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The Test.

There ought to be no great difficulty in settling every question raised by the presence of contesting delegates from New York city in Saratoga to-morrow.

New York county is entitled to seventy-two seats in the Convention. The seventy-two seats should be occupied by seventy-two Democrats who have been loyal to the Democratic colors for at least twelve months.

If that test of constancy and Democracy seems too rigid to any of the gentlemen claiming places in the Convention as representatives of the organization known as the County Democracy, make the period of retrospective probation eleven months. Cut it down even to ten months and fifteen days; but do not abridge it so as to exclude from consideration the political behavior of the claimants on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 1890.

That was the day when the loyal Democrats of New York were assailed in their own stronghold, in the very citadel of the National Democracy, by the combined forces of Republicans, Mugwumps, and County Democrats, so called. That was the day, too, which witnessed the overwhelming defeat of this extraordinary alliance of open enmity with open treason.

Surely, it is not too much to expect that the Democratic State Convention will be slow to unseat any Democrat who stood by the Democratic cause in the municipal election of last year, in order to make a place for any individual, calling himself Democrat, Mugwump, or Republican, who assisted in that memorable enterprise, and participated in its humiliating and disastrous conclusion.

Incivility to Foreign Guests.

Among the passengers who arrived at this port on the steamer Augusta Victoria on Saturday afternoon were three persons who came to the United States in response to an invitation extended by the authority of Congress to the nations which they represent, to participate in the World's Fair at Chicago. We mean Sir HENRY WOOD and Mr. JAMES DREDGE, the British Commissioners to the Fair, and Herr WERMUTH, the Commissioner from Germany.

The way in which these gentlemen were received here is a reproach to the Government at Washington, and particularly to the State Department. Mr. BLAINE's presence at the capital is sorely needed, to teach his subordinates something about the duties of hospitality and good manners toward the representatives of foreign countries who have come hither at our request.

What ought to have been done was to have some officer or officers of the Federal Government, preferably from the State Department, here in New York awaiting the arrival of the foreign Commissioners, to go down the bay on a revenue cutter as soon as the steamer was reported, board the incoming vessel, welcome the guests, take them and their baggage off, and bring them to the city without delay, whence they could set out at their convenience for Washington or Chicago, as the case might be. But if this were deemed too much trouble, the foreign Commissioners might at least have been invited onto the Custom House boat that takes the inspectors down to Quarantine, and brought up to the city thereon, with their baggage, which could have been inspected and passed as they were coming up the bay.

Nothing of the sort was done, however. The Augusta Victoria reached her wharf in Hoboken at about half past six. The foreign Commissioners had to wait on the pier, just as all the other passengers did, until the Custom House inspectors were able to satisfy their consciences that these gentlemen were not smugglers; and this took until eight o'clock, and perhaps longer. Finally, after having been subjected to manifest annoyance and perplexity, the Commissioners, who are in a certain sense guests of the nation, were able to come to this city with their belongings.

Was not this a right royal welcome? Contrast it with the greeting lately extended to Gen. E. BURD GRUBB when he was met by a steamboat load of friends with a brass band down the bay, or with the comfort and convenience with which Dr. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW comes up to the city as soon as his steamer stops at Staten Island.

And more than all the rest, compare it with the hospitality and attention shown everywhere in Europe to the American World's Fair Commissioners who were fellow passengers with these foreign Commissioners on the Augusta Victoria.

Fancy Sketch by Mr. Fassett.

Persons ignorant of the true inwardness of Republicanism should read the certificate of character which the Hon. JACOB SLOAT FASSETT gave to the grand old party at Elmira last Thursday night. Surrounded by his friends and neighbors and moved to enthusiasm by their sympathy and encouragement, the young Phœnix of Chemung poured forth this flaming eulogium of the party of ROBESON and BELKNAP, of KEMBLE and BARDSLEY, of the Credit Mobilier and the Star Route Steals, of the Great Fraud of 1876 and the Force bill of 1890, and the Billion Congress:

"The Republican party has always been for more freedom of speech, more freedom of worship, more freedom of thought, more freedom of action, for a free ballot and for free men. There is no story of a wrong done to any class in all its records. There is no story of a wrong done to any race in all its history. There is no trace or even a memory of a wrong done to individuals or against society in any form."

So the Republican party has been truly good to all races, all classes, and all persons. Most of all, although the enthusiastic Elmiran omitted to say so, it has been good to itself. It has never denied itself any amusement that it coveted. When its hands have itched it has freely applied money to them from the Treasury. It has set a lesson of humility and obedience by meekly obeying its bosses. It has shown its independence—of the Constitution. Here in New York it has rebuked the spirit of local pride and civic patriotism by sending away the World's Fair, thereby punishing New York for cleaving to the Democratic party. It has delayed rapid transit for the purpose, doubtless, of warning this town against the danger of growing too rapidly and thinking too much of material comfort. It has prevented reapportionment, so that a million or so of dwellers in cities, left without their proper share of representation in the Legislature, might see the inconvenience and the folly of living in cities. For the same reason, no doubt, it has piled taxes upon this end of the State. The simple agriculturist must be encouraged to vote the Republican ticket.

The people of New York have said that they wanted a Constitutional Convention, but the Republican party, by virtue of its possession of goodness and infallibility, knows that the people do not want what they think they want. Ever anxious to do wrong to no class and no individuals, the Republican party of New York is for prohibition—license and rum—water. It sticks temperance tracts upon the walls and hands you out the demijohn if you wink the proper wink. Ever eager to cut down the Democratic vote, any shape of ballot "reform" which makes the act of voting more cumbrous and perplexing to plain people is sure of Republican support.

Mr. FASSETT has the ardor of youth, and he lays the paint on thickly. Why, however, in his sweet picture of the perfections of the Republican party, did he reserve no space for his guide and guardian, his discoverer and protector, his lord and leader, his master and owner, the owner and master of the Republican party of New York? Why did he not draw the portrait of the shepherd whom he follows, bleating meekly? Why was the Hon. T. COLLIER PLATT left out?

Crapo and the Bay State Republicans.

The State Convention of the Massachusetts Republicans will be held this week. The usual rich humor has been developed in the election of delegates. The popularity of Governor BILLY RUSSELL has made the older heads in the Republican party of the Bay State exceedingly thoughtful. A good many of them, including the Hon. GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR, the only man who remembers ADAM as a little baby, came to the conclusion that the Hon. WILLIAM W. CRAPO of New Bedford was the man for the hour. Mr. CRAPO is a respectable elderly gentleman, who has been a member of Congress without paining anybody by the effulgence of his talents, and he has lived and practised law at New Bedford for many years without setting the Acushnet on fire. He is regarded as eminently safe, like a family horse, has a churchwarden cast of countenance, and is much looked up to by the Massachusetts Republicans when they are in a tight place.

Mr. CRAPO belongs to that peculiar class of beings who expect to catch office as they catch cold, without looking for it. His experience has been rather unfortunate. In 1882 the dress-parade Republicans called on him to save the State, which the terrible Gen. BUTLER was threatening to devour. The Old Guard resolved to strike for its altars and its fires, and have the impeccable gentleman from New Bedford for the head of the ticket. When the State Convention met it was found that Mr. CRAPO had neglected to get a majority of the delegates. A little Prohibitionist named BISHOP was nominated, and was beautifully beaten by Gen. BUTLER, much to the satisfaction of Mr. CRAPO's friends, who felt that nothing of the kind could have happened if their man had been nominated.

The next Republican to pour disappointment upon the New Bedford statesman was the Hon. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS BRACKETT, the gentleman with a distinguished head of hair, whom BILLY RUSSELL whipped last year. Mr. CRAPO was again the hope of the saving remnant, but again he forgot that to be nominated you must have a sufficient number of delegates. Of course, Mr. CRAPO didn't have a sufficient number. He doesn't depend upon such vulgar means, but expects to be nominated and elected in consideration of his reputation for virtue and his superiority to the methods of ordinary Massachusetts politicians.

This year the cry for CRAPO went up from the faithful, including Mr. HOAR. A venerable and safe statesman was needed, and of course the people would prefer such a man to a mere boy like RUSSELL. In modest expectation of the great third wave that was to bear him at last to victory, Mr. CRAPO went abroad. It is supposed that he will return to New Bedford to-day. He will not find a joyous prospect. As usual, some other man has a majority of the delegates. This time it is the Hon. CHARLES H. ALLEN of Lowell, an affable lumber man, whose chief titles to fame are his skill as an amateur carpenter and his invention of a root beer bearing his name. Mr. ALLEN served in a couple of Congresses without exciting the galleries or the floor, and he is not well known in Massachusetts, or at least was not a few weeks ago. But he has friends that are hustlers, and they have corralled delegates by the hundred. Apparently there are two ALLEN delegates for one CRAPO man.

The friends of the gentleman who expects office to come to him on a silver charger are bestirring themselves at the eleventh hour. They insist that he is still in the race, but the desire of their hearts is to beat ALLEN, and force Lieut.-Gov. HAILE, who has repeatedly said No, to become the candidate for Governor. It is possible that HAILE's virtue may yield, but the ALLEN men are not going to give up the fruits of their activity if they can help it. It is not their fault that the CRAPO men are always in the minority. The situation is one that bedews with tears the spectacles of Mr. HOAR.

If Mr. ALLEN is nominated, the CRAPO men have razors ready, and they have shown their ability in the cutting line. If Mr. ALLEN is thimblerigged out of a nomination to which he seems entitled, some of his friends may imitate the processes which CRAPO's friends have illustrated. The reappearance of the virtuous but unfortunate CRAPO must whisper joy to the spirits of the Hon. WILLIAM EUSTIS RUSSELL.

Plattocracy and Democracy.

The Hon. JOHN VROOMAN, PLATT candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, is reported as prophesying that the Democratic Convention to-morrow will nominate CHAPIN.

The Hon. JACOB SLOAT FASSETT, PLATT candidate for Governor, is reported as predicting that the Democratic candidate will be HILL.

The Hon. THOMAS C. PLATT, the PLATT candidate for Supreme Boss, is reported as expressing his positive conviction that FLOWER is the man destined to lead the Democratic forces.

Whichever of this interesting trio is right, it will still be true that the issue of the canvass is PLATT rule against Democracy.

At the end of this week the St. Clair tunnel, running under the river between Fort Huron and Sarnia, will be thrown open for general travel. The first train will bring guests from the Ontario to the Michigan side, where they will be formally welcomed; and when they have returned to Sarnia, the great structure will be ready for the public.

A little over a year has elapsed since the shields which had been working toward each other from the opposite ends of the bore met and fitted exactly, and the engineers shook hands with each other under the river. Since then the approaches and tracks have been perfected, and now all is complete. It is the longest river tunnel in the world, and the first one made of cast iron. The rapidity and comparative economy of its construction have made a great impression, and no doubt will stimulate other enterprises of the kind. In fact, the engineers who are proposing a new tunnel under the Thames at Blackwall, which would be a little larger in diameter, although not nearly so long, have visited and studied the one at Port Huron and Sarnia.

It is a creditable piece of engineering work, and our Northern neighbors should take care not to allow it to be perverted into an underground route for Mongolian contrabands, seeking to evade the Exclusion act.

The Mugwumps of the *Evening Post*, who are nothing if not British, have got themselves into a state of mind about the Cobden Club, the Ohio election, and Mr. DUDLEY, formerly an American Consul in England. Our mind is not to meddle in the matter. If the Cobden Club have money to spend in Ohio, by all means let them spend it. Major MCKINLEY will no doubt be as glad of it as of the subsidiary eloquence of Mr. ROGER Q. MILLS.

But merely for information we should like to learn something from Mr. DUDLEY about a certain "Lord MONSON," by whom, as he gives us to understand, the Ohio Democrats are to be liberally assisted to beat Major MCKINLEY. Mr. DUDLEY seems to have attended a banquet given to this peer on his elevation to the peerage; and he tells us that the noble Lord was previously known as Mr. LESTER, a manufacturer of plush, who made "ten millions of dollars in ten years" at his business.

When was Mr. LESTER made a peer, and was he made a peer on his promise to contribute liberally to the defeat of Major MCKINLEY in Ohio? He certainly was not made a peer before the publication of the peerage lists for 1891, in which his name does not appear. Down to that time the title of Lord MONSON was borne by the head of the MONSON family, one of whose members is well remembered in Washington as the favorite Secretary of the British Legation there under Lord LYONS. Lord MONSON was long the Liberal whip in the House of Lords, and he was rewarded for his faithful services by Mr. GLADSTONE in 1886 with a step in the peerage. He now sits as Viscount OXENBRIDGE. But he has never been reputed to be a millionaire. Is it possible that he can have been surreptitiously and successfully conducting a plush manufactory all these years under the name of LESTER?

Another noticeable feature of the New York Republican platform is the strong endorsement of civil service reform.—*Minneapolis Journal.*

Another noticeable feature of the Dark Gentleman with a cloven hoof and a pungent odor of sulphur is his passionate affection for holy water.

After the Hon. THOMAS COLLIER PLATT has trampled on the holiest feelings of the Hon. ANDREW DICKSON WHITE, the Hon. JOSEPH BELLIGER MCCULLAGH of St. Louis thus insults the mourner of Ithaca:

"The best thing that the New York Republican Convention did was not to nominate ARTHUR D. WHITE for Governor."

ARTHUR WHITE! We shall hear of TOM WASHINGTON, EDWARD F. EDMUNDS, JOHN GRAHAM VEST, and JABEZ B. MCCULLAGH next. Evidently Fame is not yet back from her vacation.

The confidence of the Porte has been shamefully abused by one PEHLIVAN, who, on the principle that it is good policy to set a thief to catch a thief, was employed by the Sultan's Government to bring the brigands to terms. PEHLIVAN first attracted notice as a successful brigand himself, but he was believed to have retired from that line of business, and so he was honored with a command to go forth and conduct the Government's negotiations with the notorious ATHANASIUS and his robber band. PEHLIVAN has not returned, and the Porte has reached the sad conclusion that he has linked his fortunes with those of ATHANASIUS and thereby complicated the problem he was expected to solve.

Mr. BLAINE's in that condition of fluctuating spirits where notely seems like asserting boldly anything concerning him.—*New York Times.*

The Republican Conventions in Pennsylvania and in New York seemed like asserting something very boldly concerning him.

The Hon. MOSES PUBLICITY HANDY of the World's Fair insists that he had trouble in recovering his passports at a Moscow hotel because of his front name. Major HANDY is much too modest for a temporary citizen of Chicago. The fact is that the Moscow police were instructed to detain him until the Grand Duke ALEXIS could run up from Homburg and have a private view of those unique and unrivalled whiskers. The Czar was at Denmark, unfortunately, but he sent Major HANDY the Grand Order for the Whiskers and the decoration of First Class Chevalier of the Capillary Four Hundred. In the matter of decorativeness, Major HANDY must be only a few points behind Gen. EDWARD BURD GRUBB.

Apparently there has been sufficient stirring about on the part of the friends of the Hon. WILLIAM R. MORRISON of Illinois to raise him into greater prominence as a Presidential candidate, to make our esteemed contemporary, the *Chicago Herald*, express its feelings on the subject; and they are to the effect that under no circumstances can W. R. MORRISON be a leader of the Illinois Democrats again.

It is impossible not to have a certain sympathy for that Michigan Methodist parson, Brother ARNEY of Saranac, who is to be disciplined for his fondness for fast horses. Brother ARNEY has been admonished before as to the error of his ways, and has promised to reform, but he does like a horse that can go. Why is it more wicked, any way, to have a fast horse than a slow horse? Perhaps Brother ARNEY creates envy among the owners of steeds less fleet than his. The mind's eye sees Brother ARNEY, clad in a duster and wearing a solemn, ministerial countenance, clucking to his favorite plug and crackling into a smile as he passes everything on the road. Brother ARNEY should be dealt with gently. ELIJAH was a good man, but he holds the record for chariots.

The Hon. JEREMIAH SIMPSON, the Sockless Socrates of Medicine Lodge, avers that "we"—*i. e.*, the Hayseed Socialists—"will soon be the law-making power of the country." JERRY is an interesting sort of person. Not content with being painfully ignorant and laboriously wrong about finance and political economy, he has to knock the heads of Shall and Will together, and punch English grammar in the eye. What would happen to JERRY if he should accidentally get something right some time?

Senator PLATT does not look well. The terrible physical and mental strain has told upon him, and he appeared completely worn out.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

We have seen how the terrible incident told on FAUST's nerves, but such transactions do not usually affect MEPHISTOPHELES that way.

The Hon. AUSTIN GIBBONS still believes that he was not and cannot be licked beyond recovery by the Hon. JOHN MCAULIFFE, and he reproaches the arbiter of the battle, the Hon. JEREMIAH DUNN, for the latter's decision. Mr. DUNN, however, is like Teneriffe or Atlas unremoved. "I don't care a damn," says he, in the high Roman fashion, "what anybody says or thinks of my decision." This is the proper spirit in an umpire; and there is time enough for Mr. GIBBONS to resume hostilities with Mr. MCAULIFFE. It is to be desired, however, that boxers develop more wind in the ring and less after the fight.

According to a decree issued by the Congressional party now in possession of the government of Chili, the new President of the republic is to be "elected by universal suffrage." The adherents of the BALMACEDA party are not to be disfranchised by their victorious adversaries, but are to be permitted to vote for members of the Chamber of Deputies as well as for Presidential electors. The President is chosen through indirect election, or by delegates elected by popular ballot, and holds office for five years. BALMACEDA's term would have lasted till the 18th of this month if he had not fled from the country a few days ago. It is in favor of the Congressional party that it has refrained from any attempt to restrict popular suffrage in elections held just after the close of the civil war.

THREE VIEWS OF THE GREAT CANADIAN QUESTION.

I.—From a Strong Annexationist.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* From trustworthy information just received, radical changes are most likely to occur in Canada before the year closes. In giving my evidence before the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations, charged with an investigation of our relations with Canada, two or three years ago, I testified that a feeling of unrest prevailed in Canada from Cape Breton to Vancouver respecting the future relation which Canada should bear to this country. That the Canadian electors demanded a finality, and that reciprocity, as proposed at that time by Mr. Wiman, was only an opiate and not a cure; that it would only delay a final settlement and thus prolong the period of uncertainty; that annexation was the only solution of the difficulties confronting the Canadian people, and that if we refused them reciprocity it would aid them in reaching a conclusion. I also expressed the opinion that the Hon. Edward Blake was the hope of Canada. He is preeminently not only the greatest living Canadian, but the greatest statesman ever developed in Canadian public affairs. Canada's most eminent lawyer and jurist, her most earnest student and most profound thinker, with the clearest perception of cause and effect. His is a great mind, controlled and directed by sublime faith in the overcoming power of truth. In mental power and discernment he is the peer of Gladstone, Blaine, and Bismarck. He is a sincere, truly loyal, and patriotic Canadian, and a lover of all that is great and noble in mother England, but unwilling that Canada should any longer be handicapped, starved, and sacrificed by a sentimental connection with the island across the sea. Mr. Blake some time ago would have been satisfied to have tested for a time reciprocity, but I am delighted to learn that he will soon announce himself as in favor of annexation direct, and declare that the time has gone by for an opiate, reciprocity. From constant communication with all parts of the Dominion, and my experience of twenty-five years' residence there, I am morally certain that whenever Mr. Blake decides to do so, the great majority of the Canadian people will shout amen and amen.

With a view to eliminate from the discussion in Canada a renewal of the treaty of 1854, and unrestricted reciprocity as proposed by Sir Richard Cartwright, and to excite in Canada an investigation of the effect of a treaty of commercial union with a view to annexation, I suggested that the Republican Convention at Rochester should adopt the following resolution, but decided not to press it:

Resolved, That we approve of negotiating with England, Canada, and Newfoundland a friendly treaty of commercial union relating to British North America and the British West Indies, such as will in effect extend the provisions of the McKinley tariff to the Arctic Sea, and thereby enlarge the market for our surplus natural and manufactured products.

No one foresaw more clearly than Sir John Macdonald the terrible condition disclosed by the Canadian census. He dare not defer the election until after he was compelled to publish the facts. It was to be taken by his own appointees and he could not dispute the returns. He knew that their publication would be fatal to his continuance in power, and would inevitably force the premature dissolution of Parliament.

An attempt has been made by revenue reformers to charge the exodus from Canada to this country to the policy of protection adopted by Sir John in 1879. The exodus began to be alarming as soon as we had recovered from the financial effect of the civil war, and Canadians began to feel the effect of the abrogation of the treaty of 1854. British connection is the chief cause of the exodus. Europeans have been unwilling to cross the sea and seek a new home under a monarchy; therefore we have received the great bulk of the emigration to this continent. Population causes development and progress, capital follows growth. Mr. Blaine's treaties with Spanish-American countries have opened the eyes of the Canadians to the power of the large consumer and the importance of Canada's sharing in the benefits of trade.

An intelligent Canadian from Nova Scotia said to me a short time since: "In our province we are standing on our tiptoes with the water up to our ears. Our only hope is annexation. We have excellent lands, great mineral wealth, and a good climate, but we are losing our population. If we maintain British connection, by 1900 we shall have lost all of our active young men and women, and the convertible value of our real property and fixed investments will have declined one-half."

On our part it would be a mistaken charity to grant the Canadian people free access to this market while they persist in maintaining British connection. Separation from Great Britain is, in a commercial sense, a surgical operation, absolutely necessary to healthy growth and development. The actual pain will be far less than the anticipated pain. The day for opiates has clearly gone by. A declaration from Mr. Blake will clear the sky. I predict that Blaine and Blake will yet clasp hands and together complete the consolidation of the two great English-speaking families on this continent, in the best interests of all the English-speaking families upon the earth.

FRANCIS WAYLAND GLEN.

BROOKLYN, Sept. 12.

II.—From a Canadian Nationalist.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If England is in a dilemma over the question of home rule for Ireland, Canada, with much less anxiety and fear of consequences, is puzzled over several problems, namely: Imperial federation, commercial union with the United States, annexation, and independence. The solution of any one of these would more or less effect a change in our present fiscal and political condition.

The advocates of imperial federation are chiefly ultra British Canadians, with more sentimental than practical ideas of this problem. A large majority of Canadians view it as impracticable as well as undesirable. To the French Canadians, who constitute nearly one-third of the whole population of Canada, and who are of another race and language, it has no attraction whatever. Their traditions are not those of England, and the glories of that country are at the expense of those memories which they still cherish of their own mother country, France, never forgetting that they were torn away from her but little over a century ago by victorious England. At a picnic given by the St. Jean Baptiste Society of Montreal some time ago, at which was present Prince Roland Bonaparte, the President of the society in welcoming the Prince, said in his address: "France forgot her children and Canada was ceded to England. Canada has remained French. England is our mistress, but France will always be our mother. Canadians preserve in their hearts the memory of France, and this memory will never, never die." The Prince immediately replied: "If France for a moment forgot Canada, modern France will never forget her."

Professing a religion looked upon with some suspicion by the masses of Great Britain, the French Canadians fear that imperial federation would strengthen those prejudices against their race and religion of which they already with some reason complain, and which might eventually lead to serious consequences to them. Great Britain engaged for years in fierce Continental wars, and with her North American colonies in open and active rebellion, very prudently granted by Act of Parliament in 1774 to her new subjects in Canada, conquered but a few years before, those special rights and privileges which these people now so jealously guard, their watch cry being, "Nos lois, nos institutions, et notre langue."

British writers of note and British statesmen also have expressed doubt as to the feasibility of imperial federation. The late Governor-General of Canada, the Marquis of Lansdowne, at a farewell banquet given to him by the citizens of Ottawa, expressed himself as follows on this question:

I have the honor of a pretty close acquaintance with a considerable number of your legislators here, and I will venture to say that there is no feeling stronger in their minds and in that of their constituents than the feeling that in purely Canadian affairs the Constitution recognizes the absolute supremacy of the Canadian Parliament. Now, I do not believe that public sentiment here would tolerate any change depriving it of that authority, or transferring any portion of it to, let us say, an imperial chamber sitting at Westminster. You might send your best men to it, but before they had been there six months they would find that the real power remained where it was before, viz., within the Parliament buildings at Ottawa. I would ask you for a moment how the policy of centralizing imperial business at Westminster would work if you were to rush it too hard?

The fiscal arrangement of the possessions of the British Crown are at present chaotic. You have colonies which are free traders and colonies which are protectionists; you have colonies with ad valorem duties, and colonies with specific duties. Let us suppose that you are going to try your hand at the introduction of a uniform system. You will have two tremendous obstacles to encounter. In the first place if you are going to propose that the parts of the British empire shall join hands and adopt a common tariff against other nations, you will have to convince the people of Great Britain that you are not going to lead them into a morass. The United Kingdom does, roughly speaking, at present three-fourths of its trade with foreign countries and one-fourth with British possessions. Self-preservation is a pretty strong instinct in commercial circles at home, as it is in Canada, and you will find that not a few of our friends will hesitate to disturb the three-fourths of their business which they do with the foreigner, on the chance of making the remaining quarter a little larger than it is now.

The Hon. Lionel Holland, in an article on Canada, published in the June number, 1888, of the *International Review*, expresses himself as follows:

Preeminently it must be held in view that an identity of commercial interests between England and her colonies is a requisite of any possible form of imperial federation. The British people, for their part, must be prepared to qualify, in some measure and for some little time, their admiration for the strict principles of free trade, and must be willing to give to the colonies and from them to receive certain fiscal advantages which might necessitate a partial return to a protective policy. It is not long since charges of a want of loyalty were almost universally hurled against the inhabitants of Canada because they chose to protect their industries by the imposition of a duty upon iron imported into their territory equally as against English and foreign markets. For a longer period the people of Canada have expressed the irritation they feel against the mother country for what they consider as evidence on her part of a want of sympathy with her colonies, and an injustice to a great portion of her empire. It is almost fair to assert that the British method of securing the fidelity of her colonial subjects is to deal with them on precisely the same footing as the subjects of foreign powers. And it is grossly illogical for English statesmen to blame the politicians of the Dominion for pursuing the system they themselves inaugurated, of treating friends and foes on a basis of equality. It cannot be doubted that our free trade policy has seriously retarded the progress of the Canadian Dominion. It has deprived her of sharing, with other dependencies, the best opportunities of supplying the meat and corn market of England. The producers of the United States have open to them, duty free, their vast market in America and those of England. Canada has virtually only the British market to look to, and here the excessive competition of her stronger neighbor precludes success. It is little to be wondered at that Mr. Goldwin Smith does not stand alone in his desire for commercial union with the United States, or that those who are prepared to adopt a more extreme course do not diminish in authority or numbers.

The second problem is commercial union with the United States. The well-known political economist, Mr. Goldwin Smith, and Mr. Erastus Wiman, the Canadian millionaire of New York, have undertaken to prove that a solution of this problem is practicable. The latter gentleman, from a thorough knowledge of his own native country and the country of his adoption, is able to treat the subject with much intelligence and ability. While a certain number of Canadians favor commercial union with the United States, a larger number believe it neither practicable nor desirable, and maintain that from the outset Canada would, in a great measure, lose the power of controlling her own fiscal affairs, and that this movement would finally lead to annexation, a result which many Canadians believe to be the aim of commercial unionists.

The third problem, that of annexation to the United States, is one, the solution of which the French Canadians fear, and for the same reasons as those previously stated as against imperial federation. Numerically powerful in one of the wealthiest and most important provinces, Quebec, they exercise great influence and take a large share in the administration of the Goverment, federal and provincial. Wealthy, intelligent, educated, and zealous in all their duties, the French Canadian Roman Catholic clergy control educational institutions of their own in the Dominion, where their young men, on very reasonable terms, much cheaper than those of similar Protestant institutions, can be educated for the Church, bar, journalistic, or public life; and the ambition of a large majority of young French Canadians so educated is to be priests, lawyers, doctors, and members of Parliament. Few, as compared with the English-speaking Canadians, engage in commerce, but they fill the professions.

Many Canadians are under the impression that our American cousins are willing, ready, and anxious to solve the problem of annexation for us, but it is asserted by American politicians of experience, that should this question be seriously placed before the American people, it would very probably meet with strong opposition from one or the other of their great political parties, as was the fate of Dakota, which was unable until recently to obtain admission into the Union as a State, owing to the jealousy of one political party against the other. This was also the reason which prevented the ratification of the Canadian fisheries treaty at Washington. It is safe to say that the French Canadians are not only satisfied, but prefer the present régime in Canada, and the same may be said of the English-speaking Canadians, with the exception of a limited number of admirers of the American people and their political institutions.

The solution of the fourth and last problem, independence, while apparently distant, may not be impracticable. Canada is an immense country, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and now united by that gigantic undertaking, the Canadian Pacific Railway, passing through a vast and marvellously fertile region, capable of sustaining a population as large as that of the United States. May we not reasonably predict the existence in the future of a nation in this vast British country, possessing the vitality and noble traits of the great maternal nation, and also those of her eldest daughter, the United States, avoiding the errors and defects, and accepting only that which is good and wise, from the two kindred nations? What has civilization to bestow that she may not hope to attain?

OTTAWA, Sept. 9. S. E. GREGORY.

III.—From a Philosophical Observer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have read with great interest your recent and careful editorials on questions connected with the relations of the Canadian Dominion to this country. I gather from them that you agree with me in thinking that such questions ought only to be considered by Americans from the point of view of American interests. Perhaps you will not agree with me in thinking that from this point of view the United States have nothing to gain and may have something to lose from the political annexation of Canada. But I think I can make this clear, though I will not at this moment trouble you with that part of the subject.

I only wish now to ask for light from your correspondent, Mr. Wayland Glen, in regard to some statements made in a letter published by you on Thursday of this week. Mr. Glen seems to be quite familiar with the current politics of the Dominion and to have strong opinions as to the pending issues there between the Tories and the Liberals. If his opinions are well founded, as to which I have no adequate light, the overthrow of the Abbott Ministry is at hand and will be followed by the advent to power of a Canadian administration entirely pledged to effect an annexation of Canada to the United States. Annexation will then, indeed, become a "moving question," and we ought to be looking at it dispassionately with a single eye to our own interests. A matrimonial alliance may be very desirable for the Dominion, but it does not clearly follow that it will therefore be desirable for the Union. We know what assets we shall bring into such an alliance. What will the other party offer us? I leave out of view considerations of commerce and sentiment.

Mr. Glen tells us that there are at least 1,500,000 Canadians now ready to cross the border and become American citizens as soon as they are satisfied that there is no hope of annexation. If this be correct, ought we not to "sit tight" and let them come? Why should we take with them the territory which they find so unprofitable that they are determined to abandon it if we will not take it over? Above all, why should we take with them the encumbrances under which that territory now labors if Mr. Glen is right in his estimate of the assets and liabilities of Canada? It is perfectly clear that we cannot annex Canada without annexing her public debt. Ought we not to get at the exact truth as to this before the question of annexation becomes a "burning question"?

Mr. Glen tells us that the "per capita debt of Canada, deducting only cash in the Treasury, is not much, if any, less than $70, equal to a debt based upon population for this country of $4,550,000,000, estimating our population now at 65,000,000." Clearly, if these estimates be accurate, the anxiety of the Canadian Liberals to get the banns published between the Dominion and the Union is quite as intelligible as the eagerness of much-encumbered British and Continental noblemen to exchange their coronets for the cash of American heiresses. Of course, I am aware, as doubtless also is Mr. Glen, that the real value of calculations based on the relation of debt to population is not very great. It it were possible, as unluckily it is not, to get at exact estimates of the assets of the wealth and resources of a country, such estimates would give us a much better basis for measuring the pressure of public debts. We might then be able, for example, to prove that Queensland, which in 1889 was carrying a per capita public debt of $324.57, was really less burdened by that debt than the Argentine Republic, which in 1889 was carrying a per capita public debt of $82.92. Nevertheless, the English investors who are having such a pleasant time now with their Argentine loans, have mortally offended Queensland by declining to advance a small additional sum to that great Australian dependency.

Taking per capita estimates, however, for what they are worth, it is pretty plain that Canada, with a per capita debt of $70 according to Mr. Glen, has more to gain from annexation than the United States. Our per capita debt in 1889 was no more than $21.06.

Without positively and finally rejecting the advances of our northern suitor, might we not with advantage invite him, not indeed to tarry at Jericho until his beard be grown, but to get his affairs into better order before he asks us to set up housekeeping with him?

Certainly we ought to insist on his making a clean breast of his affairs. While Mr. Glen, who is urgent for the nuptials, tells us that Canada owes $70 per capita, the officials of the Dominion in the "Statistical Year Book of Canada" published in 1890, put down the amount at no more than $46.79. How are these two conflicting estimates to be reconciled? If the official estimate is correct, the per capita burden on Canada is rather less than 5 per cent. in weight than that of Great Britain, which in 1889 carried a per capita indebtedness of $89.39. But even at the official figure it is very nearly 100 per cent. greater than the per capita burden of the Federal indebtedness of the United States. W. H. H.

NEW YORK, Sept. 12.

Churches in the Bowery.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I always read your "Sunbeams" with a great deal of interest, but I fancy that the young man that produces them can't go back so far as I when he becomes reminiscent.

For instance, a few weeks ago he gave expression to his surprise that there never was a church in the Bowery. I cut the item out and sent it to my old friend, Prof. John W. Greaton of the Society of the Cincinnati. He and I were graduated from the same school, No. 7, in Chrystie street, a bit south of Hester. He was one of its first pupils, being admitted in 1827. I got in later, say 1840. It must be admitted that both should know considerable about the older Bowery, when huge trees lined it from the Boston stage station, opposite the house in which Charlotte Temple died, up to the hay scales. When the Professor and I went to No. 7 it wasn't a grammar school, as is possibly apparent by this communication. It had the democratic title of public school. I can name a whole lot of our schoolmates, many of them, like the Slotos and George W. Gantz, prominent in business circles, who well remember the Bowery Presbyterian Church, the entrance to which was 66 Bowery, a door or two north of Walker street on the west side. The Professor was one of its Sunday school pupils, and recollects that the girls occupied one gallery while the boys occupied the other. He was always opposed to the separation. The edifice was a brick one, the rear resting on Elizabeth street, where the entrance to the Sabbath school was. Whenever services were in progress a chain across the street suggested no thoroughfare. The first of infant classes now so prevalent was instituted there. The superintendent of the school in Prof. Greaton's time was a Mr. Hutchings of the firm of Hutchings, Tiffany & Co., Exchange place. Some of the deacons were W. W. Chester, John Wheelwright, David Hale of the *Journal of Commerce*, Peintiah Perit, President of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Seaman's Savings Bank; John P. Havens, a famous bookseller, and Farah Bull of the Tradesmen's Bank. I forget the name of the leader in the singing, but I well remember that he used a tuning fork.

The church had a shingled, pitched roof, and its gable ends faced the Bowery and Elizabeth street. It wasn't unlike its neighbor, the Quaker meeting house on Hester street, corner of Elizabeth, which is now sacrilegiously used as an office for a gas company. Prof. Greaton remembers the name of one of its pastors, the Rev. Dr. Sylvester Woodbridge. I remember another, the Rev. Mr. Christmas, his predecessor. The Professor, come to think, mentioned another of its dominies, the Rev. Austin Dickinson, editor of the *National Preacher*, published at 151 Nassau street. He forgot the Rev. William A. Hallock, but speaks of the Rev. Mr. Miller. Mr. Miller was never a pastor of the Bowery Presbyterian Church, but of another Bowery church, the Baptist Bethel, that, in 1840, was at 193 Bowery, opposite Spring street and a few doors below the site of the People's Theatre. The Rev. Mr. Winslow also preached there. In 1842 there was a Primitive Methodist congregation worshipping at 187 Bowery, above Delancey street. And Prof. Greaton suggests that we mustn't forget the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist congregation that held forth in the Bowery, corner of Hester street, the Rev. Henry A. Rowland, pastor. I have the impression that all of these congregations held their services in public halls except the Bowery Presbyterian Church. There was in the early '40s a "Particular Baptist Church," but neither the Professor nor I can locate it. We have a faint idea that it, too, was on the Bowery, but we will not guess the point. Admitting that there was one church on the famous thoroughfare, it must be confessed that it is a wonder that there were no more, and we join in the expression of surprise of THE SUN's bright young man. JOSEPH H. TOOKER.

SEPT. 12, 1891.

The Name of Stalwart.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your report of the Republican Convention was very able and interesting. In that report Mr. Platt and his allies are referred to as the Stalwarts and his opponents as the Half Breeds. I protest against the application of the proud and historic title of Stalwart to the Hon. Thomas C. Platt, who within a year or two after the Stalwart-Half Breed fight growing out of the appointment of Robertson as Collector at New York, was locking arms with the strongest of the Half Breed leaders and howling for Blaine. AN OLD STALWART.

FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL, Sept. 12.

The Sunflower Record.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In yesterday's SUN is an article from the *Boston Globe* bragging about big sunflowers, one grown by Squire Jennings of Colrasset, over ten feet in height (that is the sunflower over that height, and not the Squire), and also one grown by C. H. Clark of Medford, thirteen feet high. Mr. Clark wants to know who can beat him. I think he could not have read the account published in THE SUN a few years ago of one that I raised here in the city of Newburgh which attained the height of about fifteen feet. I had it standing for years in my photograph gallery. The height of the ceiling was 14 feet 7 inches, which was not high en