of a pagan institution which defies and outrages the law of GOD.

Alfred Centre is a little village of a few hundred inhabitants, in Allegany county, in the southwestern part of New York, bordering on Pennsylvania. It is the headquarters of the Seventh Day Baptists, who are now about 10,000 in number in the Union, the seat of their single university, and the place where their denominational periodicals are published. One of these publications is called the *Outlook, a Sabbath Quarterly*, and the April number contains many and long arguments to prove that the substitution of Sunday for the Sabbath of the Old Testament was a mere concession to paganism, which has been fruitful of manifold and grievous injury to the cause of Christianity. These arguments are based on the Bible and historical evidences, and are both interesting and indicative of careful study of the subject. Their proposition is that through the influence of paganism in the early centuries of Christianity, and more especially by the statecraft of the subtle Roman Emperor CONSTANTINE, the Sabbath established by command of GOD, and whose observance constituted a sign of loyalty to the true and only Deity, was set aside in favor of Sunday, the day dedicated by paganism generally to the worship of BAAL, or the sun god. Sunday, accordingly, is treated and denounced by them as a heathen festival that dishonors GOD and profanes His Holy Word.

Their argument, in brief, is that during the life of JESUS the Jewish Sabbath was always observed by Him and His followers as a religious obligation, and that no indication of its abrogation and the substitution of Sunday is afforded by the New Testament; that, moreover, there is no Biblical authority for "the popular tradition," on which the observance of Sunday is based, that JESUS rose on the first day of the week. The narratives of St. MATTHEW and St. MARK are cited to prove that the visit of the two MARYS to the tomb was "in the end of the Sabbath," or "when the Sabbath was past," and that then they found the tomb empty, JESUS having "risen and gone before any one saw the tomb." The fixing of Friday as the day of the crucifixion and of Sunday as the day of the resurrection is attributed to a popular tradition which "contradicts CHRIST concerning the time He should lie in the grave, and hence makes Him an impostor." The true day of the crucifixion is made the Wednesday preceding the Passover Sabbath, and not the Friday before the weekly Sabbath. The association of the resurrection with the observance of Sunday and the consequent abrogation of the Sabbath is denounced as unscriptural, as a purely "pagan custom adopted by some of the Gentile Christians during the second century, together with a great many other pagan rites and ceremonies."

According to this view, the progress of true and genuine Christianity is retarded and not helped by Sunday observance; and therefore the Seventh Day Baptists rejoice over the evidences of diminishing regard for the sanctity of a day which, to their minds, serves only to preserve a pagan practice hateful in the eyes of GOD. To it they trace the growth of infidelity, contending that violation of one command of GOD tends to general contempt of His Word. They quote with approval a declaration from another source that "you might as well commit murder as violate the fourth commandment," and that "of the two evils murder is the less." Keeping the first day of the week as the Sabbath when the seventh day was set apart, constitutes for them such violation. They are the strictest of constructionists of the Scriptures, holding the views of Prof. BRIGGS in horror.

They also argue that the establishment and protection of a holy day must be left to GOD; that the civil law has no right to interfere in the matter, and that it cannot interfere without obstructing the rightful liberty of conscience in the citizen. Sunday legislation, to their thinking, is odious "class legislation," compelling all the people to do what only a part of them desire, and determining when they shall rest and when they shall labor, in violation of religious liberty and of their right to choose for themselves individually. Sunday laws also, they argue, are, in effect, a confession that spiritual and divine agencies are insufficient for the promotion of religion and religious observance without the help of human legislation. But the law has no right "to determine for the citizen his religious duties," "to decide what is and what is not sinful in matters of religion," and to "suspend the rights and liberties of all citizens, who may, from personal or religious considerations, prefer to labor on Sunday and rest on some other day." If the purpose is merely to insure rest from labor for the people, the rest can be obtained on any day, they say, and the "beneficent results of labor are the same when done on Sunday as on any other day."

This is substantially the argument which was used in the French Legislature of late in the discussion of the Sunday question. A proposition was made that the particular day of rest be left to agreement between the employers and the employed. It was held by many of the members that the setting apart of Sunday especially for enforced abstinence from labor would justify the inference that the legislation was based on religious grounds. The editor of the *Outlook* is of the same mind, and he offers as the proper model of the Sunday law to be passed by the States a measure entitling every individual employed to "one full day as a day of rest," the day to be determined by agreement between employer and employed, and no reduction in wages to be made because of it. He would settle the Sunday liquor question by prohibiting the sale of liquor on all days, contending, not unreasonably, that if it is deleterious on Sunday it is harmful throughout the week.

We must give these people at Alfred Centre the credit of courage and consistency. They believe that the seventh day is the Sabbath, whose observance GOD commanded, and that the command has never been abrogated or altered, except by human procurement in violation of the Divine will. But they refuse to ask the civil law to enforce the Divine command, contending that the only lawgiver who has authority in the premises is the Almighty Himself. So believing they treat all Sunday legislation which goes beyond the mere protection of the citizen in his right to worship according to his conscience, as an implication that GOD is incapable of preserving His own institutions by His own legislation, and as an outrage against the liberty of the individual to labor or to rest according to his individual preference. That is logical.

Finally, the present need of the world, in their conviction, "is not Sunday laws, but a conscientious and universal conformity, in all things, to the letter and spirit of GOD's Word on the part of His professed children." Small as the number of these people is, it is worth while to understand the grounds of their faith and practice.

Cave Dwellers of Mount Elgon.

Seven years ago Mr. JOSEPH THOMSON excited much interest by his story of the inhabited caves in a mountain he had discovered in Africa. On the northeast side of Victoria Nyanza he reached an ancient volcano, Mount Elgon, one of the eight or ten largest mountains in equatorial Africa. If about 2,000 feet were added to its summit, which now rises over 14,000 feet above the plain, Elgon would be one of the snow-crowned mountains of Africa. Near its base and far up its slope THOMSON found large caves, some of them extending an unknown distance into the mountain, in which hundreds of natives resided. They built huts and herded cattle in them. THOMSON believed the caves were of artificial origin. The natives had no traditions as to when they were made, but the explorer inclined to the belief that the excavations were the work of ancient miners. Owing to circumstances, THOMSON was not able to make a thorough exploration of this remarkable mountain and its inhabited caves. He was in the neighborhood only a few hours, and many a student of exploration has hoped since that some competent explorer would visit the mountain and tell us more about it.

A while ago Mr. F. J. JACKSON, an agent of the Imperial British East Africa Company, led an expedition to Uganda, and on the way he travelled half around Mount Elgon and crossed the very top of the ancient volcano from north to south. He has not yet returned to England, but notes of his journey have been published in the Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society. He barely outlines his explorations on Mount Elgon and in its neighborhood, where he spent about eight weeks. Some months are likely to elapse before we learn the full details of his observations.

The ascent of the mountain from its northern foot to the crater occupied six days. JACKSON's men suffered intensely from the cold, and he says he would not advise any future caravan to make the journey. Fortunately there was no rain, yet two of the men died of the cold and exertion. The forest belt extends from 6,000 to 9,000 feet up the slope, and is succeeded by a bushy region with heath and coarse grass. The crater has a diameter of about eight miles. Two rivers rise within it, escaping through the clefts in the crater wall. A large part of the bottom of the crater is swampy, and the rest is covered with grass, heath, and mosses. The highest point reached was 14,044 feet, and JACKSON could not discover that any of the other peaks were more than fifty feet higher.

The vegetation on the southern slope he found to be more luxuriant than on the northern. The trees were taller, the forest more dense, and the bamboos covered a larger area. It was within this forest on the southern slope that JACKSON, at a height of 7,500 feet, came across some of the cave dwellings discovered by THOMSON. The guides told him the inhabitants had all been killed by the hostile Wanandi. Inside the cave were thirty huts, oblong in shape, and built like those of the Masai. JACKSON and his comrade, Mr. GEDGE, say they cannot imagine what led THOMSON to suppose that these caves are artificial. They say there is nothing about any of the caves to suggest that they are the work of man.

Several other caves were passed at different elevations, but none was inhabited, and it was not until they were clear of the forest at about 6,000 feet that they came to an inhabited district. Some of the people were living in huts scattered along the mountain side, but most of them live in the caves. Chief KIMANGIORI said his people formerly lived in ordinary villages at the foot of the mountain, but they were driven out of them by the Wanandi and had since been afraid to live outside the caves. The cave dwellers had flourishing gardens and plenty of food. Their cattle, which feed on the mountain side, are driven into the caves at night.

THOMSON's account of the cave dwellers is thus fully substantiated, except that the latest visitors differ from him as to the origin of the caverns. Inhabited caves are not found in any other part of equatorial Africa, except in the Songwe range, among the Congo head waters, where there are hundreds of cave dwellers, whose curious habits had been known through native reports for twenty years, though no white man except the missionary ARNOT has written an account of them based upon personal observation. It is not improbable that THOMSON on his last journey visited the Songwe cave dwellers, and that he will add information to the meagre details supplied by ARNOT.

One of the most melancholy stories relating to caves is that of the poor invalids who cherished the erroneous hope that in the depths of Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, they might regain their health. Dr. HOVEY, in his recent lecture before the American Geographical Society, said that visitors to Mammoth Cave still see the roofless remains of two stone cottages, all that is left of the village of twelve habitations, built in the depths of the cave in 1845 for the use of consumptive patients, who were sent there in the belief that the uniformity of the temperature and the oxygenated atmosphere would be beneficial to them. One of the stone houses was used as a dining room, but all the rest were lodging rooms. The experiment was very thoroughly tried, but proved an utter failure. The invalids gradually grew weaker in their subterranean retreat, and their fate was like that of the trees and shrubbery which they vainly tried to raise around their gloomy huts.

A Boon to County Treasurers.

If the bill to tax collateral inheritances, passed in 1885 and amended in 1887, had been entitled also a bill to increase the fees of County Treasurers, the public would not have lost sight of one feature of this legislation which has not attracted the attention it deserves. The present Legislature has amended the act to tax collateral inheritances so as to make direct inheritances also liable to taxation. The result will be a great increase in the receipts of the County Treasurers throughout the State on account of the succession tax thus established and the consequent increase in their fees.

The law provides that the Treasurer of each county and the Comptroller of the city and county of New York shall be allowed to retain on all taxes paid over to the State Treasury each year under the act, in addition to any salary or fees now allowed, 5 per cent. on the first $50,000, 3 per cent. on the next $50,000, and 1 per cent. on all additional sums accounted for by the County Treasurer or the Comptroller of this city.

In the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1890, the Comptroller of this city received $10,821.15 as fees under the collateral inheritance act. This was the maximum. The minimum was in Delaware county, where the Treasurer received sixty-two cents. The receipts in Kings county were $2,730.74, and in Erie county $1,847.03. They also exceeded a thousand dollars in Greene, Orange, Queens, Rensselaer, Washington, and Westchester counties, and were between $1,000 and $500 in Columbia and Onondaga.

It is not improbable that the taxation of direct inheritances will double the receipts from these fees in the case of the Comptroller of this city and a number of other County Treasurers in the more populous parts of the State. Probably if the Legislature had been asked by means of a separate bill to increase the compensation of these officers proportionately, adding, for example, $10,000 a year to the salary of the Comptroller here, and sums varying from $500 to $2,500 to the salaries of other County Treasurers, it would have hesitated to do so; but the increase has nevertheless been provided for in a very efficacious manner.

Of course, so far as the collection of the succession taxes imposes any additional labor upon the County Treasurers, they are entitled to additional compensation. If an extra clerk has to be employed, provision should be made for his payment out of the taxes collected; but there cannot be a great deal of additional labor devolved upon the County Treasurers further than that which is involved in the selection of such additional clerical officers as may be necessary; and it does seem as though the increased compensation, particularly in the case of the Comptroller here, was excessive, when we consider that it already amounts to $10,000 a year, and is over and above all his other fees.

A good point was made the other day by Mr. MICHAEL COLEMAN, the President of the Department of Taxes and Assessments, in reference to the uses to which the taxes collected under the new law ought to be put. A very large portion of the receipts will come from this city, where the greatest fortunes are, and, as the tax goes into the State Treasury, the country, as usual, will derive the most benefit from it. Mr. COLEMAN thinks that a portion of the receipts might well be applied to the support of the Surrogate's Court of this county, thus lessening other local taxation to that extent. In the Surrogate's Court, not only here, but in Brooklyn, and we presume in the other large cities of the State, additional clerks have had to be employed to attend to the business arising under the collateral inheritance tax. More clerks will probably be rendered necessary in these courts by reason of the recent change in the law so as to embrace direct inheritances. Certainly provision should be made for the compensation of these clerks out of the moneys collected under the statute before the balance is turned over to the State Treasury.

Will He Have to Call Them Off?

The FORAKER incident at the Convention of the National League of Republican Clubs, and the marked BLAINE feeling displayed by that body, are only symptoms of the increasing temperature of the enthusiasm for the man from Maine. The BLAINE men are becoming restless. They want to get up and shout; and great as is their inclination to be perfectly civil and even complimentary to Gen. HARRISON, they seem to be getting unable to conceal from him their belief that he is not the candidate for 1892. From SETH MILLIKEN in Belfast to the Republican clubs of the State of Washington they show a desire to say to Gen. HARRISON that he is a very nice man, but will he be good enough to take a back seat.

Gen. HARRISON's renomination train is not running half so fast in the West as the BLAINE boom. The question arises, Will not the relations of the President with his Secretary of State be somewhat constricted if the friends of the latter continue to give way to their emotions? It must be a cold and clammy feeling for the President to feel that while he is working for renomination with considerable trouble and expense, the Secretary is getting all the glory, and some hundreds of thousands of Republicans are persuaded that he is the sole chance and hope of his party. Gen. HARRISON is not devoid of the faculty of self-appreciation, nor is he eminently altruistic. The situation cannot be wholly comfortable for him.

The two men may have a private understanding, but is not the time near at hand, if not actually on hand, when in self-defence, in justice to himself and to his obligation to the President, Mr. BLAINE will have to call off his boomers?

And yet could the strongest letter of declination chill the ardor of those attached and faithful followers? He will be their candidate as long as he lives.

An Unravelled Mystery.

It is announced that the members of the HAMILTON and SCHUYLER families have joined in a petition to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen, asking that no place be designated for the public fountain, for which the will of the missing ROBERT RAY HAMILTON provided, for which it set aside a fund of $10,000. His relatives base their objection to the monument upon "family pride."

Though Surrogate RANSOM has decided that ROBERT RAY HAMILTON is dead, not one bit of positive testimony to prove that fact has been presented to the Surrogate or to any one else. The strongest circumstantial evidence—and all the evidence in this case is purely circumstantial—supports the theory that he is alive. We have presented this evidence quite fully. Against it stand the reports of the three commissions sent by Surrogate RANSOM to secure proof of HAMILTON's death.

One of these commissions went to Paris to obtain the testimony of Dr. JAMES O. GREEN, a friend of HAMILTON's, and the man who found what is said to have been the dead body of the missing New Yorker. According to the report of the commission, Dr. GREEN identified HAMILTON's watch, but did not identify the body, and he furthermore declared that no one else could identify it, because of its decomposed condition.

The commission sent to take the testimony of J. D. SARGENT, Mr. HAMILTON's partner in the Wyoming ranch, the most important witness next to Dr. GREEN, returned without his testimony because, as was alleged, the ranch was inaccessible in winter by reason of heavy snows.

The third commission, which was also sent to Wyoming to obtain the testimony of persons employed on the ranch, seems to have reached its destination in spite of the snows, and came back with the testimony of three men who had assisted in burying the alleged body of HAMILTON. They were certain that the body was HAMILTON's, though no one of them knew him so well as Dr. GREEN, and all of them saw the decomposed remains after the time when Dr. GREEN had testified that they were absolutely unrecognizable.

The remainder of the testimony presented to the Surrogate referred chiefly to the identification of the watch found on the dead body. That it was HAMILTON's is beyond dispute.

ROBERT RAY HAMILTON's drowning was reported in September, 1890. The body was buried promptly on the ranch, because, singularly enough, HAMILTON had requested soon after his arrival—he had been on the ranch but a few weeks—that in case of his death he might be buried in the Western wilderness which he had made his home. His friend, Mr. CASIMIR DE R. MOORE, who happened at the ranch in company with another friend, GILBERT M. SPEIR, Jr., just after the discovery of the alleged body of Mr. HAMILTON, wrote to the latter's brother SCHUYLER, under date of Sept. 5: "If you will allow me a word of advice, I should recommend not to attempt to have RAY's body removed now. It could not be done. If you write to Mr. SARGENT, *he will choose the best time for removing the body and notify you.* But this I say, knowing that RAY had expressed a wish to be buried here."

The question naturally arises, why this body was not sent to the bereaved family, and why Mr. SARGENT was not visited or summoned for his vital testimony before the snows of winter blocked the way. But SARGENT's testimony would not have been more important than that of Dr. GREEN.

The strongest witness in the case would have been the dead body of the man who is said to have been ROBERT RAY HAMILTON. Mr. HAMILTON's teeth had been filled by a dentist, who, it is said, could have identified the filling; and this is not unusual or extraordinary testimony. Beyond this, Mr. HAMILTON had suffered a peculiar compound fracture of the left leg, caused by a fall from a horse which he was riding in the Central Park a few years ago, which gave him a certain halting walk in later years.

If the left leg of the body found in Snake River by Dr. GREEN, which now lies buried on the Wyoming ranch, shows—as a broken leg always must show—evidences of fracture, then it would be safe to say that ROBERT RAY HAMILTON is dead. *But if no such evidence is to be found*, it is safe to say that ROBERT RAY HAMILTON still lives.

There is but one way to meet the difficulty. If Mr. HAMILTON is dead, let his body bear testimony to that fact.

There is good material for a Democratic candidate for President in Indiana. Valuable information about it can be found in a letter from Indianapolis on the twentieth page of this paper. It is by that stalwart old Democrat, W. P. TOMLINSON.

The third Plenary Council of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, held in Baltimore in November, 1884, declared in favor of a larger support by both clergy and laity of the Catholic newspapers. The Bishops to whom was committed the devising of methods for carrying out this plan of aid, thereupon endeavored, in the way which seemed to each most expedient and feasible, to assist and sustain the Catholic journals published or circulated within their immediate jurisdiction. These efforts, separately undertaken and prosecuted, failed to produce the good results intended, and in 1890 an organization was established among the editors and publishers of Catholic journals in this country for the purpose of carrying into effect the views enunciated at the Council.

On the sixth of May the second annual Convention of this Catholic Press Association will be held in this city in the hall of St. Francis Xavier's College in Sixteenth street. The Rev. JOHN TALBOT SMITH of the *Catholic Review* has charge of the arrangements.

The call for the meeting, which emanates from the city of St. Louis, and is signed by CORDE B. FALLIN, President of the association, invites "without distinction or exception, all Catholic editors and business managers to attend." It further declares that "the officers of the association hope that every Catholic journal in the United States will send a representative to the forthcoming Convention."

The main purpose of this Convention of Catholic editors and publishers is to devise means for a consolidation of their interests. They have become fully convinced that "in union there is strength." Experience has shown that with their newspapers acting separately the news of each was inferior and meagre, and often unsatisfactory to its readers. What was found to be true of the readers was also true of the advertisers. They wanted their announcements printed in journals of large circulation and influence.

The chief centres of religious intelligence for Catholics in America are Rome, Paris, Vienna, Dublin, Madrid, and Munich, and an arrangement is hoped for whereby everything of interest occurring in either of these cities will be reproduced for the Catholic constituency in the United States in better shape than heretofore and at a reduced cost. While the weekly Catholic papers are improved, the margin of reduction will be available for better mechanical facilities, for literary assistance, for advertising, and for new features. There are no daily Catholic papers, and these plans involve no invasion of the field covered by the daily newspaper press.

The editor of the *Eco d'Italia* of this city expresses his desire for the enforcement of the law against the carrying of deadly weapons. "We would like to see the law enforced," he says; "why is it not enforced?" The desire of the editor of our contemporary is proper and commendable; and we trust that the law in question will be enforced, as far as possible, from this time forward.

A document of extraordinary value is the report of Prof. SARGENT and Mr. A. S. FULLER upon the condition of Prospect Park in Brooklyn. The trees in that famous pleasure ground are dying from abuse and negligence. It appears that among the Park managers there has not been one intelligent enough and faithful enough to protect them.

A park may cost millions, but in the hands of ignorant and careless custodians its destruction is easy and certain. We add that in everything relating to the planting and culture of trees and shrubbery, Prof. SARGENT and Mr. FULLER are among the very highest of living authorities.

It is our duty to reprimand the big gang of 400 Columbia College students who misdemeaned themselves and broke up the play at Harrigan's Theatre on Friday night. These collegians were guilty of exceedingly bad conduct when they resorted to violence, waved aloft their whiskey flasks, flung cabbages and other missiles at the players, forced many of the spectators to leave the place, and made it necessary for the manager to cut short the performance. Their misdeeds in the theatre were shameful, and when they got out into the streets they acted like a gang of rioters until the police got after them.

If all the offenders had been arrested and held for trial as disturbers of the peace, it would have served them right.

Furthermore, they brought discredit upon the college in which they are students, and they ought to be disciplined by its authorities. Collegians must be held to the law as well as other people.

MOLTKE did not quite reach the years of WRANGEL, who died in 1877 at the age of over 93, nor did he quite equal Emperor WILLIAM I., who lacked but thirteen days of completing his 91st year. Two years ago the *St. James's Gazette*, noting that "the majority of Prussian Field Marshals have been old men," found plenty of examples also of aged English soldiers of celebrity, present and past, including Sir PATRICK GRANT, who at that time was about 85 years old, with seventy years' service; Lord NAPIER, then 79; WELLINGTON, who died at 83, after sixty-five years of service; Lord GOUGH, who lived to 90, with seventy-five years of service; Sir JOHN BURGOYNE, who entered the army at 16 and reached the age of 89. Of the French veterans it cited MCMAHON, at that time 81 years old; CANROBERT, at that time 80; SOULT, who died at 82, after sixty-six years of service; GROUCHY, who died at 81, and so on. To these examples may be added that of the longest-lived of our more distinguished Revolutionary soldiers, STARK, who died at the age of nearly 94. Admiral WALLIS of the British Navy celebrated recently his hundredth birthday.

But of course the interest on this point in MOLTKE's career is that the great work of his life was done after he had reached the age of 66; and, indeed, until 60 he was little known outside of Prussia. His supreme achievements were effected at the age of 70 and 71; but no one ever questioned that he was still in his full vigor as a strategist at 80, or that Germany's chief reliance would have been on him, for planning and directing her campaigns, up to a very few years ago. Indeed he gave evidence of his ability until his resignation of his office of Chief of the General Staff, in August, 1888, to do its routine work, in supervision and criticism, with his wonted vigor and precision.

A good deal is said in various quarters about the advantage of retaining the Hon. MICHAEL COLEMAN at the head of the Department of Taxes. We trust there is no probability of his removal. He is the right man in the right place.

We are not aware that there ever has been a week in any other year when the immigration to this port was as heavy as it was last week. To the immigrants who were entered at the Barge Office must be added the large number, not counted, who came here by way of Canada. It is a regrettable fact that a considerable proportion of the newcomers were undesirable, though not prohibited by law from landing on our shores or from becoming a part of our population.

It is to be hoped that the STECKLER brothers will remain stanch adherents and supporters of the Democratic cause. Their record in the past ought to speak for their record in the future.

President NICOLAS CONFORTI of the Italian Stone Masons' Union appears to be a man of good judgment and law-abiding disposition. He has warned the members of his organization against carrying arms, or in any way violating the public peace, even when they happen to be engaged in a strike. He is anxious that his countrymen should enjoy a good reputation in the United States. We commend the course of President CONFORTI.

Our white citizens in the neighborhood of disaffected Indians are accustomed to having guns turned against them, which very likely they themselves sold to the Indians while peace was smiling. The English are having a little of this experience themselves. In 1887 some cannon were presented with much pomp to the Rajah of Manipur. He accepted the handsome present with a pledge that if ever the guns were taken into action it should be against the enemies of Manipur and the Queen of England. In the recent uprising, however, these very cannon were used to shell the British residency. It was these guns that made the premises untenable, compelled the surrender of the garrison, and later came the terrible massacre in which the British prisoners were slaughtered. It is now asserted that had it not been for Queen VICTORIA's handsome present the residency would not have been captured, nor its tenants exposed to the savage fury of the Manipur soldiery.

Very many of the subjects of the King of Italy who are now living here are constantly violating our law by carrying concealed weapons. They are now in danger of suffering the legal penalties provided for that offence in this State.

One Religious Paper Surprises Another.

From the Christian Herald.

We are somewhat surprised to find in our orthodox contemporary, the *Religious Herald*, of Hartford, the following bit of information under the general heading "Ministers and Churches": "Miss Lillian Russell, the opera singer, has appeared in tights to the delight of hundreds of audiences in the 'Queen's Mate.' She lately tried a suit, and was defeated. Her bond was $5,000. She had appeared already 150 nights." As this is followed and preceded by items about Dwight L. Moody and other reverend gentlemen, we imagine that the editorial scissors must have slipped.

THE NEW TRIALS OF THE VESUVIUS.

The Dynamite Vessel May Now Have Her Battery Tried Under Service Conditions.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—At last the torpedo cruiser Vesuvius is to have a series of thorough tests in Chesapeake Bay to show of what her three pneumatic gun-tubes are capable. She is called officially a dynamite vessel, but although she has for a long time been in commission she has never yet fired an ounce of dynamite from her guns. Of course these weapons were tested on shore with shells containing high explosives, since otherwise the vessel could not have been accepted under the contract, but the trials of the tubes when mounted in the vessel were with dummy projectiles, which would hardly be effective against an enemy.

Possibly, even if the Vesuvius should regularly use high explosives, dynamite would not be the one selected. Gun cotton is employed instead in the navy, and very likely this would be used in the shells of the Vesuvius. But the first requisite is to put beyond a doubt the ability of the guns to hit objects of the size of an enemy's ship at a distance of a mile. Although the trials for accuracy of fire and for range have already been made, and pronounced satisfactory, yet they were conducted with projectiles different from such as would be used in service. If the proper degree of accuracy can be secured with shells containing high explosives, then it will be of comparatively small importance whether the rapidity of fire called for by the contract is really attainable under such conditions.

One reason for testing the Vesuvius thoroughly is that the Navy Department is authorized to contract for a duplicate of this vessel at its discretion; and of course this would never be undertaken until a full knowledge of the offensive power of the pioneer of the type had been obtained. But even for the purpose of using the Vesuvius herself such a test is requisite. It is hardly probable that an exact reproduction of the vessel would be attempted in any case, because to put in an unarmored craft a battery which is only available at a range of a mile or two seems little more than inviting her destruction. It has always been an objection to this vessel that she might be riddled and sunk or blown up by even the smaller calibres carried on war ships before she could be brought near enough to them to use her dynamite tubes. This, to be sure, is also an objection that applies to all torpedo craft; nevertheless, it is undoubtedly believed by many that the pneumatic gun when used afloat should be put in a vessel having sufficient armor to prevent her being destroyed even by machine and rapid-fire guns.

But one object of Congress and of the Navy Department in authorizing and contracting for the Vesuvius was doubtless to obtain a craft which would furnish the means of experimenting exhaustively with the offensive powers of the dynamite gun when used afloat. With that point settled, the question what sort of defensive strength should be given to the vessel carrying such a gun could be considered afterward. In fact, with the very high speed of the Vesuvius, which was remarkable in her day, although it has already been surpassed, she would prove well worth having and of good service, even should the result of the coming trials be that of taking out her pneumatic guns and using them for shore defence, and then fitting her up with a battery of rapid-fire guns. Still, the immediate need is to use her for determining whether the pneumatic guns should be employed afloat. That compressed air as a propelling power makes the firing of shells filled with bursting charges of the high explosives perfectly safe has been again and again demonstrated by experiments both in New York harbor and at Shoeburyness. But what remains to be shown is whether such shells fired from a vessel affected by the action of the sea, and in which the aiming can only be done by the helm, can be exploded with accuracy in a space traversed by a moving enemy's ship. This the Chesapeake Bay experiments are expected to show.

GEN. SPINNER'S WILL.

He Directs that his Remarkable Signature Shall be his Epitaph.

From the Utica Observer.

HERKIMER, April 21.—The will of Gen. Francis E. Spinner has been admitted to probate in Duval county, Florida, and a certified copy was received at the Herkimer county Surrogate's office yesterday for probate.

The document covers eighty pages, and bears the date the third day of June, 1890, and the execution is attested by William B. Barnett, Truman D. Gibbens, and James F. Woodworth, witnesses residing at Jacksonville, Fla. He bequeaths of his stock in the Mohawk Valley Bank to his daughter, Josephine C. S. Schumacher, 22 shares; his grandson, Francis C. S. Harvey of Buffalo, 22 shares; to James M. Schumacher, in trust for his great grandsons, Thomas Canning Moore, and Leroy P. Moore of Jacksonville, 20 shares; to Martha Bullson of Mohawk, 10 shares; to Kate Bellinger of Mohawk, 1 share. The above bequests of 75 shares of stock are made on the express condition that one-half of all dividends on the same 75 shares be paid to his brother, Jacob W. Spinner of Mohawk, so long as he shall live, and after the death of Jacob shall pay to Mary, the wife of Jacob, the one-half of one dividend on the 75 shares of stock.

All the rest and residue of his property, which is enumerated in the will as his homestead, consisting of house and nine village lots in Mohawk, one house and lot in the village of Herkimer, a cottage and four lots at Pablo Beach, Duval county, Fla., boat house at Jacksonville, paintings, pictures, books, household furniture, clock with side ornaments, watch and chain, breastpin, pair of sleeve buttons, collection of shells, fossils, and minerals, notes amounting to about $10,000, book accounts amounting to $9,000, and 200 shares of the capital stock of the First National Bank of Florida at Jacksonville, he directs to be divided into six equal shares to be given to his daughter, Josephine Schumacher, two shares to his grandson, Francis E. S. Harvey, two shares in trust for the great grandsons, Thomas Channing Moore and Leroy P. Moore. His executors are given power to sell any of the property for the purpose of making the division.

He directs the purchase and erection of a sienite or granite monument, to be erected on the family burial lot in the cemetery at Mohawk, and desires that his executors, on one face of the monument, shall cause to be inscribed a raised fac simile of his signature, and the date of his birth and death. The daughter, Josephine C. S. Schumacher, and the grandson, Francis E. S. Harvey, are appointed executors in the will.

Foreign Notes of Real Interest.

Donna Isidora Cousino in Chili is supposed to be the richest woman in the world. Her monthly income is $90,000. She is a stately widow of 85 years, and a famous horsewoman.

Emperor William II. sent this despatch to Prof. Max Müller of Oxford, after the Oxford-Cambridge boat race: "Actuated by the interest and sympathy of many years, I send late, but none the less cordially, my congratulations for your victory in the boat race.

"WILLIAM, Emperor and King."

The *Comptes rendus de l'Académie de Sciences* announces the discovery of diamonds in the sands of the little river Fa, between Russia and Norway. The mineralogist Vilain has found there gold grains in considerable quantities, and among them diamonds of about two millimetres diameter. In St. Petersburg a society has been formed to exploit this discovery.

German papers express serious alarm at the spread of irreligion in the fatherland. The number of Germans in the large cities receiving neither baptism nor confirmation amounts to hundreds of thousands. In Prussia alone there are 80,000 irreligious persons who have never been baptised. This number does not include those who have been baptised but disclaim the Church and all religious institutions.

The trans-African railroad has been completed from Loanda to Ambaca, 160 miles in the interior. It is the only railroad in operation in equatorial Africa. It has been built by native workmen and daily trains are run over the line. Four years have elapsed since the line was started. The Portuguese Government guarantees the interest on its cost. The road is to be pushed several hundred miles further into the interior.

The spirit of organization has struck the bell-ringers of the English churches, the first annual meeting of the "Central Council of Church Bell-ringers" having been held, with seventy delegates attending, representing 12,000 members. A prominent topic to be discussed was the modification of harsh-sounding bells, the ringers evidently appreciating the fact that the sentiment in England against church-spire clang or is growing.

Effects of variously colored lights on insane persons have been observed by the director of the Milan Insane Asylum. A melancholy patient in a rosy light improved perceptibly in twelve hours. In twenty-four hours he called for food, although for many preceding days nourishment had been administered to him against his will. Thereupon the director had rooms furnished in solid colors and confined patients in them. Green and blue were found to be the most quieting, rose the most cheering, red the most exciting. All the patients in the asylum will be confined hereafter in apartments furnished in colors to suit the nature of their maladies.

Jerry's Big Job.

From the Washington Post.

Jerry Simpson has probably ascertained by this time that it is no fool job to keep oneself continually before the public.

A Great Thoroughfare.

Fourteen trains for Albany and Troy, twelve for Syracuse, ten for Rochester and Buffalo, five for Chicago, four for Cincinnati, three for St. Louis, leave Grand Central station every day, via the New York Central. "America's greatest railroad."—*Adv.*

An early cough, even when it appears deep seated, can be alleviated, if not immediately removed by Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant. A safe, reliable and long established remedy for Bronchial and Asthmatic Affections, and for fifty years an approved helper for all Lung Complaints.—*Adv.*

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY.

The first Claremont tea, which was expected to be the leading event of the week, was spoiled by the weather. Torrents of rain greeted the occupants of T carts, victorias, and landaus on their way out, and great was the dismay that followed. Mrs. W. D. Sloane and Miss Beatrice Chapman, in the daintiest of spring toilets, turned back from the park gates, and could hardly have escaped a complete drenching before they reached Mrs. Sloane's house. Col. and Mrs. Cruger were in a T cart when the rain descended, and as Mrs. Cruger did not preside over the tea table at the club house it is fair to suppose that she also returned home in a dripping condition. Many others who had started took alarm in time and sought shelter. At any rate, enthusiasm was completely washed out of those who had intended to be present, and although the skies cleared rapidly the display of beauty and equipages at the club house and on the Riverside drive was not considerable.

The Shakespearean reception at the Players' Club was vastly more satisfactory, and those who elected to go there in preference to Claremont passed a very agreeable afternoon. Miss Greeley's wedding, which also occurred on Thursday, was a very interesting occasion and brought together a large assemblage of notabilities, ecclesiastical, legal, and literary.

On Friday evening Mrs. William C. Whitney gave a dinner and dance for Miss Thompson and Mr. Harry Cannon, which, in spite of the thinning of the ranks by the prevailing epidemic and by recent departures for Europe, was a gay and lively affair. To-morrow evening a similar entertainment will be given to the same lucky young couple by Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish at her house in Lexington avenue, and on Tuesday Sir Roderick and Miss Anne Cameron give them a large dinner, at which Mrs. Prescott Lawrence, Mrs. W. D. Sloane, and Miss Turnure will be among the guests.

The marriage of Miss Thompson and Mr. Cannon is announced for the 9th of June, and will probably be, for the young people, at least, a jolly and charming affair. The ceremony will take place in St. George's Church, and the reception at Mrs. Heward Cutting's large house in Fifth avenue. Miss Hargous, Miss Cornelia Rogers, and Miss May Jaffray will be among the bridesmaids, and it indicates the nicest and most loyal nature on the part of the bride that she has determined not to overlook her early friends, but to have at least three or four of them to attend her on the important occasion. The advent of so many strange maidens, all presumably pretty, and, perhaps, with the prestige of Western wealth to add to their attractions, will give a snap and go to the ceremonials which nothing else could impart, and the new faces, to the ushers, at least, will be quite a life-saving station. The ushers, by the way, are to be Messrs. Robert Hargous, Lispenard Stewart, Brockholst Cutting, Elisha