The Sun.

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THE SUN, New York City.

Progressive Bunco.

Those interested in the game of progressive bunco will find this record of one of the earlier moves upon page 1,613 of part 2 of volume 21 of the *Congressional Record:*

"We will ask no money from Congress except what will be required for the buildings and exhibits of the Government. Five or six hundred thousand dollars will be ample for this."

This is the pledge made in behalf of Chicago when she was applying for the privilege of holding a World's Fair at her own expense.

Was the pledge made by any person authorized to speak for Chicago?

Well, it was made by the Hon. William M. Springer of Illinois. The words quoted above in black-faced type are words uttered in Congress by the Hon. William M. Springer.

And on the strength of that pledge, and because that pledge was made by Chicago, and accepted at its face value by Congress, the Fair was sent to Chicago.

A Warning.

We warn the Democratic members of the New York Legislature that the manner and the results of some of their recent proceedings in the passage of bridge bills and railroad bills may prove dangerous to their party, as well as discreditable to themselves individually.

While we rely on Governor Flower to veto any bills inconsiderately passed, that are clearly contrary to the general interest, it would be much better that no such bills should be passed.

The people of New York will not consent to a railroad in the Fifth avenue.

Sheridan on Alger.

We confess that we are somewhat sensitive to the charge of our friend Major Mattison, who has chivalrously undertaken the defence of Gen. Russell Absent Alger, that The Sun is disposed to pass "lightly over the fine record of Col. Alger during the first three years of the war, and his career in the field." While Gen. Alger's record up to the day when he was in Washington signing his resignation, and Gen. Sheridan was in the valley fighting the battle of Winchester, has nothing to do with the question of fact that is at issue, we desire to give Gen. Alger full credit for every achievement of military genius and every deed of personal valor.

The trouble is to get at the exact facts. The current biographies of Gen. Alger differ in one respect from those of every important figure in the civil war. There is a peculiarly evasive quality about them. They vaguely suggest great things, and commit themselves distinctly to very little. They omit some important dates and facts altogether, as for instance the date of the General's retirement from the army, and the circumstances under which his resignation was accepted, at the critical stage of Sheridan's operations in the valley of the Shenandoah, when every hero was needed at the front. We have found no biographical sketch of Alger's career which gives the slightest intimation that he did not retain his command until the end of the war, receiving his brevet commissions in July, 1865, as the crown of continuous service and cumulative glory in the field. Even the record of Gen. Alger, as it stands in the Military History of Michigan, conceals the now generally acknowledged fact that Alger left the service on Sept. 20, 1864, after his dishonorable discharge had been recommended to the War Department by Gen. Philip H. Sheridan and Gen. Wesley Merritt. The Michigan State record juggles with dates so as to make it appear that Alger served to the end, receiving his brevet as Brigadier-General on June 11, 1864, for gallant and meritorious service at Trevillian Station, and his brevet as Major-General a year later, on June 11, 1865, for gallant and meritorious service during the whole war. As a matter of fact, both brevets were simultaneously granted after the war was over, nearly a year after Alger's retirement from the army, and at a time when such honorary commissions were made as thick as huckleberries.

Where the statements of the biographical sketches and the boom eulogies are specific with regard to a particular deed of valor, we are sorry to find that investigation reveals this same evanescent quality. The student of Gen. Alger's military exploits is at a loss to know just how much is real glory, and how much is campaign puffery. Take for example the battle of Booneville in Mississippi, on July 1, 1862, when Capt. Alger charged the enemy's rear by Sheridan's orders. The biographer of Alger in "Appleton's Cyclopædia of American Biography" refers to this incident in these terms:

"At Booneville, Miss., 1 July, 1862, Capt. Alger was sent by Philip H. Sheridan, then Colonel of the regiment, to attack the enemy's rear with ninety picked men. The Confederates were routed, but Capt. Alger was routed and taken prisoner. He escaped on the same day, and on 16 Oct. was made Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth Michigan Cavalry."

One of the most recent of the boom biographies of Gen. Alger, published in his interest as a volunteer candidate for the Republican nomination for President, dwells a little longer upon the Booneville exploit:

"Then follows the battle of Booneville, when Sheridan, with his new command and the Second Iowa Cavalry, attacked and defeated a Confederate force of from 5,000 to 7,000, a battle in which Alger, with but ninety-two men, was ordered to get into the rear of the enemy and charge him, which he did, and was told by Sheridan that he never expected to see him again. Sheridan has himself written the story of that battle, and says he reckons it one of the finest exploits of the war."

It was indeed one of the finest exploits of the war, and one of the finest exploits of any war, if we accept as authentic military history the glowing and thrilling picture of the affair painted in words of eloquence at the recent Michigan banquet by the Hon. John M. Thurston of Nebraska. Mr. Thurston, as we understand, is an active boomer of Alger for the Republican nomination, and his description of the cavalry charge at Booneville was delivered in the presence of the General himself. How the modest hero of sixty battles must have blushed behind his dinner napkin as he listened to this epic:

"Ninety-two men rode calmly out, knowing that the supreme moment of their lives had come. What was in their hearts during that silent ride? What lights and shadows flashed across the cameras of their souls?

"Before them was a brigade of cavalry, 3,000 strong. That way lay death. Behind them were the open fields, the sheltering woods, safety, and—dishonor. Just for a moment every cheek was blanched. A robin sang unheeded, from a neighboring limb; clusters of purple daisies bloomed unseen upon the grassy slope; the sweet fresh breath of early summer filled the air, unfelt by all. They only saw the dear old flag of Union overhead; they only knew that foes of country blocked the road ahead; they only heard the ringing voice of their gallant leader ordering the charge, and with a yell the little troop swept on.

"So sudden and unexpected was the attack, so desperate and irresistible the charge, *that this handful of men cut their way through the heart of a whole brigade.* Then, in prompt obedience to the calm command of their Captain, they wheeled, reformed, and charged again. At this opportune moment, while the Confederates were in confusion, Sheridan's whole line dashed forward with mighty cheers, and the day was won.

"*That night forty of the ninety-two kept their eternal bivouac on the field of battle,* their white faces kissed by the silent stars. *The Captain was left for dead,* but, thank God! he still lives; lives to wear the button of a people's love! For the man whose sublime courage and daring leadership gave victory and a first star to Phil Sheridan, was Russell A. Alger of Detroit!"

This is beautiful, and it is boomful. Thurston's description of Alger's charge at Booneville, "which gave victory and a first star to Phil Sheridan," sends us at once to Sheridan's own account of the same illustrious exploit. Here it is, in Sheridan's matter-of-fact prose:

"After Alger had reached and turned up the Blackland road, the first thing he came across was the Confederate headquarters, the officers and orderlies about which he captured and sent back some distance to a farmhouse. Continuing on a gallop, he soon struck the rear of the enemy's line, *but was unable to get through,* nor did he get near enough for me to hear his cheering; but as he had made the distance he was to travel in the time allotted, his attack and mine were almost coincident, and the enemy, stampeded by the charges in front and rear, fled toward Blackland, with little or no attempt to capture Alger's command, *which might readily have been done.*

"Alger's troopers soon rejoined me at Booneville, *minus many hats,* having returned by their original route. They had sustained little loss except a few men wounded and a few temporarily missing. *Among these was Alger himself, who was dragged from his saddle by the limb of a tree that, in the excitement of the charge, he was unable to flank.* The missing had been dismounted in one way or another, and run over by the enemy in his flight; *but they all turned up later, none the worse except for a few scratches and bruises.*"

It will be observed by the most casual comparison of these two versions of Alger's exploit at Booneville that there are several important discrepancies that are not merely rhetorical. The boom biographer of Alger carries him right through the heart of a whole brigade in a charge of irresistible fury; the Personal Memoirs of Sheridan say that Alger was unable to get through, and might readily have been captured had not the enemy been stampeded. In Thurston's account Alger left behind him nearly one-half of his gallant band lying dead upon the battlefield, their white faces kissed by the silent stars; in Sheridan's story the gallant band returned intact, minus a few hats, and none the worse except for a few bruises and scratches. Mr. Thurston leaves Alger for dead upon the scene of the struggle, and the wound received on that occasion survives in all of the campaign biographies, and even in the State's official record of his career. Sheridan gravely informs us that Alger was knocked out of his saddle by the limb of a tree which he neglected to dodge. Concerning any other wound than that which the tree might have inflicted, or of any "capture" except by the outstretched limb of that same tree, Gen. Alger's superior officer does not testify.

We submit that it is impossible for The Sun or for anybody else to do full justice to Gen. Russell Absent Alger's earlier achievements in the service which he quitted on Sept. 20, 1864, after Gen. Sheridan had recommended his dishonorable discharge for absence without leave, while the facts about his deeds of valor are so hopelessly confused by conflicting statements.

Canadian and West Indian Reciprocity.

We learn with satisfaction that the Senate has called for all the correspondence between our State Department and the Ottawa Government preliminary to the recent appearance of bogus Commissioners in Washington for the sole purpose of influencing by-elections in the Dominion. What the people of this country want to know is whether it was announced beforehand by Premier Abbott or Sir Julian Pauncefote that no arrangement for reciprocity would be acceptable if it discriminated against British goods. If no such notification was given, the Comissioners obviously came here on false pretences and will deserve a severe rebuke at the hands of either the Federal Executive or Congress. If, on the other hand, they acknowledged betimes that their hands were tied by restrictions imposed by the Tories of Great Britain, then our Government entered with eyes open into negotiations doomed to be abortive, and cannot complain that it was made the catspaw of Canadian politicians. In the latter case our Government would have to reckon with the American people.

Even if our State Department was not expressly informed that the pretended desire of the Canadian Ministry was hampered by conditions laid down at Westminster, there is ample intrinsic proof that the despatch of the Commission was a mere electioneering trick. The Hon. Mr. Foster, one of the members of the Commission, speaking in one of the contested constituencies just before his departure for Washington, violently denounced all proposals of reciprocity with the United States. It happened to be a constituency largely dependent on the protected manufacturers, who are the sturdiest upholders of the Conservative Cabinet, and who would have everything to lose by free trade with the United States. On the other hand, some of Mr. Foster's colleagues, addressing at almost the same moment constituencies mainly comprised of farmers, were assuring them that their real friends were not the Liberals, but the Tories, because the latter were on the eve of sending a Commission to Washington for the purpose of opening the American market to Canadian food staples. These facts were the common property of the Canadian press, and it is unreasonable to assume that they were overlooked by our State Department.

But it may be said that our Government, even if notified that the Dominion could assent to no arrangement involving discrimination against British goods, was estopped from objecting to such an avowal, because it had submitted to just such a condition in the reciprocity agreements with the British West Indies. It is true that no stipulation forbidding discrimination against British goods appears in the text of the arrangements set forth in the President's proclamation issued Feb. 1, 1892. An examination, however, of the provisions, including both the free lists and the lists of articles on which duties are reduced, shows that the injunction received from Westminster not to discriminate against British goods was punctiliously observed. It follows that, so far as the arrangements with the British West Indies were concerned, our Government has recognized the right of Great Britain to impose restrictions on the free play of the common interests of communities in this hemisphere. There is, however, an important difference between our relation to Canada and our relation to England's West Indian possessions. That right of limitation and control in the interest of her own trade which we have conceded to England with reference to British Guiana, Jamaica, Trinidad, and other islands, we have conceded also to Spain in the treaty regarding the conditions of commerce with the Spanish Antilles. We have never assumed to exercise with regard to South America and the West Indies the species of commercial hegemony to which the drift of events has brought us in the case of the Canadian Dominion, which is not only conterminous with our territory for thousands of miles, but which is linked to us in a hundred ways by canal and railway systems. It has been acknowledged by all careful observers of the industrial and commercial situation on the mainland of North America—by Sir Charles Dilke, for instance, in his "Problems of Greater Britain"—that circumstances have given the United States the position and authority of a tutelary power as regards our immediate neighbors in Canada and Mexico. On the other hand, circumstances have not as yet given us any such position with reference to South America or the West Indian Islands. Our State Department, therefore, was not expected to assert for us any kind of moral or commercial hegemony in the case of British Guiana or Jamaica. It was called upon, however, to declare in the case of Canada that we would not tolerate the interference of any European power with the free development of the common commercial interests of North American communities.

If, on the production of the papers demanded, it shall appear that our State Department has been made the tool and plaything of the Dominion Government for the purpose of gulling Canadian farmers at by-elections, what will the Senate do about it? A penalty for the indignity could easily be inflicted. The Senate need only call upon the Executive to enforce laws already on the statute book, which, if rigorously carried out, would reduce to submission the Canadian Pacific Railway, with whose funds, as it is universally believed in Canada, the Tory Cabinet has managed to wrest more than a dozen constituencies from our friends, the Liberals.

A Constitutional Question Concerning Railroads.

Under the statute establishing the present Board of Railroad Commissioners in this State, all the expenses of the Board, which must not exceed $50,000 a year, including the salaries of the Commissioners, who receive $8,000 a year apiece, must be borne by the several corporations owning or operating railroads within the State.

So far as we know, the validity of this statutory provision, which was enacted in 1882, has never been questioned in New York. In the same year, however, a provision was introduced into the Revised Statutes of South Carolina empowering the Governor of that State to appoint three Railroad Commissioners, at a salary of $2,000 a year each, and imposing the entire expense of maintaining the Railroad Commission, including the payment of these salaries, upon the railroad corporations owning or operating lines of railway in South Carolina. This law was attacked as unconstitutional, on the ground that it was in conflict with that part of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States which provides that no State shall "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." The South Carolina State courts held that the statute was valid; and the Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta Railroad Company, which had objected to the tax imposed as its share of the expenses of the State Railroad Commission, took the question to the Supreme Court of the United States for review.

The decision of the Supreme Court is reported in the last pamphlet number of the United States Reports. It sustains the assessment and tax upon the railroad companies of South Carolina to meet the expenses and salaries of the Railroad Commissioners. Two members of the court, Judge Bradley and Judge Gray, did not sit in the case, but all the Judges who did sit concurred in the opinion which was delivered by Mr. Justice Field. The decision is based largely upon the public character of railroad companies and their consequent liability to legislative supervision and regulation. They enjoy special privileges to be used for the benefit of the public, and the Legislature may exercise its power to supervise them either directly by means of positive laws, or indirectly through the medium of Railroad Commissioners. They are not denied the equal protection of the laws, nor is any unjust discrimination made against them, by requiring that the expense of this supervision should be borne by the railroad corporations, inasmuch as the services of the Railroad Commissioners are beneficial to them as well as to the people at large. No discrimination is made by the law in favor of any particular railroad company, but all the railway corporations of the State are treated alike, each bearing only its proportionate share of the entire burden.

Mr. Justice Field cites a number of instances in which parties are compelled to perform particular acts and bear particular expenses where the public is interested as much as the party in the thing to be done. In all quarantine regulations the vessel examined is required to pay for the examination, although the main purpose is to protect the public against the spread of infection. In the draining of marshy lands to dissipate malaria the cost of the work is commonly imposed upon the owners of the property, although the particular object in draining the land is to protect the public health. A case even more directly in point is one in which the Supreme Court of the United States itself held that it was proper to charge a railroad company with the expenses of examining a railroad engineer for color blindness, under a State statute which made such examination compulsory.

Col. Abe Slupsky's Resignation.

The report that Col. Abe Slupsky tendered on Tuesday last his resignation as a member of the St. Louis School Board has run through the country like wildfire. It has been a surprise, and at first impact a severe shock to every friend of School Reform. Has the great Champion of the Cause begun to waver in his faith or courage? Have incomprehensible local rivalries driven into retirement the man to whom the whole country looks as the leader of the movement for the elevation of the educational system, and is he to live hereafter, like another Bismarck, in some Missouri Varzin? These questions were asked yesterday in every part of the Union by the excited admirers of the name and fame of Slupsky.

We answer No, a thousand times No! The report is a mistake. We have now the full text of Col. Abe Slupsky's letter of resignation, and it appears that he has withdrawn neither from the St. Louis School Board nor from the national leadership of the Cause. Col. Abe has merely cut loose as the representative of the Second ward in the Republican City Central Committee of St. Louis, thus separating himself and his enormous responsibilities from the embarrassments and complications of a petty partisan machine. No one can read the dignified and yet adroit State paper in which the Colonel announces his important determination without recognizing the fact that here indeed is a statesman of the first order, a leader greater than the party with which he has been acting:

"Sir: I hereby tender my resignation as a member of your committee from the Second ward, feeling that in so doing I best respect the wishes of his Excellency the President of the United States, who now desires nothing more earnestly than peace and good-fellowship among all Republicans, that the grand old party may go into the approaching conflict in solid phalanx. Farewell till some more convenient time.

"Abe Slupsky."

The motives which may have impelled President Harrison to request Col. Abe Slupsky to stand aside pending the Presidential contest of 1892, are obvious enough. We shall not discuss them. They have no relation to School Reform, either as to its principles or its prospects. But the prompt acquiescence of Col. Abe Slupsky is a brilliant stroke of statesmanship, and, rightly viewed, so far from being a misfortune to the Cause, it is a matter for profound congratulation. There is a fine touch of prophetic irony in the concluding words of this remarkable epistle. "Thou shalt see me at Philippi," said the Ghost of Julius Cæsar to Brutus. "Farewell," says Col. Abe Slupsky to Benjamin Harrison, "till some more convenient time."

Meanwhile we have from all parts of the country daily accounts of the industry and energy with which the Champion of School Reform is conducting the great work which he has so disinterestedly undertaken. He is almost ubiquitous. Everywhere his impetuous genius carries everything before it. While there is some conflict of testimony as to the exact personal appearance of Col. Abe Slupsky, there is but one verdict concerning the elevated character of his sentiments and his propagandist vigor.

In short, freed from the entanglements of the local Republican machine, Col. Abe Slupsky occupies henceforth an ideal position; and the future of School Reform is pink with hope.

The funeral ceremonies over the remains of John Gilmary Shea, editor of the *Catholic News*, were celebrated yesterday at Elizabeth, the place of his residence: but his memory will long remain in the affection and reverence of those who knew him. A journalist of remarkable accomplishments, a historian who never substituted a conjecture for fact, a Christian whose sincere faith knew no stain of doubt, his character was as remarkable for its mingled gentleness and firmness as his conscientious scholarship for its accuracy and fidelity. The place he has left vacant in journalism will be difficult to fill, and in general literature we know of no one who can take up the service he has laid down. In knowledge respecting the Indian tribes of this country he was without a peer, as he was also in his familiarity with the early American annals of the Catholic Church. But to our thinking it was his humanity, his broad, ever generous, but not uncritical sympathy, that most endeared him to his many friends.

We shall not discourage Americans from emigrating to Canada, which is a country that has plenty of unoccupied land and unhewn forests. Last year the Canadian Government got up a scheme for inducing people to leave this country and settle in its northwestern provinces, especially in the great grain-growing province of Manitoba; and it is declared in an official report that the scheme met with success as soon as it was put in operation. Agent Webster of the Canadian Department of Agriculture found that lots of American farmers were ready to hitch up their wagons, drive across the frontier, take up land in Manitoba or Assiniboia, and enjoy the superior advantages that are there to be obtained on easy terms. Several hundreds of them migrated from the Dakotas to the Winnipeg region last year, leaving the star-spangled banner behind them; and Agent Webster reported that others were ready to follow in the wake of the pioneers. The Canadian Department of Agriculture is so well pleased with the news that it has authorized Webster to extend his operations this year, and to supervise the march of the Americans into the Western provinces of the New Dominion. We learn by a despatch from Ottawa that he is about to undertake the campaign of the exodus, which is to be begun in Michigan and Minnesota, but may be extended to yet other States, and that he expects to increase the population of Canada to the extent that he will decrease that of the United States. He will make speeches to the Michiganders, he will organize parties of emigrants, and he will lead them to the provinces in which land is both fertile and cheap.

All right, let him lead as many as he can. Anybody is at liberty to leave this country. If any Americans go to any province of Canada, it will be well for that province. They will introduce into it the potentialities of the American people. They will lay the foundation of sundry novelties that are sure to be advantageous to Canada. They will prepare the way for interesting changes in Canada. They may even in course of time assist the Canadians to get rid of that foreign domination which prevents their development, retards their prosperity, corrupts their politics, and makes them look to London for guidance. Put fifty thousand Michiganders or other Americans in Manitoba, and the British flag will not float there very long!

The Buzzard Coinage.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* I have been much gratified from time to time by your opposition to the strange things that have been foisted on us by Government folly, and now ask if you will not take up the cudgel against the designs on the new issue of silver fractional coins. I have heard that they have ceased minting them and will be compelled to change the die, as the coins will not stack.

Now, then, is your opportunity!

Demand that we have an *eagle* on our coins and not a bull-necked, dyspeptic buzzard tilted back on its hind legs till its tail shoots out in front of it. And give us a head of a *man* or a *woman* instead of the side view of a smirking, teary sentimentalist with a far-away look, which this American republic now stands sponsor for as her ideal Liberty.

Of course, we must have a few arrows, olive branches, shields, &c.—they insure us respect. But why should we have both sides of the coins bedecked with a lot of stars and "In God We Trust" tacked on where the name of the country is usually put? Is it so that ignorant foreigners may feel sure they have reached God's country? And then mark on them plainly how many cents they represent and give up the fractional-part-of-a-dollar idea.

The 50-cent piece of 1830-1835 was pleasing to the eye and businesslike.

Don't be cast down if they go on issuing them. You ridded us of the sickly green postage stamp a few years ago, and you can help us now. George S. Harlan.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.

Free Criticism of the Blind Chaplain.

From the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The Rev. Dr. Milburn, the blind chaplain of the House of Representatives, is in danger of having his oratorical efforts restricted, at the request of certain members who object to his "Congressional curtain lectures" instead of morning prayer.

One of the wittiest members in the House remarked to-day that Dr. Milburn is "entirely too communicative to the Deity, and especially on the subject of Congressional deportment." Without intending to be sacrilegious, the wag went on to say the chaplain should confine himself to a general invocation in behalf of the Congress of the United States, without endeavoring to inform the Lord every morning what wayward Congressmen are doing, accompanied by suggestion what they should not do.

During the early part of ex-Speaker Reed's administration Dr. Milburn received an intimation that his prayers were too "rich" for the average Congressman's blood. Prior to that time some of his invocations had rather a personal flavor, and each morning there was a Congressional guessing match to determine the particular members he was addressing his remarks to. He is becoming sensational again, hence the criticism.

They Have Already Done It.

From the Chicago Daily News.

It is for the Democrats of the country to judge whether the Hill idea or the Cleveland idea shall dominate the party.

THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE PAPACY.

Why the Future Conclave Will Elect a Supra-nationalist Pope—One Not an Italian.

Rome, Feb. 15.—Leo XIII., a genius eminently intuitive and harmonious, foresaw at the very beginning of his reign the near future of the Papacy through the necessary transformation of its public services, and especially of its cosmopolitan functions. As a foreign and neutral Pope will necessarily be the outcome of a whole series of changes, Leo XIII. deemed it his duty to direct all his interior administration toward the end of this moral creation.

The appointment of Cardinal Ledochowski to the office of Prefect of the Propaganda, a post which resembles a cosmopolitan monarchy, is an invitation to commence our demonstration from the personal side. Pius IX. had already felt the approach of the new breezes. He liked to surround himself with foreign prelates and Cardinals, Ledochowski, Hohenlohe, De Falloux, and so on; but with him it was a sublime instinct rather than a political calculation. When Leo XIII. came into power, he continued this timid prelude, but a time came when, desiring to conciliate the King and bring about the return of Rome to the Pope, he arrested the current. Moreover, old Romanism offered resistance. Organizations that are about to be transformed resist to the last, in the hope of preservation. The Roman prelates gave Leo XIII. to understand that it was both contradictory and dangerous to labor for conciliation, and at the same time to internationalize the functions of the Holy See. The more the need of transformation was felt, the more the old possessors of places exerted themselves, naturally enough, to close the bureaus and the entrées of the Vatican to the new comers, the foreigners, those who, since Petrarch and Dante, have been called, more picturesquely than courteously, "the barbarians."

But since the prepotent régime of Crispi began, whose ambition was to absorb the Vatican in the limits of a political power, Leo XIII. has taken up again with more of continuity and ostentation the movement of internationalization from the personal point of view. At the present time there are only two German Cardinals in Rome. The dead, the French, English, and others, have not been replaced. But the nominations of Cardinal Ledochowski and Mgr. Mery de Val, the son of the Spanish Ambassador at Vienna, to the Propaganda and the antechamber of the Pope, are events of great importance. It is said on high authority that these two acts are only the prelude to other appointments.

The Prefect of the Propaganda is the most considerable personage next to the Pontiff. He is called "the red Pope." His kingdom is the entire world, while the Secretary of State has only a balancing and moderating authority. He is a kind of Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Propaganda is a civilizing, creative, and autonomical power, exercised without intervention. It is a closed world, while the Secretary of State is only the official interpreter, the direct and personal organ of the Holy Father. Consequently this promotion, with its historical reach and meaning, has not passed unnoticed. It is the coup d'état over again of Sixtus V., say the Romans, who, recovered from their first alarm, try to bring the event down to the proportions of an unimportant, personal, and private act. The Italian Government has felt the blow. One of its Ministers is reported to have said: "The Pope wants to snatch from us both the Propaganda and the Holy See, and he commences by internationalizing them. It is the beginning of the threat of a foreign Pope." These are prophetic words.

This act stands alone up to the present, and there is room to contest its demonstrative value; but the thing which shows beyond any possible contradiction the current of which I am speaking, is the attitude of the Holy See in the choice of the Generals of orders, who are a sort of Popes. The Pope has created three foreign Generals in religious orders belonging to neutral countries. Anderledy, who has just died, was given to the Jesuits; Father Christen d'Andermatt was appointed over the Capuchins, and the third, a Swiss, was put over the Redemptorists. The last General of the Dominicans was a Spaniard, Spain being a half-neutral country; and the present General is also a foreigner, a Tyrolean, if I am not mistaken. And so on. Leo XIII., by placing foreigners belonging to countries more or less neutral in charge of such important cosmopolitan functions, has evidently pursued the realization of an idea, and this idea can be none other than the internationalization of the Holy See, and of the public services of the Church, by placing them above all national passions and rivalries. It is a hint to all that the time will come when the Pope himself must enter into this movement, and symbolize upon the heights the visible throwing off on the part of the Papacy of the Italian national costume.

This work of internationalization is verified by the same evidence in the accentuated ecclesiastical cosmopolitanism of Pontifical Rome. Here we have a fact which perhaps has been less noticed. We find Leo XIII. and the Holy See emulating each other in multiplying the creation of two kinds of institutions, international religious establishments, both for missions and for science, and finally national colleges in all countries. Leo XIII. leans evidently toward a modification of even the external physiognomy of the metropolis of the Church, to make more apparent its supranational character. For this reason he has planted in Rome an international Benedictine institute, and successively created the Bohemian, Maronite, Canadian, Spanish, and Portuguese colleges: that is to say, a visible representation of all nations in Rome. Now, will not this national representation be inevitably reflected to-morrow, even in the direct functions of the Holy See? It is a secret, successive, and organic work of which the foreign Pope will naturally be the final outcome. A superficial glance cannot take in this silent and irresistible growth of a new world, but the attentive eye of the impartial observer must follow with interest the increase and the development of this democratic and cosmopolitan transformation.

In the same order of things, this same *ensemble* of foreshadowing events, is linked the policy of Leo XIII. in the affairs of the temporal Pontificate. When we compare synthetically the ideas and the acts of the Pope, we discover little by little a marvellous unity of conception and application. To our eyes the gigantic work reveals itself slowly. Have people noticed with what passion, with what scrupulous care the present Pope poses as a historical man, how much he subordinates, perhaps without intending it, the success and immediate result to the great lines of history, and to wide general perspectives? The Italians and also many foreigners reproach Leo XIII. with a desire for the reëstablishment of the temporal power. It is an injustice to his genius. Never—note it well—never has the Pontiff claimed, either in his discourses or in his encyclicals, the territorial sovereignty, such as it existed in times past. What he claims with all his soul, and what will one day be the formula of the policy and the solution of the future, is Rome; not Rome the capital of a little political State under the administration of priests, but Rome an international city, the property of the Catholic world, the free and autonomic city. Read all his addresses, and especially that to the pilgrims of Naples during the Jubilee, and also the letter of Leo XIII. to Cardinal Rampolla dated June, 1888, in which the entire programme of the Pontificate is harmoniously condensed, and you will recognize everywhere that golden thread which binds together all the manifestations of the present reign. Now Rome, an international city and the property of Christianity, means the transformation of the Holy See and the election of a foreign Pope in preference to a national Pope. The one logically must flow from the other.

The composition of the Sacred College, the creative organ of the Pope, undergoes visibly the law of progress which will insensibly lead to a new order of things. Up to the time of Leo XIII. the foreign Cardinals were constantly in a small minority, except when the Papacy emigrated abroad or accepted, as, for instance, during the Spanish domination, the political protectorate of a great power. At certain periods, under the Pontificate of Paul II., for example, and at the time of the election of Sixtus IV., foreigners were almost unrepresented in the Senate of the Roman Church. The more the temporal power of the Pontiffs was extended and consolidated, the more the foreign representation was lessened, as if Rome, the capital of an important political State, felt the need of preventing the national Churches from exercising a sort of moral control over the affairs of the Catholic metropolis, and the central government of the Church. When the Papacy lost its territorial power, to create in time another form of sovereignty and material independence, the preponderance of the Roman Italian element began to diminish. The weaker Rome is politically, the more she feels the need of enhancing her international substance, and of refreshing her vitality in the waters of the Catholic ocean.

By the side of this moral and psychological law we discover a new factor of transformation, a fact unknown up to the present day, and that is the expansion of the Church in all known countries, by reason of colonization and the extraordinary development of international communications. In former days Rome gave Cardinals to the Catholic Continental powers only—to France, to Spain, to Austria, and to Portugal. And, moreover, she was not very lavish in these gifts. To-day, in addition to the custom which gives to these countries a fixed number of Cardinals, the churches recently established and flourishing rapidly claim as the national reward for their conquests the right of representation in the Sacred College. The United States and Australia have their Cardinals. To-morrow two or three more will be needed in the United States. Some will be wanted in South America, some in the Levant, and some in Africa and China. Everywhere colonization carries, like a providential vehicle, the grain of mustard seed of the Bible. Now, since this work of expansion is precipitated with tremendous rapidity, how many foreign Cardinals shall we have in fifty or a hundred years? At the present time with fifty-five Cardinals, we need only fifteen to come up to the traditional number of seventy, although that number was never yet reached. We have twenty-three foreign Cardinals and thirty-two Italians. Before the recent deaths we had thirty or thirty-two foreign Cardinals. The proportion tends already to be evenly balanced. Very soon it will be broken to the detriment of Italy, especially because the entire situation created by the events of 1870 leads the Holy See to extend itself beyond the national frontier. Superior numbers will necessarily produce an increase of influence and a disarrangement of the dominant machinery of the central government of the Church. Since the conclave which elected Leo XIII. in 1878 the foreign element has played the leading rôle: for it has been remarked that the foreign Cardinals, although inferior in number, made the law and elected the Pope by forming an alliance with the most enlightened and most modern Cardinals of Italy.

We are witnessing a phenomenon contrary to that which took place in the middle of the seventeenth century, when the Italian Cardinals endeavored to shake off and break the Spanish domination. The party of liberty called them "the flying squadron." But then, as to-day, the movement tended to assure to the Sacred College and the Holy See all their freedom and all their influence. What passed at the last conclave will be repeated until the day arrives when the development of transformations will bring about a foreign Pope, or at least a supra-national Pope. The preponderance of the foreign element has won a victory the fruits of which will not be lost. When Rome is free, this progression will be precipitated, because the Holy See, placed in the immediate neighborhood of a political and national State, will be in honor bound to don the international and cosmopolitan garment as the symbol and the sign of its independence. Innominato.

RUSSELL FOR SECOND PLACE.

The Massachusetts Cleveland Men Give Him Up and Hope to Make a Combination.

Boston, Feb. 26.—A scheme is under way in the Mugwump camp here by which they hope to have their revenge on the Hill warriors and win a partial victory at least. It is plainly intimated that Mr. Cleveland cannot get the nomination at the Chicago Convention, and that his followers in Massachusetts have about given up hope. But while they acknowledge themselves beaten they also take comfort in the knowledge that their razors are sharp and that Mr. Hill will feel them. They plan now to throw their support for some Western candidate after Cleveland is hopelessly beaten, and then they will claim the right to name the man for second place on the ticket. That man will be Gov. Russell. They will argue that he will hold the Mugwumps in the Democratic party, in spite of Cleveland's defeat. But they will offer this compromise only with the understanding that Senator Hill is left out of the calculations as well as Cleveland. According to present plans, Gov. Russell will go to the Chicago Convention, not as a delegate at large, but as the guest of the entire State delegation.

Chairman J. W. Corcoran of the Democratic State Committee says that the State is sure to be a factor of importance in the Convention. "At Chicago the Governor will come in contact with public men, and he has a way of making himself felt and appreciated under such circumstances." Chairman J. H. McDonough of the committee said: "It looks as though Palmer might be nominated, and then Russell must receive the second place in order to save the East. We shall be ready to push the Governor for the leadership, but will be satisfied to have him second with such a man as Palmer first."

A close political friend of the Governor says of the matter: "We propose to make Gov. Russell the central figure of our delegation, and to surround him with a big crowd of young and old Democrats who will be invited to go to Chicago with us. That will give Massachusetts prominence not only in Chicago, but in all the big cities along the route."

In Indiana Hill Would Have Been Idolized.

Ex-Register James Kane is a delegate from Kings county to the Chicago Convention. He said yesterday:

"I firmly believe that Senator Hill will be nominated for President. He is even more popular in the West and South than in this State. I was in Indiana a month ago, and everybody with whom I talked was for Hill. They told me that if Hill had done for the Democrats of Indiana what he did for the Democrats of this State he would be idolized. They haven't any Mugwumps out there. In my opinion Senator Hill with the seventy-two delegates from this State solidly at his back will grow stronger every day."

Ex-Register Kane is the man who had the courage to stand up in the Sixth Ward Democratic Association a few years ago and denounce President Cleveland for the appointment of Postmaster Pearson and other Mugwumps.

Alderman Coffey, the other South Brooklyn leader, and also a delegate to the National Convention, is equally pronounced in favor of Senator Hill.

The Mugwump Kickers.

From the Lynchburg News.

It is now in order for certain newspaper partisans of Mr. Cleveland to begin their defence of the dishonorable conspiracy of the men whose pretended loyalty to the Democratic party is best distinguished by their repeated efforts to betray it in times of emergency and by their rapacity for office in times of success. There is but one man among the intriguers who has not often fought in the ranks of the Republican party, and who did not hold an office under the Administration of Mr. Cleveland.

A Chance for New York.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* "The tree known as the 'Penn Elm,' grown from a slip of the Treaty Tree, has been cared for at Bay Ridge and is now to be removed to the estate of Gen. Oliver at Laurel Run."—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

Since no such tree is in existence in Philadelphia the citizens of New York have now an opportunity to complete their work by obtaining possession of the monument erected on the spot where stood the original tree. The ground around it is occupied as a board yard, the railing which once protected it is broken down, and though at long intervals attention has been called to it, it stands unhonored and unnoticed. Philadelphians feel no interest in it whatever—just now, it may be because they are occupied in providing statues of singular green animals for the park and so have lost their taste for simpler things of historic interest. M. C.

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.

A Vital Necessity.

Askitt—What in your opinion is the most indispensable qualification of a poet?

Newitt—An independent fortune.

FREE SILVER COINAGE.

Mr. Frewen Returns to Its Support.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* Free silver coinage is such a burning question in this country that a visitor may well be daunted at the reception the press is likely to accord to the unpopular view. But the tone and temper, at least of the Eastern press, in discussing this Bland bill is so identical with its treatment of that other Bland bill in 1878 that I venture to ask, Is it not possible that their leader writers are mistaken now as they were at that time? In 1878 legal-tender silver, a "dishonest dollar," a "pot-lid dollar," was to "drive out gold." Congress was trying to "make water run up hill," and what has ensued? This country has since absorbed 15 per cent. of the gold currency of the world, and has, during the fourteen years which have elapsed, expanded her currency by twice as much gold as silver!

If you go to free coinage; if, to put it shortly, your Government offers an ounce of gold for sixteen ounces of silver, why should not the price of silver all the world over conform to that ratio? That is to say, the price of silver rise to and remain at 129 cents per standard ounce. Who in Europe is going to sell silver for less, if by sending it to America he can sell it for that price? Nay more, will any European holder of silver sell his coined silver (and bullion silver we have practically none) for 120 cents per ounce, when those coins are worth there 132 cents to-day, to pay all debts and taxes? Remember that the European coinage ratio is as 1 to 15½; now, suppose that France to-morrow were to open her mints to free coinage at 1 to 17, would your citizens here melt up their silver dollars and exchange them for French gold at a loss of 6 per cent.? Nor would your Government do this—empty her vaults of silver, to be exchanged for gold at the French mints, because Congress would not allow it, and similarly the political forces behind silver in Europe are such that no law to sell coined silver for American gold could possibly pass those Legislatures to-day.

And if no silver will reach you from Europe, certainly none will reach you from Asia. In Asia you can only buy silver with silver; Asia's silver cannot be collected for export, even by a high bank rate, because, with the exception of half a dozen seaboard towns, banks there are none. This is the reason why Asia always imports silver and never exports the metal. The great "sink of silver" is the Orient.

The gold press of this country are trying to prove too much. "Silver kings" wish to secure "inflation," when it will require "two silver dollars to buy what to-day can be bought for one gold dollar." In short, silver kings want to increase the value of their silver mines by reducing the value—the purchasing power—of the product of those mines!

It seems to me that the free coinage of every sixteen ounces of silver will enable this country to draw an ounce of gold from London; the coined silver will purchase an American railway bond, which bond can be immediately sold in London by cable, and sold for gold, which the Bank of England has to pay.

What was it that maintained the ratio of gold and silver at 1 to 15½ for the first seventy years of this century? What but the free coinage system of France! In the early years of the century three times as much silver was being produced as gold; in 1840 the production of the two metals was equal; between 1850 and 1890 the production of gold was 3⅜ times that of silver, and yet notwithstanding these phenomenal fluctuations everywhere the price of silver conformed to the French law of 1 to 15½. During all those years the price of silver was steady at 131 cents per standard ounce. This steadiness of value was the result of free coinage in France. To-day free coinage in the United States, a country vastly more important and with an almost infinite export capacity, will be followed by the same steadiness.

It is almost incredible that thus late in the day the real interest this country has in the silver question—its farmer's interest—is being denied or ignored by a large section of the Eastern press. The writer spent two winters in India closely studying the cost of producing wheat in that country. In India the coinage of silver is free, and, as it is a country of 270,000,000 of people and no banks, the value of silver—its purchasing power—is quite unaffected by its depreciation in Europe. Indeed, the rupee is worth rather more to-day than it was fourteen years since to buy land, labor, or any local commodities. Now the Indian can afford, one year with another, to sell his wheat in London for 5,000 grains of silver—say 22 rupees—per quarter of 480 pounds, and, this being the case, your farmers must sell their export wheat in London for the gold equivalent to 22 rupees: in other words, for $11 if the price of silver is what it would be under conditions of free coinage, but for $8 if the price of silver is what it has fallen to by reason of the dishonest monetary legislation of the past eighteen years. It is a moderate estimate, then, that the fall in the price of silver has diminished the balance annually owing to this country on exported wheat alone by $30,000,000, besides checking the volume exported, which would otherwise have shown a rapid expansion. And while such is the connection between the price of wheat and silver, that connection is scarcely less intimate in the case of cotton, maize, jute, and many other commodities, the price of which has been forced down with each fall in the rates of exchange between Europe and Asia.

Grasp the nettle, and the question is settled for the whole world. Just as France for seventy years maintained a steady ratio, and this, too, in the teeth of unparalleled variations in the supply of the two metals, so also the fiat of this great country can maintain gold and silver at the ratio of 1 to 16; but temporize as at present, tamper with your currency by pumping four and a half millions monthly into circulation, and unless this demand should suffice to restore its value to silver—which is scarcely probable—then this country will certainly come to a silver basis, if not in five years, then in ten.

The present is the psychological moment. You have the promise of two years of colossal exports. Should free coinage at the onset scare some gold abroad, that gold will raise prices in the European markets, stimulate your exports to those markets, and come rapidly back to you again in payment for those exports.

It is amazing the strong language that is being employed to stigmatize the "silver lunacy!" and yet between the silver men and the gold men here, there is no real difference of principle. The gold men are of opinion that America, "with the other nations," can maintain a fixed ratio; with what other nations? Clearly they do not mean that if Bolivia or Roumania remain outside the Bimetallic Union, such a defection will wreck the ratio. Well, then, if we eliminate Roumania, and also say Germany and Italy, would the ratio hold good if Roumania, Italy, and Germany remained outside?

So that the divergence of opinion is one of degree only. The silver men believe, arguing from the analogy of what France formerly did, that America can maintain the ratio alone and unaided, while the gold men must admit that they are in the dark as to how wide the area of monetary union should be. Moreton Frewen.

Feb. 23.

Jerry's Story of the "Sockless" Joke.

From the Chicago Mail.

"There are thousands of persons who wonder why I am called 'Sockless' Simpson," said that representative of the State of Kansas to an acquaintance yesterday. "But there are very few who know the real reason. I was a young fellow with a considerable fondness for the society of young ladies, and I was very proud of my feet." The Congressman stretched out his neatly cased pedal extremities for the inspection of his friends and glanced at them with pride.

"We all used to wear tight boots," he continued, "sometimes so tight as to be very uncomfortable. There was a fellow who had a foot just a trifle smaller than mine. He could wear boots a size smaller than I, and a mutual acquaintance, who, by the way, was a young lady, spoke about it to me one evening. I was in the habit of wearing heavy woollen socks, and I knew that if I should take them off I could wear smaller boots. To my great joy I found on trying that I could wear a size smaller than my rival, and I at once purchased a pair. I went to call that evening as usual, and found him there, proud in the possession of feet which were really smaller than mine. The subject came up—I believe I started it—about the sizes of our boots, and he eagerly accepted my challenge to a measurement. Of course I won, and he seemed to feel as badly over it as if he had lost a horse race. But the bootmaker who was in possession of my secret gave me away and the boys all got on to the story. Do I wear socks now? I should say that I do."

Unornamental Public Functionaries.

From Truth.

If you see a pung of a cart drawn by a moribund horse, and containing three or four gallus young fellows and a home-made wooden cage marked "D. C." in wavering lines of chalk, you may know that you are in the presence of a metropolitan dog catcher's outfit. The New York dog catcher is no dude.

All She Expected.

"When do you expect those seeds to come up?" asked Mrs. Bleecker of Mrs. Emerson of Boston.

"I do not expect the seeds to come up. My expectation is that the seeds will produce plants, and that these will emerge from the soil in two weeks."

It is so easy to contract a cold which, from its obstinacy, may entail a long siege of discomforts before getting rid of it, that the afflicted should resort at once to that old-established remedy, Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, which will speedily remove all coughs and colds, and help you to avoid all complications involving the throat and lungs.—*Adv.*