The Sun.

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Our Own Danger.

When an American Minister, ostensibly the representative of the United States, but as it happens merely the personal emissary of a headstrong President, can commit the atrocious outrage of ordering, without the knowledge or sanction of Congress, an established and friendly Government to surrender its power to him or to his beneficiary, something more is imperilled than the Government thus assailed. If Minister WILLIS can so overstep the bounds of law and decency as to demand the abolition of the Provisional Government in Hawaii, what limit is there to the further damage he may impose upon the name and standing of the American republic?

The Hawaiian people can defend themselves. But the American people are helpless. All our knowledge to-day of the President's policy of restoration, beyond the original announcement of it, has been forced from him at the demand of Congress. The secrecy in which he has persistently concealed his scheme from the public is scarcely less offensive than the idea of restoration itself. Hawaii is far out in the Pacific, and the first step has been taken in obedience to Mr. CLEVELAND'S orders for restoration, notwithstanding the sneaking pretence of turning the matter over to the "broader authority of Congress." Our affairs for the moment are entirely at the reckless disposal of an eccentric and overbearing Executive. Our danger is far greater than the Hawaiians'. They may be overpowered; but we may be disgraced, and the foundations of our Constitution shaken as they never were shaken before. The country has to look to Congress alone to defend it from humiliation and domestic damage that must be serious if not irretrievable.

Three Questions.

Why should the Administration be "embarrassed" or "mortified" or even "disappointed" because Minister WILLIS has endeavored faithfully to carry out his instructions from Secretary GRESHAM and President CLEVELAND to order out the Provisional Government and to put LILIUOKALANI back upon the throne?

If, as Secretary GRESHAM declared as long ago as Oct. 18, nothing short of the restoration of "the legitimate Government" would satisfy the demands of justice, why should the report that WILLIS has gone ahead on that line annoy Mr. GRESHAM now?

If, as Mr. CLEVELAND informed Congress on Dec. 18, right, justice, and morality required this Government to restore the Queen, why should there not be joy unspeakable in the White House to-day over the news that LILIUOKALANI consents to be restored under the conditions imposed by Mr. CLEVELAND himself?

These questions are likely to be answered in a very interesting manner within a few days. But there remains one other question, even more interesting.

Suppose that by Mr. CLEVELAND'S unconstitutional interference the Queen has actually been restored, after having first pledged her royal word to her great and good friend in Washington not to behead the members of the Provisional Government, or any of the leading revolutionists. Suppose that the Queen, restored to power, should go back on her royal word, snap her fingers at her great and good friend, and begin her second term by giving a large job to the Royal Executioner.

Would right, justice, and the higher law then require Mr. CLEVELAND, still acting on his own responsibility, to proceed to overthrow the treacherous and bloodthirsty monarch of his creation, and establish another Provisional Government in Hawaii?

Staving Off Folly.

We cannot agree with the resolution passed by the Democratic caucus on Friday night declaring that it is the duty of every Democratic member of the House to attend the daily sessions. We are inclined to think that the Democratic absentees of Saturday served their party well. Anything that tends to keep the Democratic party from passing a Republican tariff bill is good for the Democracy and for the country. For the country, because it would be a wanton and useless trifling with business to disturb the existing system of Federal taxation merely in details. Only the far-reaching and final readjustment of affairs by the creation of a new and radically different system could justify the Democrats in changing the tariff. Such a radical change for the lasting improvement of the industrial situation, after the first stress of disaster and readjustment, they have promised to make. For them and for the country the change is imperative.

Absenteeism is not a habit to be recommended, but the member who stays away and staves off a quorum and keeps the Democrats from perpetrating their extraordinary mixture of Republicanism and socialism, which the WILSON committee have compounded, is in so far a useful citizen.

The Trouble in Sicily.

When ancient cartographers showed on their maps only the lands around the Mediterranean, Sicily, which divides that inland sea into two parts, was the centre of the world. The largest island in the Mediterranean, one side of its triangle turned toward Greece, another toward Italy, the third toward Africa, its geographical position made it the meeting place of races and the battle ground of religions. No island of its size, for it is less than one-fourth as large as the State of New York, ever played so conspicuous a part as Sicily in the history of the world.

When, however, the horizon of the civilized world widened, and the Mediterranean coasts were no longer the theatre of greatest events, Sicily, though still the centre of conflicting interests and bitter strife, came to play only minor parts in history. Only thorough historical students have given much heed to the tedious chapters of Sicilian history during centuries of Bourbon misrule; and not for thirty-three years, since GARIBALDI released it from the Bourbon yoke, has attention been directed toward the island as it is to-day.

In the events that are now occurring we may trace, to some extent, influences that began their operation in Sicily centuries ago. Indeed we may well doubt that we should see the present phase of disturbance and mob rule, if it were not for a practice introduced by the nobles in the early days of the Spanish occupancy. These nobles did not permit their serfs to settle here and there upon their great landed estates, but they gathered them around the castles, and many of them were compelled to walk miles to the fields they tilled. This practice has been continued to this day.

Sicily is almost unique in the respect that while the pursuits of its people are largely agricultural, its population is almost wholly urban. The most of Sicily's 3,300,000 inhabitants live in the towns and cities. We shall see the bearing of this fact upon the present tumult in the island.

If the farmers dwelt on their little holdings, they would partly escape the onerous impost known as the octroi, which is at the bottom of the trouble. While they draw their living from the soil, they are taxed, not to support the simple machinery of town or rural governments, but are burdened with most of the support of the municipalities in which they live; and to maintain these local governments a form of taxation is imposed, which is forbidden in this country by the Constitution under which we live. No State or community in our land has the power to levy export or import taxes. It is very different in Sicily, where scores of municipalities, big and little, are supported by the octroi, or tax imposed upon all sorts of commodities brought within their gates.

It is not strange that this tax has been growing in unpopularity, especially among the agricultural class. The wheat and beans the farmer has raised and harvested as food for his own family; the grapes, wine, and olives he wishes them to enjoy; the flax his wife may spin, all are the immediate fruit of his toil; but he must pay a tax on all, and a high tax at that, before he may carry them under his roof; and then he asserts, and all the artisans say too, that the octroi is most corruptly administered; that the rich bribe the tax collectors and enjoy luxuries almost tax free, while the burden overweights the shoulders of the poor. The octroi has, of late years, become a heavier load than ever, and, added to the increasing burden of national taxation, it is not very surprising that many a community of these excitable Sicilians, chiefly peasants though they live in towns, has risen in revolt. We cannot say how far the Socialists and the secret societies have used the long-prevailing discontent to foment these troubles. But the people themselves assert that they have revolted, not against the general Government, but only against the tyranny of municipal oppression.

In the fury of the popular uprising some terrible outrages have been committed, for innocent men and women have been most cruelly put to death. We may see in these events also the influence of the past history of these islanders. Men from Europe, Asia, and Africa met and toiled, builded and battled on these coasts, and the mixed breeds to whom they left the island, modified as they now are by infusion from the neighboring mainland and other sources, are no more Italians than the history of Italy is that of Sicily. In blood and characteristics they are chiefly Italian, showing elements besides that are plainly the legacy of a wild and stormy past, and that are impressed not only upon their actions but also upon their peculiar dialect, which, though Latin, unmistakably shows the influence of Semitic as well as Aryan speech. We may partly trace also to Bourbon misgovernment the fact that a Sicilian mob, of all mobs, is one of the wildest and the most easily swayed by demagogues. Thirty years ago nine-tenths of the people were extremely ignorant, and half of them still are unable to read or write.

The Government at Rome admits that the Sicilians have genuine grievances, and promise that they shall be rectified. On the whole, the union with Italy has been a great blessing to Sicily. Illiteracy has been greatly reduced, the people enjoy more comforts, and even a few good highways as well as railroads now lead through the valleys and over the hills. We are too prone to derive unfavorable impressions of people from the evil repute of their worst elements. The Sicilians, as a whole, are industrious and fairly orderly and law-abiding, but they have been unjustly estimated by many who think of their island chiefly as the abiding place of the Mafia and the home of robber bands haunting the southwestern regions. The fact is that, in recent years, the Government has been making headway against brigandage and other unlawful practices. Sicily has been called by travellers an ugly island containing some spots of exquisite beauty and many objects and places of archæological and historical interest. Whatever its power to attract the traveller, it is certain the island has been fitted by nature to be the home of a numerous and prosperous people. For years Sicily has been growing in population faster than any other part of Italy. With 128 people to the square kilometre, there are only three of the *compartimenti* of Italy that surpass her, rugged as she is, in density of population. If, for a time, the progress of Sicily is to be stayed, it is not the fault of her people, but of crimes of administration in high places and low that have already involved many men of the public service of Italy in scandal.

The Naval War College.

Although economy is rightly a watchword of the hour in Congress, it would be mistaken frugality to cut off the trivial annual appropriation of $8,000, which is said to be all that is required to keep up the Naval War College at Newport.

This institution, the post-graduate school of our navy, gives instruction in tactics and strategy that is furnished nowhere else, and is of high importance. It interferes with no active work afloat, officers being sent to it when they can be spared for it, just as army officers are detailed to a course at the Leavenworth School of Application. It reminds young officers that their studies are not ended with the course at Annapolis, and serves as a stimulus to their professional ambition, while equipping them better for actual war.

The school is, in fact, acquiring a world-wide reputation, and Admiral COLOMB, the well-known officer and writer, has said that in the matter of instruction in strategy and tactics it has put the American navy above all others. Capt. MAHAN, until recently the President of the college, now commanding the Chicago, has been received in Europe with exceptional honors on account of his published works on "The Influence of Sea Power Upon History," which, as he says in the preface to one of them, were the direct fruit of the necessary preparation for his college lectures. And it may be added that Capt. MAHAN found that he could get very few text books anywhere on the exact subject he wished to teach, so that he appreciated more than ever before, and more than anybody could have appreciated without that experience, the great value of the War College, in its wholly unoccupied and vastly important field.

His successor as President, Capt. TAYLOR, an officer of marked ability and high reputation in the service, proposes, we believe, to add to the lecture course, during the next summer season, outdoor work in steam launches, connecting tactics and reconnoissances with coast defence plans. Then the possibilities of uniting the War College work with the squadron training manœuvres which Secretary HERBERT is believed to covet for the home fleet, when the foreign stations have been properly reënforced, are obvious. But lecture courses in strategy, tactics, and international law will probably remain of primary importance.

To the construction and operation of ships, engines, and guns adequate attention will always be paid in all navies; but there is a supplementary field of instruction in war strategy and tactics and the study of possible naval operations along our own coast, which should not be neglected. This study, too, should be conducted deliberately in time of peace.

Not only should the petty sum required by the War College be furnished, but officers who apply for instruction in the summer course should be gladly assigned to it, whenever this will not interfere with their sea service. Such officers evidently desire to keep at the front of their calling, and perhaps appreciate the value of education better than they did in younger days at Annapolis. The War College should not only be kept up, maintaining its individuality, but should be made still more useful to the country.

Three Encomiasts.

The warm weather brings out the poetry. We had the good fortune to bask in the genial patriotic eloquence of the Governor of Virginia the other day. This morning we stand by the open fires in the Doric Hall of the Boston State House. The Governor of Massachusetts is trying to make the Tutelar Codfish happy. Here is an extract from the Governor's message:

"GENTLEMEN: Among the commonwealths of the earth we believe that Massachusetts is facile princeps. What was said of the masterpiece of Grecian architecture two thousand years ago, may well be applied to Massachusetts now. To her belongs 'the grandeur of antiquity and the grace of novelty.' Her achievements in science, literature, and art, her intellectual development, and the grace and completeness of her culture, have made her the Attica of the New World. In schools, in courts of law, in works of charity, in factories and in workshops, in peace and in war, on land and on sea, her energy, example, and leadership have been everywhere felt and everywhere respected.

"Almost three centuries of marvellous vicissitudes have robed her in the purple of heroic achievement and heroic endurance, and her brow is radiant with the newest thought of humanity."

When this lovely encomium is enshrined and properly edited among the specimens of the Fifteen Thousand Most Eminent Orators of Lowell, we shall know what was said of the masterpiece of Grecian architecture in 106 B. C. Who said it and why did he say it? What was the masterpiece that was antiquely grand and gracefully novel in 106 B. C.? Was any masterpiece of Greek architecture from Mycenæ to South Boston equal to the Boston State House, which the Vandals are now getting ready to deface and destroy? Does *facile princeps* mean the easy-mannered ex-Mayor FREDERIC OCTAVIUS PRINCE, and if so, why? What is meant by the intellectual development of Massachusetts? Whose intellect did she borrow to develop, and whom did she borrow to develop it? In mentioning her achievements in science, give a condensed but clear account of the late DANIEL PRATT. In what part of the State was his word factory situated, and why? Sketch in 350 words the beginnings of the art of Massachusetts, and show how the CASS monument and the ATTUCKS monument were the culmination of the South Bostonian post-Phidian renaissance age of HARLOW BATES, with a discriminating summary of the Batesian period in Massachusetts literature. Why has Massachusetts culture never been felt beyond the Connecticut? Who is the head of the religious pastoral school that has leading articles in the Sunday *Springfield Republican?* Which is the more eminent Massachusetts orator, ELIJAH BRIGHAM STODDARD or JOHN DAVIS WASHBURN, and why is either of them eminent? Who invented Medford rum, and what are the seven chief benefits it has rendered to civilization? Who are the illustrious Massachusetts men who made themselves everywhere felt and respected in war? Notes and commentaries will make these things clear to the students of the next generation. But even the naked text of the GREENHALGE oration is a marvel and a joy forever.

It is merely for the purpose of furnishing raw material for a future commentary upon the first oration of GREENHALGE, that we mention an oration delivered by Mr. JOHN H. ATWOOD of Leavenworth, Kansas, at the first annual completion of the Burlington-Rock Island bridge last week:

"It is meet indeed that it is through the good people of Leavenworth city and county that the greetings of Kansas are extended, for of all the fivescore counties within her borders, Leavenworth is at once the oldest and greatest. From this eastern boundary, where we now stand and see the broad brown bosom of the Missouri, heaving in the bright winter sunshine, like the brawny breast of a gladiator, to the western limits where the mighty Sierras receive each night within their giant arms the golden glories of the setting sun, no more fertile prairies, no fairer hills nor dewier dales, can be found than those of our own historic county of Leavenworth; and of all the many municipal gems in the tiara of Kansas, none are so precious and none gleam so brightly as the municipality of Leavenworth; for know you, our friends from Missouri, and you, ye railroad magnates (made great because of the paradoxical power possessed by railroad men alone to pass and still be in it), that the men of Leavenworth are wiser, stronger, and more pious, and that her women are more beautiful, more amiable, and more modest than those of any other community in the whole wide commonwealth."

Which is the greater commonwealth and which the more nobly praised, Massachusetts or Kansas? Who is the sweeter encomiast, ATWOOD of Leavenworth or GREENHALGE of Lowell? Col. ATWOOD is the greatest orator in Kansas, and Mr. GREENHALGE is the greatest orator except fifteen thousand and a half in Middlesex county. Yet there is a greater greatness than great oratory. There was some of it at the bridge dedication where Col. ATWOOD spoke. Here is one simple sample verse, composed by Col. D. R. ANTHONY of Leavenworth:

"Hail, mighty structure of to-day!
Proud commerce gleams across the way.
Thy tests have stood,
The iron steed,
The clattering hoof,
The dainty heel;
Thy strength's our hope, thy praise our weal."

The Leavenworth woman's heel was a sufficient test of the strength of the bridge. Col. ANTHONY'S poem was another test. But which is the greater orator and poet, ATWOOD, ANTHONY, or GREENHALGE?

What Did Mr. Crisp Mean?

The *Lewiston Journal* attributes to Speaker CRISP the remark that "the next House will unquestionably be Republican." Possibly he didn't make such a remark. Perhaps he said that the present House was unquestionably Republican, judging from the Tariff bill that has been put forward. Or he may have said that the present House was unquestionably Populist, judging from the income tax scheme.

Even if the WILSON bill were an honest and straight measure for revenue only, it is possible that the country, not yet having had experience of the benefits of such a measure, might elect a Republican Congress this fall. But in that case the Democrats would have had the satisfaction of knowing that they had brought about a change of the system of Federal taxation, a change not to be reversed in any event before 1897. But if the Democrats lose the next Congress, without having left any tangible evidence of their power during this Congress and without carrying out the Democratic policy declared in 1892, there will be no mitigation of their discomfiture. They will have been defeated not for doing, but for not doing.

Perhaps Speaker CRISP meant to say that he hoped the Democrats in the next Congress would be Democratic, not Republican and Populistic.

What Democratic State or Congress district in the North could be carried for the income tax or the WILSON bill?

We pause for a reply.

The unanimity with which the farmers refuse to unanimate with the Hon. JULIUS STERLING MORTON is one of the sweetest phenomena of a peculiarly cross-eyed winter.

CHATHAM, Jan. 6.—There was a constant stream of people pouring into the Stanwix Hall barns yesterday to see a freak of nature which was on exhibition there. It was a calf with nine legs, two heads, seven jaws, four ears, two tails, and weighing 115 pounds.—*Albany Journal.*

Go on to Washington during the warm weather and see Prof. WILSON'S great concatenated unique eleven-legged calf, with two bills and no head at all.

The bava bird of India spends his spare time catching flies.—*Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.*

The Mugwump bird of eastern Massachusetts and southern New York spends all his time in having flies catch him.

Before the Hon. KOPE ELIAS sinks the shadows among the turpentine trees we gaze with emotion upon his figure erect, and bright with all the far torches of Fame about him. The Hon. KOPE ELIAS retires by his own wish to save Mr. CLEVELAND and the Democratic party of North Carolina from embarrassment, and he retires luminous, majestic, and above par.

Forty fourth-class Postmasters were appointed on Friday. This is not many, but then Friday is not much of a day. We mention the forty merely for the purpose of showing that BOB MAXWELL is still there, and that Brother BISSELL, although possessed of the inertia of his qualities, is still practising the spirit of true civil service reform.

Brazilian combats need not perturb us, shootings in Siam, murders in Morocco, near-sighted French slaughterings of British troops in Africa may not cause a single tremor or strike the tear tank for a single drop. Where War wears his wildest grisly smile and crimsoned cardigan is in the mountains of Flatbush. Contemporary FURPHY and contemporary BEDINGFIELD rage without mitigation, and as they are eager to report their androphonous performances for the Brooklyn papers, there is mighty little chance for frightened Peace to pant. We hope that these too soon and sanguinary champions will take a reef in their wrath. Why must the Flatbush Post Office be the scene of battles? Why must the name of Flatbush trickle visibly with blood?

We are pained to observe that the Hon. CYRUS G. LUCE of Coldwater, sometime Governor of Michigan, "has been induced to give his views on the money question." He should not have yielded save to actual duress and violence. If his views were precious to him or valuable to others, nothing should have induced him to part with them. He should have hung to them, in health and disease. The consciousness of possessing them should have been his joy and his wealth. The large number of ex-Governors and other statesmen that are induced to give their views upon the money question is one of the gloomiest properties of a time not otherwise without possibilities of cheerfulness. The country needs money and fewer views of the money question from the standpoint of Coldwater and Chuck Corner.

Governor LEWELLING of Kansas is having an unusual amount of misfortune, or advertising, or both, but we cannot believe that there is "a conspiracy of cranks" trying to end him. The People's Party of Kansas is a conspiracy of cranks, but will crank kill crank? We trust not the tale. 'Tis the invention of some humorist, or else devised by the Governor's friends to create a diversion and induce Mrs. LEASE to cease to pursue him. But she is implacable, Fate with a tongue of fire, and small but industrious feet. Across the treeless plains, and over the windy bluffs he flies, he mingles his tears with the waters of the Grasshopper, he leaves the timber for the open. The mud is on his boots, the mud is in his heart. As you eat your breakfast this morning, think of this hapless man, this fugitive in cowhides. The morning beam burns into his haunted and yellow eye. Ever furtively he looks behind. Will he get to the border, or will he be got, taken, treed, made to go back to Topeka and punishment?

The Harlem Water Front.

From the New York Tribune.

One of the most noteworthy remonstrances ever offered in the Government of this city or to any of its departments was that which was presented last week to the Park Board by the executive officers of all the societies in the city which are concerned with matters relating to art. The President and other members of the Society of American Artists, of the National Academy of Design, of the Architectural League, of the American Institute of Architects, of the American Fine Arts Society, of the Municipal Art Society, and several others all united in protest against ignoring the design of the Harlem River Driveway prepared by the landscape architect as contrary to the habitual policy of the city and the practice of every enlightened community.

From the New York Times.

We understand that there is no longer any conflict between the gentlemen who propose to make use of the Harlem River Speedway and those who insist that it should be constructed with due regard to beauty of design and the rights of the public. Mr. Robert Bonner, Col. Kip, and Mr. Rockefeller, who certainly are representative driving men and entitled to speak with some authority, fully recognize the propriety of keeping the Harlem water front open to the public by means of an exterior sidewalk along the speedway.

St. Jackson's Day—January 8.

There's a faint and far-off rustle of a pair of flapping wings,
There's a tremulous low murmur as a touch upon the strings
Of a harp a long time silent; and through the mists of years
In a burst of outraged glory Andrew Jackson's ghost appears.

With a heart bowed down and breaking by the weight of present ways
He turns his face of sadness in a reminiscent gaze
Upon the White House tenant, who so lately occupies
The Democratic prestige—and Jackson wipes his eyes.

With a fierce and grim resentment which he does not try to hide
He listens to the vandals as they sing the party's pride,
And he shakes his bony finger at the Mugwump in his scorn,
And asks, by the Eternal!, why was it ever born.

With a ghostly gaze of vengeance which appears to grow on him,
He turns his wrathful countenance toward the distant dim
Pacific, where a tyrant's throne has lately come to be
Of paramount importance to the banner of the free.

With an oath in which all virtues are concentred, good and strong,
He fiercely strikes at leaders who would do the party wrong
By truckling to that Mammon which, in tariffs as elsewise,
Makes minions of the millions who would gain the vicious prize.

What a travesty of party! what a farce of politics
Have been before the public in the years since '56;
And the ghost of good old Andrew, disgusted with the sham,
Floats upward through the ether on a concentrated damn!

L.

Washington, Jan. 7.

COLORADO'S RETURN TO SANITY.

Her Business Men If ve Ceased to Cry Ruin and Are Now Booming the State.

DENVER, Jan. 4.—The people of Colorado found out some time ago, to their great dismay, that their crying of calamity and ruin at the time of the silver turmoil last summer, really brought calamity to them, and promised soon to bring ruin. They discovered the truth of the maxim that the world takes you at your own estimate—at any rate, if it is a poor one. The people of other States believed the Coloradans when they said Colorado was headed straight for bankruptcy and ruin, and that the repeal of the Sherman Silver law would irreparably damage the whole State in its every industry. Capitalists became shy of Colorado investments; those already interested in the State's industries began to hedge; business houses of every kind throughout the Union began to draw the lines tight, and the general pinch soon became severe.

A month or so ago a big convention of business men from all over the State assembled here to devise means for "correcting the misleading statements about Colorado's condition and prospects." Resolutions were adopted denouncing the calamity howlers, and averring that Colorado was not really hurt by the silver slump; was, indeed, helped because of the reaction in favor of gold. Gov. Waite, the blood-to-the-bridles Populist, was severely called down for his persistent prophecy of evil, and his proposal to call a special session of the Legislature, for the stated purpose of passing measures necessary for keeping the State from absolute and immediate ruin, was denounced. A strong representative committee was appointed to prepare a statement of the condition, resources, and prospects of Colorado. This statement has just been issued, with the strongest possible endorsement by the responsible business men of the State.

It sets forth that while Colorado has been a great silver-producing State, she has many other vast resources, mineral, agricultural, and manufacturing, capable in themselves of supporting a much larger population than she now has, and of furnishing safe and profitable investments for large sums of capital. Capitalists are assured that they may immediately make profitable investments here, with the utmost confidence and safety. The wonderful developments in gold mining, mainly resulting from the slump in silver, are referred to at length. In 1892 the gold output was $5,563,021. Last year it was $8,500,000, and the output for this year is expected to be at least $20,000,000. It is stated that at the Cripple Creek mines alone the low-grade ore in sight will yield $100,000,000. Leadville and other famous silver-producing centres now promise to become of much greater importance as gold producers. In the seeking after silver the gold there seems, strangely enough, to have been disregarded. All the miners of the State are, it is asserted, fully employed, even if at somewhat reduced wages, owing to the development of gold mining.

The annual value of the pastoral, agricultural, and horticultural products of Colorado far exceeds that of the entire mineral output. Special attention is called to the new industry of fruit raising. There are now 45,000 acres in the State planted in fruit trees. The coal, coke, petroleum, and natural gas industries are prospering as never before. Colorado manufacturers have not suffered during the past year to the same extent that Eastern manufacturers have. None of the factories of the State has closed down. Tariff agitation has not injured them, and Colorado manufacturers have been and are shipping goods over the whole country. Within two weeks the steel work at Pueblo have received contracts for steel rails amounting in value to $900,000.

The summing up is that "the merchants of Colorado enter the new year under much more favorable circumstances than usual, and everything indicates that 1894 will witness a revival of business in every line in Colorado, and such a condition of affairs now prevails." The financial outlook has gradually and steadily improved during the past three months, the bank clearings each week showing a substantial gain, the deposits increasing, and the country banks once more keeping good balances. In fact, the business men of Colorado are exceedingly anxious that Colorado is all right, and is as well off as any of her sister States, and better off than some of them. They are entirely done with the Populist idea of calamity howling and will return to the good old American fashion of booming their particular section as the most prosperous and most delightful to live and trade on. God's footstool; and Gov. Waite is distinctly advised to use his famous bridle to restrain his propensity for shouting red ruin, and to fall in line and help boost the State.

MR. HARRITY'S CONVENTION.

The Administration's Interest in It.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 7.—The Republican State Convention having met at Harrisburg on Wednesday last, and having nominated a historic character for Congressman-at-large in the person of the Hon. Galusha A. Grow, familiarly called the Gladstone of Pennsylvania, and having earnestly denounced the Wilson Tariff bill and the President's Hawaiian policy, Mr. William F. Harrity's Convention will meet on Wednesday next.

Since the Republican Convention met last Wednesday, Gov. Pattison has been the guest of President Cleveland, remaining with him about four hours.

The great prominence of Mr. Harrity as National Chairman, together with his absolute control of next Wednesday's Convention, will cause unusual attention to be directed to that Convention, as well as to the popular verdict which will be recorded on Feb. 20.

In Philadelphia, Mr. Harrity's home, there will be two full democratic tickets in the field. The Harrity and anti-Harrity Democracy have concluded to measure strength at the February election. In 1892, Cleveland polled 84,740 votes in Philadelphia, while at the election held November, 1893, the Democrats polled only 51,454 votes; and now, under the leadership of the Hon. Bernard Gillespie, President of the American Club, that fifty thousand is likely to be cut into two equal parts.

The terms of the Republican Collector of the Port, Naval Officer, Pension Agent, and Superintendent of the Mint all expired several months ago; but all are yet in office, and it is said that the President will not name candidates to fill these offices until after the trial of strength between the Harrity and opposing forces. It may be that all the appointments will go to the McGowan wing of the Philadelphia Democracy. It is safe to say that if Mr. Harrity's Convention of Wednesday undertakes to play any tricks on the Administration Mr. Harrity will be disciplined in a way he will remember.

CASSIUS APPEALS TO CÆSAR.

He Wants Special Cars for Very Fat Men on the Elevated Trains.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—*Sir:* I wish to offer a suggestion which, if adopted, will materially enhance the comfort of a great many people who have to use the elevated railways of this city. I suggest that the officers of the Manhattan Railway either provide special cars for fat men or else cars containing fifteen or twenty seats made double the usual width, such seats to be reserved exclusively for the use of fat men. I am sure that none of them would object to this arrangement, as it would add to their comfort and at the same time mitigate the sufferings of the thousands not afflicted with the curse of corpulency.

I have daily, for a score of years, travelled up and down on the elevated trains during the busiest hours of the day, and many times it has been my unfortunate experience, owing to the narrowness of the seats and the combined corpulency and selfishness of a neighbor, to be almost smothered under a weight of adipose tissue which was not mine, and the carrying of which was in the highest degree offensive to me. As I weigh but 135 pounds, and am not a professional football player, it is manifestly unfair for any man to impose upon me the burden of carrying his surplus flesh. Long observation has shown me that the stout man, upon entering a car, will invariably choose, when practicable, a seat at the side of some one whose greatness does not run to fat. Having found such a seat, he sinks ponderously down with a sigh of satisfaction, and, oblivious to the mental and physical suffering inflicted upon those beside him, fills his seat and as much of theirs as corpulency and selfishness will cover. Now, he may not be able to restrict his surplus fat, but he might restrain the exuberant display of satisfaction with which he lards his lean neighbors. This morning I had to carry from 155th street to Cortlandt street the shoulder and hindquarter of a man weighing in the neighborhood of 300 pounds. My services apparently afforded him great satisfaction.

It has been said that large men are seldom remarkable for more than their clothes will cover. This is not exactly true of fat men. Their selfishness is something that no amount of clothes will cover. They should by all means be provided with special seats, or, better yet, with special cars, to the end that those of us who are not afflicted with elephantiasis may not have other people's fat taunted in our laps.

CASSIUS.

New York, Jan. 6.

Ohio Talks of Taxing Railroad Cars.

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 7.—Bills are being prepared for introduction in the Ohio Legislature to tax sleeping, dining, buffet, refrigerator, and fast freight line cars. It is proposed to levy the tax on sleepers on a mileage basis, the rate being one-half of a cent on each mile travelled by each car. The auditing department of the road will be required by the provisions of the bill to report, by telegraph daily to the State Railroad Commissioner, the number of miles travelled by each car. A provision requires dining cars that run entirely within the State to pay $400 a year for the privilege of selling liquor, and buffet cars that traverse the State on long runs will be taxed $50 a year.

THE NAVY TEN YEARS HENCE.

How the Personnel May Be Affected at That Date by the Singuishness of Promotion.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—A striking argument in favor of making a change in the organization of the navy is furnished by Mr. Meyer's recent report on that subject. Taking the latest *Navy Register* issued, that for 1893, as a basis for its calculations, this report shows that of the officers who entered the service prior to 1860, there are now 18 who will not have been retired for age at the end of the year 1903. The rules of the actuaries indicate, however, that this number will probably be reduced by that time to 12, and of these, under the present organization, half will be the Rear Admirals and the other half the first six Commodores.

But of the 205 officers now remaining who entered the service between 1860 and 1867, only 22 will then have retired for age, leaving 273, with a probable reduction, under the rules of the actuaries, to 180. Accordingly their senior will be only the seventh Commodore, and the junior at the foot of the date of 1867, after thirty-five years of service, will be the forty-fifth Lieutenant-Commander; and the latter, if he entered at 16, will be 51 years old. With a liberal allowance, presuming peace to continue, he will become a Commander at the age of 55½, with 30½ years of service, and will have but 6½ years remaining for passing through that grade and the higher ones of Captain, Commodore, and Rear Admiral.

Another fact pointed out is that 77 of the present Commanders, the entire 74 Lieutenant-Commanders, and 22 of the present Lieutenants all entered the service within the space of three years; and twenty-five years ago the senior of all was only at the top of the list of Lieutenants. Again, the entire grade of Lieutenant-Commanders is filled from the date of 1862 with a part of 1861 and 1863, or about two classes of the Academy, and it has taken the senior of them 16½ years to pass from the bottom to the top of the grade.

Returning to the Commanders, No. 20 and No. 84 entered the service only one year apart, but the difference between their commissions in their present grade is 12½ years. Again, the head of the date of 1861 has been a Commander for seven years, while the foot of that same date is the tenth Lieutenant-Commander; and should the latter be promoted within a year, there would still be eight years' difference in their dates of commissions as Commanders.

It may be said that when the year 1904 has come around, and when a little later the crowding of grades produced by the exceptional requirements of the civil war and a few succeeding years has been relieved by age retirements and in other ways, the list will become more normal again, and promotion more equable. But that reflection will not help the present victims of the stagnation, nor does it seem a fair ground for not doing something to remedy an evil whose effects will, as just shown, be noteworthy during the next ten or fifteen years. It may further be said that in all services a discrepancy between length of service and commission in a given grade necessarily appears between officers. This will doubtless be true of military as well as naval services. But that also is no ground for not attempting some improvement.

The authority of the Captain over a ship is of a peculiar character, and it is suggested in the report of Mr. Meyer that his importance is enhanced by the fact that "the control of an Admiral over the individual vessels of his fleet in battle is less than the control of the General over the divisions of his army." It is admitted that some important factors in the Captain's ability to achieve success in battle, notably the highest order of courage, presence of mind, and presence of mind, can only be told by trial. But one very important factor can be assured, namely, actual practice in directing the movements of a ship. The present project for increasing the flow of promotion has as an argument to aid it the fact that in securing the higher rank and pay conferred for the officers retained on the active list, it will also give command rank at an earlier age in life and during a longer period. In other words, it should insure more experienced and competent commanders of vessels. This may be called the public interest in the new promotion scheme. The idea that command rank should be awarded with a view to "the aptitude of youth to acquire habit and the growing indisposition of advancing years to rise to tasks and responsibilities unknown to an earlier age" suggests fixing an age at which command rank should be reached, if at all.

But, in addition, it is thought that selection of some sort should take place for the purpose of giving command rank at an early date. The passing over of officers for this purpose, by leading to the retirement of those repeatedly failing to be selected, would further increase the flow of promotion. As seniority has been so strictly pursued in our own navy hitherto, the proposal to introduce selection, even though it, though only at certain points—that is to say, in passing from certain grades to the next higher—has naturally encountered some opposition. But it is pointed out that the principle of selection is found in other naval services, and also in our own military service in passing above the grade of Colonel, although it is true that in this latter instance passing over does not retire the rejected officer.

Admiral Farragut is quoted as saying that he considered it "a great advantage to obtain command young; having observed, as a general thing, that persons who come into authority late in life shrink from responsibility and often break down under the weight." Testimony on this subject from so high a source is not to be treated lightly, although, in a navy like ours, this, of course, is only one of several considerations. The report of Mr. Meyer pursues the subject in this strain:

The Captain shrinks from permitting to others, his juniors, the charge of his vessel. If harm results he will be responsible to the department. The junior shrinks from assuming any responsibility without the express permission, which the Captain is unwilling to give. This is unfortunate, but inevitably formed on the part of the junior a habit of constant reference, in cases of even slight difficulty, to the judgment of another, and of constant disregard of his own judgment. Upon promotion to command, then, the change of position is violent, but the old habit remains; and if the change takes place late in life the habit will not be thrown off with the cease of earlier years if at all. It will remain in the common form of self-distrust, lack of confidence in one's own judgment, it constitutes a very serious defect in that efficiency of the commanding officers, to produce which has been asserted to be, as it undoubtedly is, the great aim of any system of promotion.

As to enlisted men, Mr. Meyer's report finds that there is little allurement for an American youth of spirit to enter their ranks when a "petty officer's badge or, at the most, the warrant of a gunner" is all he can hope for in the way of preferment. If he enlists in the army he has the right to compete for the commissions, of which several are given to enlisted men each year. And, at all events, it would be practicable, according to the report, to give the navy a retired list for enlisted men, like that of the army and the marine corps.

As has already been mentioned, the bill for a joint commission, which accompanied this report, was passed by the House, and is now before the Senate.

Tired of Parkhurstism.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—*Sir:* I am tired of Parkhurstism. I quite agree with your correspondent who likened the performances of Parkhurstites to those of ignorant people who spread noxious diseases instead of quarantining them. As in the case of that correspondent, so in mine, namely, Parkhurstism has befouled the neighborhood in which I dwell by driving there what has never before been anywhere near it, a house of prostitution. Parkhurstism has made the thoroughfares absolutely unfit at night for respectable women to pass through. It has brought to the knowledge of those to whom such things were unknown, things beastly and unnatural. It has pointed out places where men given to such courses can gratify sinful passions. It has added to the gains of those whose purchased silence encourages the social evil, for the more danger in such silence the higher its price. It has, to be sure, given to its founder notoriety. And in a manner indicative of an unbalanced intellect he revels in this notoriety. Not satisfied with telling the story of his insatiety gleanings in official cats he reiterates it at interviews to the reporters.

Has Parkhurstism abated prostitution in New York in the slightest degree? I think not. Does any one with a knowledge of the subject believe that it has. Neither do I believe that Parkhurstism has accomplished any thing to offset the positive injury which it has done to its immediate neighboring places, if not houses, of ill-fame. Why should the reading public be nauseated with it any longer? Why should a man evidently journey on this subject be allowed so much space in your columns, for example, to fling your readers with the dirty subject? Cease to gratify his morbid craving for notoriety in this matter and in a year or so he will be only simply rediscovered as one curious in cold works but ridiculous and dangerous in the performance of them.

ESSEX.

New York, Jan. 7.

If She Keeps Honest, No Mugwump Need Pity Her.

From the Springfield Republican.

Poor old Democracy!

The Great Quarrel in Kansas.

From the Nebraska State Journal.

Poor Mary Lease refuses stick
To stay in her place;
And interferes a woman's will
To make poor Kansas bleed.

By his appointment she has held
A place with plenty pay;
And now his strong right arm has felled
This pesky little fly.

Because Lewelling smote her thus
Her former friends rejoice
But will and hear the old grievance—
She still retains her voice.

She's putting on the patch for war
To show Lewelling's greed,
And kansas never yet before
Saw two who shortly bleed.

Look out for Colonel Mary Lease,
For when she leaves the fit,
If Kansas home don't look for peace,
They'll get the worst of it.

And, getting what they well deserve,
We'll