The Sun.

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The Bottom Facts.

The Hon. ARTHUR PUE GORMAN is thus quoted from Washington by the leading journalistic politician of the West, the *Chicago Herald*:

"If we nominate CLEVELAND for President, I am afraid we shall have to elect him without the electoral vote of New York."

If the Democratic issue is to include success instead of a vindication of Mugwumpery, the circumstance must be faced that with CLEVELAND for the nominee, the Democratic failure would extend far beyond the State of New York. It would be folly to suppose that he could carry the fitful and precarious State of Connecticut. The rule or ruin attempt of his fanatics to break down the natural party candidate from Indiana, in addition to his otherwise demonstrated unpopularity, strongly sustains the Indiana prediction that he would be beaten there by 50,000 majority. The South is also full of revolution. Neither of the Virginias nor either of the Carolinas, nor Florida, nor even Georgia is surely Democratic with CLEVELAND on the ticket. In short, no Southern State could be relied on except such as are exempt from any interior agitation of the Democracy, and where the tradition of supporting the Democratic electors is too immovable to be shaken even by a candidate for a third term.

Senator GORMAN, however, is a man of few words. Taking New York from the list of Democratic States is enough to settle the candidacy of any aspirant for the Democratic nomination.

A Gloomy Outlook for Presbyterianism.

It seems to be probable that Dr. BRIGGS will be condemned by the Presbyterian General Assembly next month. It is also evident that the Union Theological Seminary, its faculty, and its trustees, will stand by him and be boycotted by the vast majority of the Presbyteries in consequence.

Even if no formal and open rupture of the Presbyterian Church should occur this spring, the decision of the General Assembly must separate the communion into two parties radically divided in sentiment. On one side will be the orthodox and Calvinistic Presbyterians, comprising the great bulk of the Church, and on the other the Pantheistic anti-biblical Presbyterians, led by Dr. BRIGGS and nurtured by the Union Theological Seminary. The Western Presbyteries, according to all present indications, will be ranged almost unanimously with the first party, and the strength of the second will be confined almost exclusively to the East, with New York as the citadel.

The condemnation of Dr. BRIGGS will compel both his friends and his enemies to show their hands and take their sides. The propositions for delay and compromise, under which some of his supporters and sympathizers in the ministry have escaped this necessity hitherto, will not avail after the General Assembly has stamped his teachings with its formal disapproval and refused to countenance the seminary which makes them the basis of its instruction. They must declare themselves squarely and openly as either for or against him; and by retaining them as pastors their churches will take position with them. Dr. VAN DYKE and Dr. HALL, for instance, will be compelled to elect whether they shall go with Dr. BRIGGS and Pantheism or Dr. PATTON and Calvinism; and the two Fifth avenue churches to which they minister will have to decide the same question. The Presbyterians have come to the parting of the ways.

A theological seminary depends for its support on the approval of the Presbyteries, and, of course, if the General Assembly, representing all the Presbyteries, declares its disapproval, the institution will be without any organization to back it. Some students for the ministry choose a divinity school to which to go according to their individual preferences only; but they are few in number. The most of the young men come from Presbyteries and churches, by which they are supported, and consequently they have no such freedom. They cannot go to any seminary which has not the Presbyterial approval. Their future prospects as ministers are also dependent on the favor of the Presbyteries. If they start out from a seminary declared heterodox by the General Assembly, their chances of getting pastorates are bad. If it is boycotted, they will be boycotted also. Usually, too, the whole experience and training of these young men are utterly destructive of the independence of character which might induce youth to side with an unpopular minority. From the time they leave school until they are ushered into the ministry after graduating from a theological seminary, they are dependents. They do not take care of themselves; the churches take care of them, support them, clothe them, educate them. They get their bread and butter, therefore, at the cost of their independence.

Hence when the Union Theological Seminary comes under the ban of the General Assembly its supply of students must fall off heavily, unless a strong party of the Presbyterians is organized for its support. It must see its classes passing over to Princeton if it cannot induce a considerable number of the rich and powerful churches to become its nurseries. If the churches of which those of its own graduates who signed a testimonial in favor of Dr. BRIGGS are pastors should have the courage to act thus, the institution might receive a sufficient supply of students from that source alone. But can they be relied upon as its avowed friends in the event of the condemnation of the institution by the General Assembly, and the more especially if the majority against the seminary is as great as it now promises to be? It is very doubtful. It is not probable, unless there is a split in the denomination which is strong enough for the substantial support of the bolting ministers and the Union Seminary's candidates for the ministry.

As a necessity of their existence, therefore, Dr. BRIGGS and the faculty of this seminary must organize a Presbyterian party committed to their support. Without it and without the countenance of the General Assembly they will be in the air. As a matter of consistency, too, the Presbyterian ministers who have sustained Dr. BRIGGS hitherto will be obliged to go with him into his theological exile, or else forfeit public respect. It is plainly for their interest also that a bolt should be organized. Hence the break-up of Presbyterian unity seems to be inevitable. If the number of sympathizers with Dr. BRIGGS was small in the ministry, they might save themselves by passing over into another and more hospitable communion. But it is small only conparatively. Actually there are many of them, including the pastors of some of the richest and most powerful of New York and other Eastern churches.

The prosperity of Presbyterianism has also suffered a severe blow from the proceedings of Dr. PARKHURST. He is the pastor of a church which the late Dr. WILLIAM ADAMS made distinguished for its refinement and conservatism, social and religious. Such a congregation cannot long tolerate the sensational Dr. PARKHURST, whose presence in the pulpit excites feelings fatal to devotion and inconsistent with the spirit of Christianity. Strangers must come in to take the places of the departing pewholders, driven away by his course and conduct. His methods and proceedings must also affect very many outside Presbyterians of refinement. The Presbyterian tendency to seek relief from turmoil by going over to Episcopalianism is likely to receive a powerful impulse from the increasing distasto for Dr. PARKHURST. He will be the last straw that breaks the camel's back.

Mr. Froude at Oxford.

The appointment of Mr. JAMES ANTHONY FROUDE to the Regius Professorship of Modern History at Oxford, the chair left vacant by the death of EDWARD AUGUSTUS FREEMAN, at first excited surprise and a good deal of criticism in certain quarters. There is, however, no reason why a great university should confine itself to one conception of the right method of writing history, and there is, on the whole, a disposition to approve of the selection made on the ground that Mr. FROUDE, whatever may be his deficiencies on the score of accuracy, is one of the greatest living masters of the English language. Even the *Saturday Review*, in whose columns appeared many of FREEMAN'S severe attacks upon FROUDE, considers that the author of the "History of England from the Fall of Wolsey to the Defeat of the Spanish Armada" will be no unworthy occupant of a chair which in our time has been tenanted by GOLDWIN SMITH, Bishop STUBBS, and FREEMAN. The only rival candidate of weighty claims among Oxonians was SAMUEL RAWSON GARDINER, the author of the "History of England Under the First Two Stuarts," and of the "Great Civil War," but Mr. GARDINER is eleven years younger than Mr. FROUDE and therefore can afford to wait.

His predecessors, FREEMAN, STUBBS, and GOLDWIN SMITH, were all younger than FROUDE, and did not matriculate until he had graduated. It is an interesting fact that neither FROUDE nor his inexorable critic, FREEMAN, succeeded in obtaining any higher honors on graduation than a second class in classics, or the so-called "Greats." WILLIAM STUBBS, on the other hand, got a first class, and GOLDWIN SMITH, who graduated in the same year with FREEMAN, not only took a first class in classics, but gained the Hertford and Ireland scholarships, together with the Chancellor's prizes for Latin verse and for Latin and English essays. Mr. SMITH was made Professor of History in 1858 and held the post till 1866. No lectures delivered in the chair of history at Oxford have attracted so much attention in the country at large as was paid to those of Mr. SMITH, and the distinction gained by their author gave great weight to his earnest advocacy of the cause of the Union during our civil war. He was succeeded by Bishop, then Mr., STUBBS, whose relations with FREEMAN were peculiarly intimate, and as THOROLD ROGERS used to say, mutually profitable. One of ROGERS'S squibs averred that "ladling butter from alternate tubs, STUBBS butters FREEMAN, FREEMAN butters STUBBS." No one disputes, however, that the bread in each case was worth buttering. FREEMAN'S turn came in 1884, and he remained Professor of History at Oxford until his recent unexpected death. Mr. GARDINER, who, as we have said, would naturally be pressed by his friends for the vacant place, held at one time the Professorshipof Modern History at King's College, London.

It will be in the 75th year of his age that Mr. FROUDE will return to a university with which he broke off his connection, one can scarcely say voluntarily, more than forty years ago. He became a Fellow of Exeter College in 1842, and two years afterward was ordained a deacon in the Church of England. For some time he was an active member of the High Church party, of which his brother, HURRELL FROUDE, and JOHN HENRY NEWMAN (subsequently Cardinal) were the most conspicuous members. In his "Nemesis of Faith" JAMES ANTHONY FROUDE protested against what he called the Hebrew mythology of the Anglican Church, and the book was severely condemned by the university authorities. For this and other reasons his position at Oxford became so unpleasant that he resigned his Fellowship, devoting himself thenceforth to literary labors. We may add that, when the Clerical Disability act was passed, he took advantage of it to relinquish the office of deacon. On the whole, he has hitherto had cause to feel that his *alma mater* has treated him like a stepmother rather than with true maternal fondness. Yet so powerful are early predilections that her tardy recognition of him will perhaps be more grateful than all the other proofs of admiration which have come to him from the English-speaking world.

The New Steamship Line.

It was in October last that the first vessel of the new line of steamers between New York and Genoa left this port for the old Italian port; and it was within two months afterward that the second vessel of the line was put on. The venture of establishing this new line, which was undertaken by the North German Lloyd Company, is already so successful that the company has determined to add two more vessels to the line this year, and to establish a regular weekly service between New York and Genoa.

The two vessels now in the service are of excellent report in respect to safety, speed, and equipment. They are surpassed by few of the other liners that traverse the Atlantic; they have already won the favor of both travellers and freighters; and they carry only cabin passengers, having no steerage for immigrants. The other vessels that are to be put on the line will be even finer than the Fulda and the Werra, and we understand that they will have accommodations for people in the steerage.

We welcome this new line, and we would have welcomed it all the more if its vessels had been built in American shipyards and furnished with American enginery.

In an essay on "Genoa" in the April number of the *Cosmopolitan*, Mr. MURAT HALSTEAD speaks of the establishment of this new line as a "fine stroke." "There has been nothing more notable in commercial history for many years." "It puts New York in touch with Genoa as it had previously been in touch with Queenstown, Bremen, and other foreign ports." It will promote trade and intercourse between the United States and Italy. It must operate to the advantage of the United States; it must operate to the advantage of Italy, which will rake in more dollars than ever from the merry hordes of American tourists ever anxious to see its sights and get back home to talk about it with unmeasured enthusiasm and erudition.

Mr. HALSTEAD tells the *Cosmopolitan* all about the old city of Genoa, running his eye along the course of its history from the time of its foundation soon after the flood by JANUS, the great-grandson of NOAH, the most renowned of ancient mariners, down to the times of CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, who has recently suffered at the hands of cruel anatomists. He tells of the maritime enterprise of the Genoese in the olden times, and shows how now Genoa is rising once again, to take her proper rank as the first commercial city of Italy and as the worthy wearer of the title, *La Superba*. The new steamship line between her port and the magnificent and supremely superb American port of New York gives fresh assurance of the revival of the spirit which once led her to confront Rome and which afterward carried her banners to Jerusalem.

"Genoa," exclaims Mr. MURAT HALSTEAD, "Genoa rises to a new destiny, confident in grandeur to come!"

We wish every success to the new steamship line, which, we trust, will have a weekly service, and a profitable service, between New York and Genoa before this time of next year, when we will be reminded even more than we are this year of Genoa's failure three centuries ago to take advantage of the business talents of the storm-tossed Admiral COLUMBUS.

The Hill Cats of Brooklyn.

In this matter of the cat migration to that part of Brooklyn known as the Hill, there are some facts which have not yet been placed before the public; and of these facts a few must be known before opinion is finally made up and engrossed. It is pretty well known that in its supply of cats the city of New York is as far ahead of the rest of the country as New Jersey is in its supply of mad dogs. These cats have been observed for some years, have been made the subject of numerous interesting monographs, and have created much opportunity for benevolence. But in Brooklyn the cats have not hitherto risen to a sufficient importance to be written about or even thought about.

The first note of warning was sounded some time ago from the direction of Williamsburgh, where it was said that an army of cats had arrived and had quartered itself, without so much as by your leave, to the great annoyance of the public peace. And now comes a wail from the Hill to the effect that its peaceful doorsteps and neighborhoods, its calm and hitherto undisturbed areas, and its hitherto select and garbage-strewn vacant lots, are the daily and nightly scene of revelry and disorder.

But the Hill, in considering its own misfortunes apart from the misfortunes of other parts of Brooklyn, has not appreciated their full extent. After a long and careful investigation it may be said that the Hill district is the very head and centre of the army of cats which has sprung up in Brooklyn; that its cats outnumber the cats of any other like area; and that they excel in size, in daring, in wildness, and in all points except beauty, any cats known in these regions. Further, it is safe to add that a certain street called Cambridge place, between Greene and Gates, is in the heart of the storm, having a cat population of amazing density.

For the information of those who have not the time to investigate this subject exhaustively, it may be well to say that the cats we refer to are not those which make up a part of every regular household. They are not the well-mannered and well-kept animals that are to be seen in sunny corners of window sills, or lazily sleeping before grate fires. The cats now in question are the surplus, the homeless, friendless, nameless individuals of the tribe.

Surely in one short block, in a quiet street, if anywhere, these nomad cats ought to be studied to advantage. There are many special mysteries of life, death, and birth in relation to these cats which no man has been able to explain. And here, where they are so numerous as to be under constant observation, where hiding places are few and food exceedingly scarce, all the hitherto puzzling questions should be solved. Some progress has been made in this direction, as we have learned by talking with residents of the neighborhood.

The Hill cats of the nomad tribe are entirely different from ordinary cats, as those who have noted them in New York have remarked. To begin with external appearance: they are, for the most part, of a black or dirty brown aspect, singularly lax and indifferent in matters of the toilet. This may arise from the uneven way in which hair is distributed over their hides, owing partly to the indifference of nature and partly to the exceedingly stirring and warlike lives they lead. The tail, which in a cat of even ordinary easy fortune is a plume of some beauty, seems to be the most disreputable feature of these cats, being of a small and slender growth at best, and often entirely lacking through its being the last part of a cat to leave when a door is closing rapidly. In the matter of eyes, also, the standard proportion of two to a cat is not maintained, although so far as has been observed as yet, this is due to no oversight of nature. Altogether the Hill cat is an unsightly creature, as little pleasing to itself in appearance as it is to those who look upon it. And when it is remembered that in passing along that street by day cats of this kind are to be seen everywhere, and that at night the pedestrian is affrighted again by seeing balls of fire glaring in the dark corners of basements, sometimes one ball, again two, again three, varying in shade and fire, adding oddness of number to the terror of the glow, then one understands what this infestation means from a spectacular standpoint.

If this were the worst, it might be borne. But it is the unpleasant habits and mental composition of these cats that make them objectionable. In New York and in other parts of Brooklyn man resists a nuisance with severe measures. But these cats sojourning upon the Hill, know that they have to do with tender and meek human beings, who hate the sight of suffering and death, who hesitate to shoot cats or otherwise do them damage. Indeed, the tendency of the Hill people toward the cats is extraordinary. Only now and then there comes to some boarding house a hardened person who fires at them, or kicks them, or hurls articles of furniture after them. Such cruel persons have been found to be exceedingly untrustworthy in the matter of paying their board, and are accordingly treated with coldness. The cats, therefore, increase in daring, and, although they do most of their prowling at night, they do not hesitate to show themselves by day and to carry off whatever pleases their fancy.

While the tender and gentle people of the Hill do not find it in their hearts to kill the old cats, they would be perfectly willing to diminish the number of the young. But thus far they have not been able to find any kittens whatsoever. One theory which is propounded to account for this, is that the Hill dwellers are made up of the outcasts of other communities that arrive at the Hill by a sort of graduation. In fact, this theory supposes that the Hill is a kind of penal settlement of cats, which receives constant additions from other places. We have also heard of another theory, which, being based upon the most astute investigations, will be worthy of respectful attention when it is properly announced. Attention should likewise be called to the evil influences of wandering cats, such as are too often wicked and worthless, upon the staid and honorable family cats of the neighborhood. These genuine domestic cats hold themselves severely aloof, but yet they are in danger of becoming contaminated and degraded. Whether reform will then be possible among them, is a question which the residents of the Hill should thoughtfully consider.

Dr. Parkhurst's Vicious Defence.

The *Herald* says that "if Dr. PARKHURST can be effectively squelched, no other reformer will make a similar attempt for a dozen years to come." That is the very reason why he must be effectually "squelched." The Church and the Christian ministry must be saved from the danger of further disgrace by possible imitators of his vile methods.

It is to the great credit of the community that it was shocked by his proceedings; but now attempts are made to pervert the healthful moral sense which was manifested so emphatically. The public are asked to excuse him on the ground that his motives were not bad; that the end he sought justified the means he used. It is a devilish principle, according to which every wrong is made defensible on the plea that the motive of the wrongdoer was not wrong.

When GUITEAU shot President GARFIELD he carried that vile principle to its extreme. He wanted to break up political methods which were obnoxious to him. JACK the Ripper might use it to glorify his horrible crimes as a righteous method of frightening women from vice. If it was justifiable for Dr. PARKHURST to violate to any extent the moral law in order to prove and prevent the corruption of the police, it would have been justifiable for him to commit any and all crimes for that purpose. If because his motives were good, his conduct was righteous in hiring and decoying depraved and wretched women to exhibit their shamelessness to him, he would have been praiseworthy if he had lured the Police Commissioners into a dark alley and assassinated them in pursuance of a pious end. If any evil may be done that good may come, of course all evil may be done with that end in view.

The vice which exists in the world is a sad evil; but the injury it does to society is infinitesimal as compared with the damage which would be wrought by the general acceptance of this defence of Dr. PARKHURST'S proceedings as sufficient in the forum of morals and religion. The moral sense of the public would be undermined fatally. Already the moral principle of many really good people has been twisted and perverted by such devilish casuistry. They are excusing the preacher by saying that it is necessary to fight fire with fire, or to attack the devil with his own weapons of deceit and falsehood.

By putting forward a defence so vicious Dr. PARKHURST has become a corrupter of the public conscience, and his evil influence is the more powerful because he remains in a Christian pulpit; and even some professed organs of religious truth are engaged in efforts to pervert the minds of their readers for his benefit. They are doing all they can to destroy the public capacity to distinguish between right and wrong.

Even so far as concerns the particular form of vice with which Dr. PARKHURST dealt on the principle that the end justifies the means, the effect of his proceedings will be only evil. In satisfying his own curiosity as to it he has provoked the same curiosity in many thousands of other men, and taught them a hypocritical excuse by which they can assume to defend its gratification. His effort to overcome vice with vice was, of course, fruitless. The amount of vice existing after his detective explorations was not a whit less than before. The host of the vicious remained undiminished. By stimulating curiosity he simply provoked the vicious tendencies of human nature which give it employment and encourage its increase. If Dr. PARKHURST had been hired by the dissolute as an agent, he could not have served their base purposes better. There may be some changes in the localities of the forces of evil, but they will be strengthened rather than weakened in their assaults on virtue. They may be more scattered, but they will be more pernicious.

Meantime the damage done to the public conscience by giving the sanction of a professedly Christian pulpit to the devilish doctrine that the end justifies the means, will multiply the difficulties before the Church; and the example furnished by a professedly Christian preacher in undertaking to use it for his justification as a decoy of the vicious, will tend to bring the whole Christian ministry into disrespect. As a measure of necessary self-defence, the Christian Church should disown this man and denounce his methods. As the *Herald* expresses it, he must be squelched.

Without Good Reason.

The complete report published in the *Washington Post* of the Hon. HENRY WATTERSON'S abolition of both HILL and CLEVELAND as Presidential candidates, contains an argument against Senator HILL'S availability for which we see no reasonable ground:

"As to Governor HILL, he would have to encounter as a candidate for President obstacles he has never had to encounter as a candidate for Governor."

What obstacles? Haven't the Mugwumps always been against him? Hasn't WILLIAM ROWLAND GRACE'S special connection always been active and organized against him? Doesn't Mr. WATTERSON admit in this same interview that in 1888 the CLEVELAND Administration was substantially against him? What fresh force or fact on is ranging against him now?

If the agreement of the recent "conference" at Indianapolis means [illegible] to be "presented" before it [illegible] that Governor CLEVELAND cannot win, the Democratic National Convention probably [illegible] at least the Democratic party [illegible] respect it.—*Baltimore American.*

The Convention respects [illegible] fully. The only instruction put upon the Indiana delegation to the National Democratic Convention was to present the name of Isaac PUSEY GRAY, unconditionally and in all events.

The Liberal party of Mexico, which is now advocating the reelection of President DIAZ, has set up an excellent platform, favoring an economical administration, judiciary reform, the promotion of commercial intercourse with foreign nations, the abolition of internal Custom Houses, and the enlargement of the liberty of the press. It is upon this platform that President DIAZ stands as a candidate for a third term of office. All of its principles are commendable, and all of them, with a single exception, can easily be carried out. It will be hard to secure the practical application of the principle of economy in the Mexican Government. Yet it is of the utmost importance to Mexican credit that there be retrenchment in the public expenditures, especially in those for the support of the military establishment.

Several thousand CLEVELAND buttons made their appearance in Brooklyn yesterday. It was impossible to discover just where they came from.—*New York Times.*

Dropped there, probably. His swelling reputation plays the dickens with buttons.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY is looming up as a Republican possibility, and we suggest to the Democratic free trade press that they had better not go crazy at the thought of it. Governor MCKINLEY is an able man, standing high in his party, and under a certain line of treatment from his adversaries his candidacy might develop a power altogether irresistible.

A gentleman who does not give his name or his address favors us with a proposition to bet $10,000 that CLEVELAND will be nominated on the first or second ballot. Fudge!

The American Government is one of the three Governments that maintain a protectorate over the kingdom of Samoa and preserve order there. Yet we trust that, in the event of an uprising of the Mataafaites, the American Government will not need to unite with the British and German Governments in fighting them.

While in charge of the recruiting station at Elmira, Col. ELLIOTT FITCH SHEPARD was instrumental in putting nearly 47,000 men into the field.—*Journalist.*

This is unjust to this gallant warrior. The true number was 475,000.

How far England is behind this country in at least one respect may be inferred from Mr. GLADSTONE'S remark that the question of female suffrage has not yet been fully discussed there by the press and on the platform. That interesting question was brought to the fore more than forty years ago in the United States by Miss SUSAN B. ANTHONY and her associates. And through all those years it has been thoroughly and persistently discussed here on the platform, by the press, and in the halls of legislation. There are few Americans of any intelligence who are not familiar with the arguments in favor of female suffrage and against it. If the English people really need information upon the question they can easily get a ship load of speeches and documents about it from the United States. Even Mr. GLADSTONE himself may be interested in the returns of the recent school elections in Illinois, in which women were allowed to vote. In these elections many thousands of women cast their votes, and the consequence was that their favorite candidates were elected in a large majority of the towns. In some places there was a woman's ticket against the man's ticket, and in every case of that kind the women carried the day, though not, perhaps, without the aid of a portion of the men. These facts ought to be worthy of Mr. GLADSTONE'S contemplation.

The athletic authorities have made a tremendous routing out of professionals pretending to be amateurs. No sailing under false colors in sport or politics.

It is pleasing to know that the King of Butaritari, who has spent the past month in San Francisco, has left there for his island kingdom in the Pacific. The King has been greatly bored by his experiences in San Francisco. He was invited to look at all the sights there; he was taken to a prize fight; he was taken to the opera, and he was often asked to take a drink. Because of the incidents of his reception he fell ill, and because he ascertained that our Government would not establish a protectorate over his kingdom and give him an income, he became discouraged. King KEMORA will be wiser and poorer when he leaves our country than he was when he came to it; but he may yet be able to replenish his treasury by imposing new taxes upon the 2,000 Butaritarian Christians of whom he is the Christian King.

San Francisco is not a good place for royal tourists to stay in. It proved fatal, not long ago, to King KALAKAUA of Hawaii.

In the summer time of this year parties of excursionists will start from various places between Boston and Denver to go as far north as Alaska. The *Alaskan* believes that thousands of people will visit the Purchase during the summer season, tourists who have been everywhere excepting Alaska and would like to see the sights there or to do a little exploration, going perhaps within sight of Mount St. Elias, or up toward the Yukon, or away out somewhere else. Visitors from California and Oregon are also looked for, men who would like to know if there is any use of prospecting there, or if there are any business chances, or how the land lies, and what is its price by the acre, if there is no show for jumpers. Altogether it is likely that more people will see Alaska this year than have seen it in any other year.

It is well. The American people ought to know their own country, and all parts of it, even up as far north as the Arctic Ocean and as far west as Behring Straits, across which are old Asia and the dominions of the Czar.

Some notable facts about Alaska were given in a Washington letter printed in THE SUN not long ago. There are towering mountains and impressive scenery within its bounds; there are interesting natives to be seen; there are regions in which the soil is productive; there is plenty of ice even in summer time; there are mineral deposits that may yet be worked with advantage; there are several clergymen of different creeds; and there is at least one enterprising newspaper. We are prepared to believe that a man or a party of men could do worse than to take a summer trip to Alaska.

The study of Africa is going on more satisfactorily and thoroughly than ever before. At least twenty white men are to-day adding to our knowledge of that continent for every one engaged in the work during the explorations which made LIVINGSTONE and STANLEY famous. Most of the present investigators limit their fields of labor to a thorough study of some one tribe or the exploration of some particular geographic aspect. They send their material home, but a great deal of it is not published for a long time after it reaches Europe.

Section 7 of the third edition of JUSTUS PERTHES'S *Spezialkarte von Afrika* has just appeared. It is devoted to the Congo. It brings a good many new facts to notice, including information derived from a large number of manuscript maps that have never been published. These maps give the courses of important rivers like the Mfini, the Ikatta, and the Djuma, which have now been more satisfactorily surveyed.

One of the most important contributions to this great map of the Congo country is the route survey Lieut. LE MARINEL made during his last journey from the station of Lusambo, on the Sankuru River, through hundreds of miles of hitherto unknown country southeast to the metal-bearing region of Katanga, west of Lake Bangwe-olo. This survey fills an important gap in the map of Africa.

This single sheet contains the work of about fifty explorers, whose investigations did not appear in the second edition of the map. What fact could illustrate more forcibly the progress of African cartography? Just before this edition began to appear Mr. PERTHES published a sketch map of Africa, coloring in red the areas which were to be entirely redrawn for the third edition. This was only a few months ago, but since that time so much fresh information has been received that the red-colored areas no longer serve to show all the regions that must be redrawn to make the map the repository of all the latest information we have of African geography.

Harrison and Morton.

From the Globe-Democrat.

The best man for the Vice-Presidential nomination is Vice-President Morton.

ANOTHER SILVER BILL.

It Provides for an International Ratio Between Silver and Gold.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Mr. Storer of Ohio introduced in the House to-day a bill to provide for an international ratio between gold and silver, and to suspend the purchase of silver bullion from and after July 1, 1893. It empowers and instructs the President to open or renew negotiations with foreign powers, particularly with the States of the Latin Union, for the purpose of making treaties to secure such concurrent action as may enable the nations agreeing thereto to open their respective mints to the free coinage of silver, with full legal tender power at an agreed and uniform ratio to gold. That in the event of making such treaty with the Latin Union, with or without the concurrence of other nations, from and after the date to be agreed upon the silver dollar and other silver coins of the United States shall be coined at the weight and fineness fixed in such treaty, and the legal tender of such coins shall be the same as that of the same denominations thereof now existing; and the terms of acceptance of silver bullion by the Treasury of the United States and by the said foreign powers, and the rights and privileges of the issue of notes thereon by the respective powers, shall be provided in such treaty. In case any such treaty as aforesaid shall not be made and ratified prior to July 1, 1893, then and thereafter so much of the act approved July 14, 1890, as relates to the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of Treasury notes thereon, shall be suspended until Congress shall otherwise direct.

THE DEMOCRATIC ISSUE.

The Billion Congress.

From the Speech of the Hon. David Turpie, Chairman of the Indiana Democratic State Convention.

This great assemblage to-day has another significance. It denotes the decrease of public expenditures, the political death and burial of all advocates and supporters of that mammoth extravagance, the Billion Appropriation bill, and especially it indicates the political obsequies of that very demure and reticent billionist who resides at present in the Executive Mansion at Washington, and who signed and approved that bill, and without whose name and signature this enormous draft upon the people's money could never have been paid, made, or presented. The billionists, great and small, must perish together. They have forgotten the taxpayers; the taxpayers will remember them in judgment, without mercy. We favor the return of the administration of the Government to the line of strict economy and the highest integrity.

Democratic Candidates in Illinois.

From the Indianapolis Sentinel.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 21.—The *State Register* says that so far ninety-three Democratic Conventions have been held in Illinois. Of the delegates selected 473 are instructed for Palmer, 52 for Cleveland, 7 for Craig, and the remainder uninstructed.

Sound in Fact and History.

From the Brainerd (Minn.) Journal—Dem.

The statement by the recent Democratic Convention, that "we are opposed to the theory of protection as a manifestation of the principle of paternalism in politics, with which our party is traditionally at war," is not in harmony with Democratic belief.

Men who Are Not Sneaks.

From the Commercial Gazette.

Much is said of Cassius M. Clay's taking a drink from a flask of whiskey which he had in reserve in his pocket while addressing the Kentucky House of Representatives recently. The merit of this performance on the part of Gen. Clay was in making no effort of concealment.

Secretive public speakers are in the habit of using gin, it so closely resembles water.

Mr. Gladstone has egg flip before him when he is making a great effort. It is alleged to be a mixture for his throat. Mrs. Gladstone allows this gentle and lubricating stimulant to be prepared by no hands but her own.

What Is the Difference?

From the Kansas City Times.

While adhesion to Mr. Cleveland is not the sole test of Democratic faith, it is the test of representing Kansas at Chicago.

Irish Union.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* To put into effect your admirable leader of this day's issue there will doubtless be needed some short, lucid, practical plan.

Let me suggest the following as a rational, national, all-around basis of joint action by all the Irish parliamentarians and patriots.

Let the Parnellites and the McCarthyites drop those appellatives, holding fast dispassionately to what they sincerely recognize in either name as useful or serviceable to united Ireland. Let the Parnellites adopt the designation of Home Rulers of the Right, the McCarthyites Home Rulers of the Left. In the Irish Parliament two parties must needs work together, the germ of which is contained in the above plan, a sort of preparatory education in needful legislative disputation. By this plan each division has much to gain and nothing to lose, organic unity voicing dual cooperative patriotism, with toleration of respective *amour propre*, and fidelity to cherished heirlooms.

Parliament established in College Green, the Irish Commons would find itself by this plan already constituted in working order, both sides dropping "Home Rulers" and remaining as members of the Right and the Left, in conformity with all legislatures. UNION.

NEW YORK, April 23.

Disgust in the West.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The Cleveland question is, briefly, this: 1. We cannot afford to go into a campaign with even five per cent. of the Democratic vote hostile or indifferent. 2. With Cleveland up, 10 per cent., if not 25, would not vote at all.

This figure is my estimate, from a carefully made record of 600 persons interrogated in Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, Washington, California, Nebraska, Iowa, Indiana, and Michigan in the past year.

This is a mere straw, I admit, but it is well to note even straws when we are looking to learn the direction of the wind. Mr. Cleveland does a very indecent thing in compelling us to do our laundry work in public, but he could always be depended on to do an indecent thing and especially to do the wrong thing at the wrong time.

SPOKANE, Wash., April 15. POSEY S. WILSON.

Harry F. Sheilds Was Not Accused.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In Monday morning's SUN my name was prominently mentioned in connection with an alleged robbery in my father's saloon. I wish to say that I was never accused of having taken part in the alleged crime, and on Monday, when an examination was held, I was immediately discharged, the complainant saying he did not charge me with anything. I am a member of numerous orders and societies, and my friends have no knowledge of my acquittal. In justice to them and to my family will you kindly give space to this communication?

HARRY F. SHEILDS, 334 West street.

A Woman's Appeal.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In the name of heart-broken parents and miserable wives I appeal to you, and earnestly beg you to war against the pool rooms, so called (gambling dens in fact), of this city. The good people of Buffalo are proving these places the hells they are, and no bets are telegraphed from them to the race track. "MARION."

NEW YORK, April 21.

Request for Information.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Will the gentleman who, walking with an elder companion down Broadway on Friday, the 22d, about twenty-five minutes before 1 o'clock, met a third in front (I think of the Metropolitan Hotel), send me his card, or, any way, furnish me with his address, as the matter concerned is of great importance to an individual?

FRESCOTT BELKNAP, 7 Lafayette place.

Parkhurst.

At midnight with his face tucked in,
As guilty, hidden deeds are done,
He stole into the house of sin
To see the fun.

A man of Christian talk, whose aim
Had been to balk temptation's wile,
He came to gaze on women's shame
With devilish guile.

Casting his sacred garb askance,
And all the scruples long professed,
He hired them for a lecher's dance,
Like beasts, undressed.

First came five nymphs to tease and witch,
With painted face and wanton leer;
They played the frog without a stitch,
And drank his beer.

"Oh, be a frog with us," they cried,
"Skip in the play of those you're paying"
But he sat silent and aside;
Oh, was he praying!

Had he a word to bid them trim
The lamp of life, not beasts, but human?
Or was a wanton more to him
Than a pure woman?

Alas, those dancers trained to sell
The wire-drawn charms of soul's undoing,
He helped them down the path to hell
He saw the fun!

On with the circus! Sin has set
The scene to shame and death—that's certain.
But stay, sweet modesty, and let
Us drop the curtain!

Two thousand years ago they brought
To JESUS such a sinful creature:
The blush of crime detected fraught
Her every feature.

But He gave to her love, not gall.
Her tears attested her repentance:
"Go thou and sin no more," was all
Her saviour's sentence!

Help yourself to get rid of that cough or cold, or any asthmatic or throat trouble by using Dr. D Jayne's Expectorant.—*Adv.*

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY.

Easter week should be called wedlock week, for in no other section of the year are marriages so piled upon each other as they are during the six days following the festival of the resurrection. Perhaps it is as well for all concerned to get these affairs over as rapidly as possible, and perhaps the young brides have a fancy for spring flowers, spring zephyrs, and all the symbols of freshness and brightness that Easter weather ought properly to bring.

The sun shone brightly, if the wind blew cold, on the brides of the early part of the week, which was an atmospheric condition fairly typical of what wedded life has proved itself to be. A very smart assemblage gathered in St. Bartholomew's Church on Tuesday to witness the marriage of Miss Van Nest and Mr. Giraud Foster. The voices of the spring spoke loudly in the fresh, light-colored costumes that were worn, and in the gay stripes, variegated combinations, and eccentric fashions that prevailed. Form and color seemed to have run riot in the milliners' minds, producing results that in some cases were almost grotesque and in others of questionable becomingness. But the general effect was decidedly picturesque. Mrs. Duncan Elliott looked extremely handsome in a black gauzy material made with a peasant's waist and enormous canary-colored sleeves. Her bonnet of black and yellow was effective and becoming. One of the very few women present whose costume was of one uniform color was Mrs. Roche. She wore a gown of rich fawn color, which seems to be a popular tint this spring, and a small straw bonnet on her graceful head. The mother of the bride, Mrs. Van Nest, in a pearl-gray satin, realized a poet's idea of a dowager duchess, although any one familiar with Hyde Park, or London ballrooms during the season, must be painfully aware that elderly peeresses are not all that poets and painters represent. Mrs. Charles Carroll Jackson and Mrs. Gambrill, sisters of the bride, were faultlessly costumed, although the latter wore the deepest black. The youthful freshness of Mrs. Charles De Rham, Jr., was intensified by her large garden hat, and made it difficult to believe that the group of children surrounding her were her own. A very simple but rich and elegant white satin gown was worn by the bride without jewels, and completely covered by a filmy tulle veil. Four bridesmaids in pale yellow and the usual staff of ushers completed the bridal train.

The marriage of Miss Harriet Bogert and Mr. Francis Gallatin occurred an hour later at Calvary Church, and brought together a notable company of old New Yorkers. Colonial dames were quite in the ascendant, and seemed to form a link between the remote past and the sweet young bride and her pretty cluster of bridesmaids. A few of those who had been present at St. Bartholomew's went over to Calvary from there, but as a general thing the company was of quite a different set, and aptly illustrated the fact that society now is broken up into many different divisions, all of equal consideration, and equally conspicuous for birth, breeding, and education.

The marriage of pretty Miss Alice Greenough, the only débutante bride of the winter, and Mr. Edward Townsend, took place at Grace Church on Wednesday, and was the leading matrimonial event of that day.

The hopes of those who chose Thursday as the day of their nuptials, proved singularly vain, as a more aggressive downpour is seldom seen, even in England or the tropics. It was a wet rain, too, and left its marks on many a fresh costume and smart flowery bonnet. Probably the first Claremont tea had something to do with it, for Jupiter Pluvius seems to have taken those *al fresco* entertainments under his special patronage, and rarely fails to keep a few clouds and water bursts in reserve for their benefit. Now traps as well as spring gowns were to have been aired