The Sun.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1895.

LOCAL NEWS.—The City and Suburban News Bureau of the UNITED PRESS and NEW YORK ASSOCIATED PRESS is at 21 to 29 Ann street. All information and documents for public use instantly disseminated to the press of the whole country.

Not the Best Way.

We notice with interest that some of our contemporaries are adding to the various pictures, which habitually illustrate so many daily newspapers, by printing in colors designs of a descriptive, dramatic, and even queer and funny character.

These colored pictures belong to the multifarious schemes which have been in vogue for a few years past, as a means of selling the newspapers which employ them. These methods, we are happy to say, are now much less varied and extra professional than they were not long ago. We no longer see journals of repute promoting their circulation by advertisements of fishing tackle, pocket knives, perfumed soap and the like, to be delivered gratis to purchasers of the paper; and it is but rarely that we find one newspaper clubbing with another, so as to obtain subscribers for both by the attraction of reduced prices. Indeed, these colored pictures are almost the last remains of the widely extended meretricious system of which we are speaking.

We find no fault with any of our contemporaries who still make use of these wonderful devices, but we are encouraged by their decline to think that their efficacy cannot be relied on much longer.

The best way to get a large circulation for a newspaper is to fill it with reading of genuine interest and real value; to make it necessary that every one who wishes to be well informed respecting important occurrences, should study that newspaper; and to render it attractive in a literary sense by giving to its columns an intrinsic character and an engaging intellectual quality. Then the caricatures, colored or not, can be omitted without danger of loss.

The Last State of Liliuokalani.

When the monarchy was overthrown in Hawaii two years ago the Government which succeeded it, then as now recognized by foreign powers, sought annexation to the United States. The agreement drawn up for that purpose treated with great consideration the deposed Queen, making a most liberal pecuniary provision for her.

Mr. CLEVELAND, however, withdrew that treaty from the Senate, and sought instead to restore LILIUOKALANI to her throne. The attempt failed utterly; but while it was going on, the Queen, whose hopes had been excited by CLEVELAND'S interference, still further discredited herself by refusing to agree to pardon her enemies, preferring the privilege of beheading them.

Now, lately we have seen the royalists of Hawaii engaged in a conspiracy to destroy the republic and put the Queen back in power. This project has failed as miserably as did CLEVELAND'S own plan directed to the same end; and the latest news concerning it is that the wretched Queen has been arrested as an accomplice in the plot.

What a contrast between the present condition of this hapless woman, under guard and perhaps in jail, threatened possibly with the confiscation of her property, should the charge of conspiring against the Government be proved against her, or at the least with banishment, and what she might have been save for CLEVELAND'S interference! But for him and GRESHAM, Mrs. DOMINIS might be living in luxury in her island home, free from the ambitions that have since distressed her, for the hopelessness of overthrowing a State of this Union would of course have been apparent to her. Was ever a dusky potentate so luckless in her self-constituted champion?

Let the Populists Be Gentle With Mr. Cleveland!

It is to be hoped that the Populist leaders in Washington have not put pressure on President CLEVELAND to quarrel with Solicitor-General MAXWELL for promoting an advance, on the calendar of the Supreme Court, of the income tax cases so that they can be argued next month. MAXWELL did only what he should have done.

The Populist party is indebted to Mr. CLEVELAND for its recent rapid strides to power in Congress, but it should not push its friend too far. The Populists cannot wish to divide the country by a territorial line of cleavage which shall put all New England, New York, and the Middle States solidly on one side, and a great part of the remaining States on the other side. Their ambition must be, in conjunction with the silver party, to get a large body of voters in every State. That cannot be done unless they greatly modify their demands, and put them in line with the Chicago platform of 1892, on which the Populists coöperated with Mugwumps and anti-snappers to nominate Mr. CLEVELAND, and then conspired with the CLEVELAND National Democratic Committee to give to him a majority of the electoral votes. They should be gentle with the President.

Democrats of the Eastern and Middle States do not like the income tax. It is Federalist, monarchical, hostile to the reserved rights of the States in taxation affairs, inquisitorial, and in every way offensive. It flies in the face of Jeffersonian Democracy, which in 1802 repealed the carriage tax, and extinguished afterward inland Federal taxes, so that there were none from 1848 to 1861. Democrats would have the Federal Government rely chiefly on customs taxes.

Yet the Eastern and Middle States will loyally endure and pay an income tax which the judicial power shall say is constitutionally laid and fairly assessed, providing they can have free access to the courts to test executive conduct in collecting it.

Conditions are not now as in the crisis of the civil war. Citizens submitted to taxes then which they will not tolerate now. Executive interpretation of the old Income Tax law, if applied to the new one, will in 1895 be resisted. The recent panic years have made havoc with incomes. Men and women, rich in income three years ago, were many of them subsisting in 1894 on the principal of their estates. Populists should discern and heed that fact.

What our citizens are now demanding is that President CLEVELAND give them quick access to the Supreme Court and that it decide the questions presented under the new Income Tax law.

Why should Mr. CLEVELAND resist?

The Supreme Court is the Government's court. Congress is the giver of the daily bread of its members. President CLEVELAND appointed two or three of the present bench. Cannot he and Congress trust them?

It may be said that the court has already decided that an income tax is not a direct tax. Very true! But it has not decided that the new tax, which is very unlike the old tax, is either an "excise" or a "duty." What tax can be more "direct," or less indirect, than a tax on "money and the value of all personal property acquired by gift or inheritance"?

Possibly the court will reverse itself. It has done that some thirty times. Only one member of the court has survived the decision in the SPRINGER case, which was half argued, was a party judgment, was, as also in the legal tender cases, controlled by war necessities and by fear that an opposite decision would drain millions from the Treasury to refund illegal levies.

What harm can a re-argument do?

The public mind has been excited to the study of taxation, its incidence and uniformity, as never before. The desire to read the speech of Senator HILL is evidence thereof. The distinction between "indirect taxes," such as customs taxes, excises on domestic products, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, "direct taxes," the burden of which the payer cannot shift on any one else, is interesting all sorts of people, and especially lawyers. Many of the States are now laying income taxes as did the colonies, to which last-named income taxes the Constitution must have referred when it spoke of "direct taxes."

There is probably not a good lawyer, or political economist, or newspaper editor, in the country who does not believe that an income tax is a very direct tax, and that the framers of the Constitution intended by the term to cover income taxes. Every one's common sense tells him, or her, that a direct tax is one that goes in a straight manner, immediately and instantly, to the person whose property is taken; while an indirect tax goes in a roundabout way, and indirectly, as does a tax paid by an importer making an entry at the Custom House of articles to be sold to a consumer who is indirectly taxed at last and pays the duty on what he or she buys.

The Supreme Court may stand by its former judgment, or it may not. Nobody can foreknow. Let all the questions be fought out in an open court room, and then let each and every one of us have Constitutional taxation, even if it be a disagreeable infliction.

Escapes from the Sheriff.

Two sensational escapes from prison, closely following each other, were the occasion of great public excitement in this town twenty-one years ago.

On Nov. 19, 1873, WILLIAM J. SHARKEY, who had shot ROBERT DUNN and had been convicted of the crime of murder and was under sentence of death by hanging by the Sheriff, was a prisoner in the Tombs in the custody of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction. At that time it was one of the regulations of the City Prison that all the female visitors should be furnished with red cards, and all the male visitors with white cards. It is a fact that the manifestation of affection or allegiance of women toward those in distress is much more constant, sincere, and heartfelt than is the friendship of men for each other under similar circumstances. SHARKEY had been an active New York politician, but in his imprisonment, after sentence, the majority of his visitors were women, and two of those who called upon him on Wednesday, Nov. 19, carried red cards. They were Mrs. MARY ALLEN, the wife of one of SHARKEY'S friends, and Miss JORDAN, his sweetheart. Visiting hours at the Tombs ceased at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, as is the case now. It was between the hours of 1 and 2 when Mrs. ALLEN and Miss JORDAN called to see SHARKEY, and showed to Deputy PHILIPPS at the door their red cards of entrance. A few minutes before 2 o'clock, as visitors were about to be dismissed, it was discovered that SHARKEY'S cell in Murderers' Row was vacant. Upon a wooden shelf at one side of it were a shaving cup and razor recently used. SHARKEY was gone. Miss JORDAN was gone. Mrs. ALLEN stood alone in the corridor. She had no ticket. The explanation of this was simple. SHARKEY, through the connivance of his sweetheart, had donned female attire. With a razor he had shaved off his black moustache, and, thus changed in appearance, he had, under the garb of a woman, passed out of the Tombs into liberty, presenting Mrs. ALLEN'S red ticket as he departed. The escape of SHARKEY was for a time a matter of public interest and also of rigid official investigation. There was a great outcry against the Warden's neglect, and the Commissioners of Charities and Correction adopted stringent rules which have been in force ever since to prevent the escape of prisoners from the Tombs or from other jails under the jurisdiction of this department.

Notwithstanding the commotion caused by the SHARKEY incident, on Sunday, Dec. 21, 1873, about a month later, HENRY W. GENET, a well-known New York politician, who had been convicted in the Court of Oyer and Terminer on Dec. 19 of obtaining under false pretences the signature of the Mayor of New York to a warrant, escaped from the custody of the Sheriff while in charge of two deputies, SHIELDS and CAHILL. He was to have been arraigned for sentence before Judge CHARLES H. DANIELS on Monday, Dec. 22. There were no German-American Reform Union deputies in those days, and hence escapes were of rare occurrence. GENET was taken to his home in Harlem on Sunday evening to take leave of the members of his family. The deputies waited for him in the parlor. GENET went up stairs. He returned later, and then CAHILL, the assistant deputy, went home, leaving SHIELDS in charge of the prisoner. They remained together for some time, and GENET went up stairs a second time. Harlem being in those days a drowsy and semi-rural locality, and not the bustling section of town which it now is, the deputy lay back in his chair in GENET'S parlor and nodded and dozed and then fell asleep; and GENET escaped. The next morning in court, HARRY GENET was missing. The Sheriff, MATTHEW T. BRENNAN, promptly offered a reward of $5,000 for his recapture.

This escape of GENET, following closely upon the escape of SHARKEY, caused great public excitement and dissatisfaction. The fear was then expressed that such evasions of justice might become epidemic. The public demand for greater care and watchfulness on the part of public officers had its effect when Judge DANIELS, on Jan. 8, 1874, heard the motion to punish Sheriff BRENNAN for contempt. The Judge rendered a decision in which he used these words:

"A Sheriff holds his office not for private emolument, but to secure the execution of the law. If officials are not held to their duties, the Court is powerless in carrying out the mandates of the law."

He sentenced Sheriff BRENNAN to pay a fine of $250 and to suffer thirty days' imprisonment in the county jail. That afternoon, Mr. BRENNAN, who had been a prominent figure in New York politics, a Police Captain, a Police Judge, a Police Commissioner, Comptroller of the city, and afterward its Sheriff, was driven in an ordinary "hack" to Ludlow street jail and there handed over to the custody of Warden DUNHAM, who had his name registered as a prisoner.

That was the last of sensational escapes from Sheriffs or Sheriffs' officers in the city of New York for some time. There has been no recurrence of them until recently, when, by an accident of fate, EDWARD J. H. TAMSEN was chosen Sheriff, a position for which he is disqualified by temperament and lack of knowledge, and which in justice to RIDDER he ought to resign.

TAMSEN has been in office only a month, but during that time two prisoners in civil suits, SCHUYLER C. FRYER and ERNEST V. MARSCHALL, have eluded TAMSEN'S deputies. FRYER escaped from the hands of a German house painter named FIEDLER, in West Twenty-second street, on the afternoon of Jan. 19, and MARSCHALL escaped from MCGINNEY, another deputy, in East Fiftieth street, on Jan. 30. FRYER has since surrendered himself. MARSCHALL did not leave an address where he could be communicated with.

The law prescribing the penalty for permitting a prisoner to escape is found in section 89 of the Penal Code. It says:

"A Sheriff, or other person or officer, who allows a prisoner, lawfully in his custody, in any action or proceeding, civil or criminal, to escape or go at large, except as permitted by law, is, if he corruptly and willfully allows the escape, guilty of a felony; in other case, he is guilty of a misdemeanor."

He may, as in the BRENNAN case, be punished for contempt of court.

Two obstacles to any proceedings against TAMSEN appear. The first of these is legal. TAMSEN is Sheriff, though how long he will continue to be Sheriff is a question. An order of commitment, if made in his case by a Judge for contempt of court, would necessarily be addressed to the Sheriff. Hence he would be compelled to arrest himself, and while there is every assurance that, if given such an order, there could be no escape, it would be an awkward complication if the first German-American Reform Sheriff of New York should be directed to take himself into custody. It is true that RIDDER, and not TAMSEN, is really Sheriff; and in that view of the case we suppose that TAMSEN might apprehend RIDDER, or RIDDER might apprehend TAMSEN.

The second objection to proceedings against TAMSEN is constitutional. Article VIII. of the Federal Constitution specifically declares that "cruel and inhuman punishments" shall not be inflicted. If TAMSEN should be committed to Ludlow street jail for contempt of court in allowing prisoners to escape from the Sheriff's custody, he would pass into the official custody of RAABE. RAABE is a barber, with a propensity for shaving off whiskers. The loss of TAMSEN'S whiskers at the hands or hand of RAABE would be a cruel and inhuman punishment for a man distinguishable among German reformers only by the size and style of his whiskers. A commitment of TAMSEN to RAABE would be terrible, and it is a serious question whether any Court of either civil or criminal jurisdiction would be justified in imposing such a penalty for an act of carelessness committed by a deputy.

A simpler method would be for some one to translate Judge DANIELS'S decision for TAMSEN'S benefit. It is on file in the County Clerk's office, and BLUMER, who has been temporarily suspended as a deputy pending his trial under an indictment for forgery, could make a German version of it without public charge or expense.

Radcliffe College and Harvard University.

The most interesting feature of the report of the President of Harvard College for the academical year 1893-94 is the account of the relations established between Radcliffe College, intended exclusively for women, and the university authorities. It has been assumed hastily in some quarters that these relations are identical with those which exist between a college at Oxford and the university of which it forms a part. As a matter of fact, they differ in three important particulars.

A college at Oxford has absolute control of its property, and, so far as discipline is concerned, of the undergraduates within its walls, or on its books. There are lectures given by university professors; but the work of instruction, so far as it is not done by private tutors, is performed almost exclusively within the college by teachers appointed by it and responsible to it alone. A college may and usually does subject its undergraduates to examinations with which the university has nothing to do: the examinations at Balliol have been long noted for their thoroughness. The only examinations which at Oxford are conducted by the university are those to pass which is indispensable for the attainment of a degree; they are familiarly known as responsions, moderations, greats, and second schools. A college at Oxford has no power of conferring degrees; this is exclusively the function of the university. On the other hand, the head of every college has so close a connection with the government of the university that he receives by rotation the office of Vice-Chancellor, and thus becomes the resident head of the university.

Now let us mark wherein such an institution differs from Radcliffe College, the corporation which has grown out of the Society for the Collegiate Instruction of Women, formerly known as the Harvard Annex. In the first place, Radcliffe is authorized by its charter not only to hold real estate and to offer the opportunities of collegiate instruction to women, but also to confer degrees, a function not pertaining to an Oxford college. In the case of Radcliffe, the power is qualified by a proviso that no degree shall be conferred except with the approval of the President and Fellows of Harvard College, given on satisfactory evidence of such qualification as is accepted for the same degree when conferred by Harvard University. By the practical arrangements adopted in pursuance of this proviso, all the instructors and examiners in Radcliffe are Harvard teachers, designated by the President and Fellows of Harvard College. That is to say, Radcliffe, though nominally possessing the power of bestowing degrees, resembles an Oxford college in exercising no control over the examinations indispensable for the attainment of degrees; but it differs from its Oxford analogue in having absolutely nothing to do with the instruction of its own students. Such a plan may work well enough as a makeshift, but the outcome of it obviously is to relegate Radcliffe to the functions of a boarding house. In Oxford, where almost every college for its own credit gives special attention to the teaching of its own students, there is a healthy and fruitful competition between the teachers as well as the taught. The aim of the Radcliffe charter would have been fulfilled by leaving the work of instruction to the woman's college, but making the bestowal of degrees contingent on the passing examinations identical in character with those prescribed at Harvard for the same degrees, and conducted by the same examiners. As it is, Radcliffe renders much less service to its undergraduates than does an Oxford college, Harvard University performing the whole work of instructing as well as of examining and certifying for degrees. Yet, notwithstanding the absolute effacement of Radcliffe in presence of the older institution, its head, unlike the head of an Oxford college, has not the slightest connection with the government of Harvard University, much less the right of becoming by rotation its President.

Mr. ELIOT suggests that the alliance formed between Radcliffe College and Harvard University may in the future serve as precedent and example for the creation of other detached and partially independent colleges in Cambridge. We do not question the expediency of founding such ancillary colleges at Cambridge, for Harvard College proper is overgrown and unwieldy; but they should be organized not on the plan adopted for Radcliffe, but on that which we see in operation at Oxford. That is to say, a college should leave the principal examinations as well as the conferring of degrees to the university, but should itself perform most of the teaching required by its own undergraduates. The effect would be to stimulate among the instructors belonging to the different institutions, the lively competition which has had such remarkable consequences at Oxford, and which is secured in Germany through the rivalry of *privatdocenten* with the regular professors.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating: the value of the teaching at a given college would be attested by the ability of the taught to pass with the highest honors the university examinations. It appears that last June twenty-two young women at Radcliffe, having passed the examinations prescribed by the Harvard authorities, received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. With what measure of honor they passed, the President's report does not inform us. A copy of the Latin diploma bestowed upon them is printed in this report, and it may interest the parents of actual or prospective undergraduates of Radcliffe to know precisely what the document certifies: "The President and Fellows of Radcliffe College to all to whom this letter may come, greeting: Whereas our undergraduate (discipula) So and So has furnished those things which, in accordance with our academical customs and institutions, are required of those seeking the degree of Bachelor in Arts, we have, conformably to the law, and with the consent of the President and Fellows of Harvard College, admitted her to the said degree, and to her have given and granted all the rights and insignia pertaining thereunto. In witness whereof we have seen to it that to this letter, given at Cambridge on such and such a day of June, and certified by our seal, our President shall subscribe his name." Then follow the signature of the President of Radcliffe and the seal of that college. What causes the document to be prized is, of course, the addendum signed by the President of Harvard University: "Inasmuch as Radcliffe College has admitted So and So to the degree of Bachelor in Arts, we, the President and Fellows of Harvard College, having cognizance of the facts, testify by the hand of our President, and by our seal hereon imposed, that the said So and So was worthy to be admitted to the said degree, and that this degree is equal to that to which upon similar conditions we admit our undergraduates."

A Year of Milholland.

The assertion of some of the Republican newspapers of Philadelphia that ROBERT E. PATTISON, Democratic candidate for Mayor of that city, is "a bitter Democratic partisan" is scarcely stranger or more amusing than the present juxtaposition of the Hon. JOHN E. MILHOLLAND and his followers with the municipal politics of this town. Shortly before the meeting of the Presidential nominating convention of the Republicans at Minneapolis in 1892, MILHOLLAND, then a functionary of the Federal Administration, became involved in a political altercation with Mr. CORNELIUS N. BLISS. He was notified from Washington to "arrange with BLISS," but he failed to arrange with BLISS, and there was a rift in the cloudbank of local Republican harmony.

Then, as is supposed, with the aid, backing, comfort, and support of the Hon. THOMAS C. PLATT, Mr. MILHOLLAND started to reorganize the Republican party of New York adversely to BLISS and the other Union Leaguers. The battle between the Union League regulars and the PLATT or Milholландite anti-machinists raged until by a stroke of strategy PLATT captured the organization of the regulars and installed the Hon. EDWARD LAUTERBACH as Big Chief.

Then MILHOLLAND and his cohorts entered into an alliance, offensive and defensive, with BLISS; and now they have arranged matters so amicably that, with BROOKFIELD as chieftain and MCCOOK, ROOT, and THOMAS following, they are fighting shoulder to shoulder to overtop, overpower, and overturn PLATT, and to shut him out from any future control of the Republican machine hereabouts.

Strange are the phenomena of politics. Stranger still are the ways of the Milholландites. It must be said, however, that they now indeed occupy a better position for future influence than they have occupied since first to the music of drum and fife the anti-machine MILHOLLAND organization came into existence one year ago.

Lawyer BLOUNT of Georgia is the man whom Mr. CLEVELAND should retain to defend his unfortunate friend. CLAUS will pay the fee.

The Board of Record has united with the Mayor's office, the Aldermen, the Police Department, and the Street Cleaning Department in calling public attention to the ordinances against throwing garbage or any other refuse in the streets. This ordinance can be enforced only by the police, and it is their duty to see to its enforcement, not merely by distributing circulars, but by arresting the violators of it. If but a single one of them were arrested every day of the month of February and subjected to the legal penalty for the offence, we should have an end of a habit which spoils the looks of the city.

The appointment of Lieut. R. B. DASHIELL as an assistant naval constructor may perhaps have more than a personal significance. In the plan of bringing more and more under the Bureau of Construction the responsibility for the design, stability, and general effectiveness of war ships, one of the latest details has been that of transferring to this bureau the planning and construction of turrets, ammunition hoists, and perhaps some other permanent parts of the vessel connected with its battery power.

The Bureau of Ordnance has hitherto had charge of this planning and construction, and the reasons for that policy have been obvious. But Lieut. DASHIELL himself has been an officer of the Bureau of Ordnance, and he became experienced and well known in his service with that bureau. Prior to June 15, 1893, he was inspector in charge of the naval proving ground, and some of his work and reports gave him much celebrity. Hence, in appointing him to the Bureau of Construction Secretary HERBERT really contributes, for the new work relating to the turrets, ammunition hoists, and gun mounts, an expert in ordnance. Apart from the general question as to the expediency of this transfer of duties and responsibilities, the practical effect should be to help to make matters run smoothly in this instance between the bureaus.

Lieut. DASHIELL had just resigned from the navy for the purpose of engaging in private business when the death of Assistant Constructor ARMSTEAD made a vacancy, which was promptly offered to him. He accepted it, and thus his naval career will be continued through this connection with the construction corps.

THE END OF THE FUR SEAL.

Flat Proof of the Failure of the Paris Tribunal—Shall We Close Out the Business?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You were good enough last December to reprint my letter to Congressman Dingley, which he read to the House of Representatives, calling attention to the fact that the returns of the pelagic catch of fur seals made in 1894 under the license of the new regulations of the Behring Sea Tribunal, showed beyond contradiction that these regulations were a flat and wretched failure so far as they were designed to save the fur seal herd of Alaska from destruction. These figures declared the fact that the open-water destruction of 1894 was the most extensive wrought in the whole history of this business.

On Jan. 23, in obedience to a resolution of inquiry made by the House of Representatives on Dec. 11, 1894, the Secretary of the Treasury answered, giving the official and unimpeachable evidence of this utter failure of the articles of the Paris Court to save our fur seal herd from practical extermination in less than three or four seasons from date. He pointed to the testimony of his agents who had counted the bodies of thousands, yes, twice ten thousand bodies of starved seal pups on the Pribylov Islands last September, their mothers having been taken by the sealing fleet in the open waters around the islands under the license of the regulations of the Behring Sea Tribunal; and he closed by calling attention to the fact that under the existing law we on the islands this year could not secure more than 10,000 fit male seals for market, while the pelagic sealers took at least 60,000 from our herd in the same time at sea, most of these nursing mothers and young female seals, which our law prevents us from touching on the islands and has prevented us since we first took charge of them in 1868.

Aroused by this extraordinary statement, Mr. Dingley immediately introduced a bill (H. R., 8,633), and from his place on the floor of the House called attention to the shameful position in which the regulations of the Behring Sea Tribunal placed our fur seal industry of Alaska, and righteously urged the House to take prompt steps either to change this situation at once for the better by securing the coöperation of Great Britain; or, failing in that, to do the only thing left for us to do in decency and self respect, to end the shameful spectacle of butchering nursing mother seals at once in Behring Sea by mercifully killing them all next summer.

This bill is not a retaliatory bill. It is nothing of the kind. It does not even hint at such a thing. It does not go outside of our own reserved territorial rights, which were fully declared and admitted at the beginning and the close of the session of the Behring Sea Tribunal. It simply carries out to the letter the exact demand made by the Canadians themselves that it was and is not a wasteful and indecent method of taking fur seals to kill the females when heavy with their unborn young, or when nursing them. They have planted themselves on this monstrous declaration by the adoption of the report of their Commissioners, Sir George Baden-Powell and Dr. G. M. Dawson.

This is the position of the Canadian Government officials and their scientific Canadian advisers. This position they have urged in season and out of season, and they succeeded at Paris, through the immense stupidity of our management of a good cause, in triumphing so far as killing these animals in the open waters of the high seas went. I am not complaining of their action; they did it openly and above board; but if we had not been so badly handled by our agents at Paris, I am free to say that they, the Canadians, would never have succeeded in temporarily dignifying this indecent and destructive species of seal slaughter as they did; and I now freely predict that these same men who have been so active and instrumental in upholding the hands of the pelagic butchers of our fur seal herd, will yet live to be heartily ashamed of their short-sighted action and their brief success.

I say "brief success," because the end of this pelagic business is at hand. If it is not at once checked by Great Britain, we have nothing else to do other than to save the wreckage at once as it lies strewn along the shores of the Pribylov Islands to-day. If we did less we should incur the contempt of our own people and nothing better than the derisive jeers of the Canadian sea wolves themselves, who are now again fitting out for the feast that they confidently expect is spread for them in Behring Sea next season.

HENRY W. ELLIOTT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.

A NOTABLE KENTUCKIAN.

Extraordinary Obituary Tribute to the Late Alamander Martin of Lackey.

From the Catlettsburg Democrat.

Died, at the home of his brother, near this place, on Jan. 16, Alamander Martin, in the 79th year of his age. He was born in Ohio; came with his parents to Kentucky at an early age. He was well beloved by all who knew him. He was a model in the way of economy, industry, and honesty. His voice will no more be heard by his many relatives whom he so much loved and so faithfully served during sickness. We will greatly miss him, but pray the Lord to reconcile us to this sad bereavement, knowing that our loss is his eternal gain. His funeral services were attended by the Rev. William Cook, and a sermon was preached from the Book of God, after which a large concourse of people followed his remains to their last resting place until called forth on the resurrection morn. The following is a short sketch of his life:

During Mr. Martin's early life
The country was full of witches,
He carried a gun and a butcher knife,
And wore the leather breeches.

But as time advanced
He changed his pants,
Yet still preferred the leather.
He would often tell
The way they would smell
In time of rainy weather.

He was a man of iron nerve,
A voice loud and piercing;
His head was gray, his spine curved,
Before he quit his cursing.

His latter days were days of peace,
A change in disposition;
As strength gave way grace increased,
And saved him from perdition.

Now he sails on Zion's ship,
No more pains from his poor old hip,
He is done with troubles here below,
And gone where all good mortals go.

LACKEY, Ky., Jan. 27. M. M.

No Libel in Fair Reporting.

From the Baltimore American.

In the libel suit brought by Emory C. Shipley of Texas, Baltimore county, against Gen. Felix Agnus, publisher of the *American*, for alleged libel, a jury in the Superior Court yesterday rendered a verdict in favor of the defendant without leaving the box. The verdict was in line with the instruction to the jury as given by Judge Ritchie, who emphasized the fact that the publication was entirely free from any malice toward Mr. Shipley on the part of the newspaper, and was privileged matter. The verdict met with the entire approval of the large number of spectators present, among whom were many attorneys who had gathered to hear the case.

The alleged libel was the report of proceedings before a Justice of the Peace of Baltimore county, in which Mr. Shipley was the party defendant, and in which Mr. Shipley was subsequently acquitted of the charge brought against him. It was contended on the part of the plaintiff that the proceedings before the magistrate were *ex parte* in their nature, and, therefore, that the publication was not of the privileged class. The Court, however, held that it was.

Skated in Her Bare Feet.

From the Louisville Post.

A pretty eighteen-year-old girl created quite a sensation in the east end yesterday; and for an hour a score of men watched her as she glided about on the ice. She was a graceful skater, and every movement was Delsartean in its perfection. It was not her grace and beauty that attracted the men. It was her bare feet which gleamed in and out beneath her skirt as each foot was thrust gracefully forward. The foot was such a one as described by Du Maurier in his "Trilby." The coloring was perfect, and now and then as the wind switched her skirts the glimpse of a perfect ankle and sometimes even the swell of a shapely calf was seen. It was this that attracted the men. They wondered that the cold did not make her suffer, but it seemed unnoticed. Her mother finally appeared, and, after much cheerful persuasion and a little force, the girl was induced to remove her skates, don her shoes and stockings, and leave. With her departure the crowd rapidly dwindled away.

So They Say.

From the McKeesport Morning Herald.

THE NEW YORK SUN is the best newspaper in the United States, and that means that it is also the best in the world, for American journals lead creation in enterprise, originality, and news. A good story was told us about a McKeesport scrap book fiend, who began clipping out all the good things he could find in THE SUN. When he got through there was nothing left but the column rules, and ever since that time he has had THE SUN bound every year and says it makes the most interesting and instructive book in his library. The *Herald* would prefer abandoning all its other exchanges to missing one issue of the great newspaper that shines for all.

PRESIDENTIAL TIMBER.

Burrows of Kalamazoo and Other Republican Candidates.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—A few days ago the name of Julius Cæsar Burrows of Kalamazoo was on the lips of many men of reputation as a strong force in the Presidential list of eligible candidates. The reputed eminence of his abilities, which is widely believed in, and his long service in the House of Representatives, give him a place in that branch of Congress second only to that held by Mr. Thomas Brackett Reed. It was held that a man who had served in the Union army from 1862 to 1864, who had served almost continuously in the House of Representatives from the Forty-third to the Fifty-fourth Congress, and had been recently advanced to a seat in the national Senate for meritorious party service, was entitled to consideration as a Presidential element.

No one who has seen Mr. Burrows in debate and heard him on the stump, when the torchlights splutter and the brass bands blare and the tin horns screech, will deny that he has a strong claim upon the nomination for the highest office in the gift of his party. He is a man who has borne the heat and burden of the day.

Two hours after THE SUN reached Washington on Monday last, showing that Mr. Burrows is closely affiliated with the American Protective Association, his Presidential stock slumped 50 per cent. at least. He was at once counted out of the running. The American people object to mixing their religion and politics. They believe in sticking to the Federal Constitution, which allows the largest possible freedom upon the subject of religion, and which history and experience teach is the only safe policy. It will be a sad day for the United States when religious fanaticism shall seize upon the machinery of politics to enforce its tenets or to exalt its champions. Any organization with such objects as its inspiration will confront a determined opposition to the very last.

In making himself prominent and conspicuous in the American Protective Association, Mr. Julius Cæsar Burrows simply placed himself outside the eligible list of Presidential candidates. He will have to content himself with the distinguished honor of being a Senator in Congress. He cannot hope to be President.

Singularly enough, Gen. Benjamin Harrison of Indiana is regarded as being one of the strongest men on the eligible list. The intense Americanism which distinguished his Administration, and the dignity and ability which characterized all of his public acts, tell in his favor, while he has a hustling missionary in every man who received from him a commission in the public service.

Then, too, Gen. Harrison has always the tireless services of Gen. John C. New, who has no superior in the Republican party in the fine art of manipulating political wires. If he should go before the Convention he would have the support of nearly all the Southern delegates, with some of the Western States, but these latter, in the main, will go of Gov. McKinley in the first instance and to Senator Allison in the second, while the Middle and New England States will support Mr. Reed.

The frequency with which Senator Allison's name is connected with the Republican nomination for the Presidency can be accounted for only upon the fact that he has been in public life beginning with the Thirty-eighth Congress, that he entered the Senate in 1873, his term ending in 1897, and that during all of that time he has been rated as one of the soundest men of his party on all financial and economical questions, without being practically brilliant at any point. He has stuck as close to the platforms of his party as the needs of the public service have demanded. He has not made enemies, because he has not made haste to fly in the face of public opinion in order to champion absurd politics. While serving his party he has also had an eye single to the public interest, especially on the financial side, despite the wave of Populism which has swept over the great West during the past six years, submerging beneath the waters of private life such strong men as John Jeans Ingalls of Kansas. When the roll has been called Senator William B. Allison has answered, on the whole, for what he conceived to be for the best public interests. Further, he does not hunt rabbits with a brass band; he does not hammer away on Chinese wall protection, as Mr. McKinley does; he does not stickle for a standard of value in which silver shall not even have a place as subsidiary coin, as Senator Sherman and Senator Aldrich do, and upon the question of civil service reform he follows the advocates of neither extremes. He has always adopted that policy which promised to serve the best interest of the largest number. It stands to reason that a statesman of such character and record should rank as a Presidential eligibility.

Gen. Harrison has made too many enemies to capture the nomination. Besides, he has had two bites at the pie. The American people believe that the big offices should go the rounds, despite the Chinese sentiment which has governmental bureaucracy as its objective point. There is also a feeling that Indiana has had enough for the present.

Gov. McKinley is unfortunate in having been born in Ohio, and with having to reckon with John Sherman and J. Benson Foraker in any Convention. These gentlemen have aspirations of their own, which even the success of McKinley will not serve; indeed, it would stand in the way of them. Mr. McKinley is a man of positive character and ideas, so much so that Mr. Platt, who knows a thing or two, would not permit him to speak in New York city during the last campaign. He was allowed to vociferate at the tail end of a car at ninety miles an hour in rural New York, but when he reached the Grand Central he was shunted off to Philadelphia, where he could do himself no harm and the party very little good, because the Republican victory in the Keystone State was assured anyhow, and Senator Quay had other than McKinley fish to fry in the National Convention. Gov. McKinley was not allowed to speak in New York because he wanted to do so. Mr. Platt bossed that kettle of fish, much to the chagrin of Gov. McKinley.

On the other hand, the Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed was not allowed to do rural New York, where everything was lovely, but he was turned loose in New York city and allowed to browse in the Cooper Union pasture to his heart's content. He was put on dress parade, and a very creditable exhibition he made of himself. The New England candidate was allowed unrestricted leeway. The Western candidate was side-tracked. Gov. McKinley, who is a shrewd politician, as most Ohio men are, felt it in his marrow, but he could not help himself; so he basked in the sunshine of Chauncey Mitchell Depew and hoped for the time when the Warwick of New York Republican politics would change his mind about "the strong boy of Maine." But Mr. Platt is not going to change. If he can't have Mr. Reed he will not have Mr. McKinley or Gen. Harrison. He will have somebody else, a respectable reliability like Allison, perhaps.

Upon all the bases of calculation accessible to the faithful reporter, in which the unwritten history of party conventions is to be judged, neither Gen. Harrison of Indiana, Gov. McKinley of Ohio, nor ex-Speaker Reed of Maine will capture the Republican nomination. They will go into the Convention with equal strength, and the partisans of neither will give way. In that case a man like Allison is bound to be considered. He possesses all the elements of a compromise candidate. He is not too conspicuous; he is not too brilliant; he would not presume to be superior to and above listening to the men in his party instrumental in composing his nomination; and he has the final "n" in his name which usually leads to the White House, once the nomination is landed. Mr. Platt and Mr. Quay, who dominate the politics of the Middle and New England States, will not consent to the nomination of either Harrison or McKinley. The West and the South will hardly force a candidate upon these men they do not want. They did it in 1892, in the person of Gen. Harrison, and they got it where the rooster got the hatchet. They will not be disposed to try the experiment a second time. Politicians are like bankers—they want to gamble on a chick, as far as they can. Just what Mr. Platt and Mr. Quay want of the next Republican Convention they will get, and they do not want either Mr. Harrison or Mr. McKinley.

The position which Senator John Sherman occupies in the list of Republican eligibilities is unprecedented in American politics. It bears no relation to the position of Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, or James G. Blaine. These men rendered transcendent services to the Whig and Republican parties. They were always rated as Presidential forces, and often stood on the threshold of the White House, as Moses stood on Mount Nebo.

Senator Sherman is now 72 years old. He has been in public service, in the national sense, forty-seven years, beginning in 1848. He is preeminently the ablest statesman in public life to-day. He has rendered greater public service than any other living statesman. He did for the Business of the country what William Tecumseh Sherman, his brother, did to preserve the union of the States in his march from Atlanta to the sea. He has been the logical candidate of his party from the Cincinnati Convention of 1876 to the Minneapolis Convention of 1892, but in none of these four quadrennial periods has he had a gleam of a chance of receiving the nomination. His eminent position has placed him outside the eligible list. Now when he is too old to receive the nomination he finds that he is asked in his aspiration by William McKinley as he was in 1876 by R. B. Hayes, the weakest and the most pusillanimous President, John Tyler and James Buchanan not excepted.

Take it all in all, however, John Sherman has nothing to regret. He is the most eminent Republican after William H. Seward, and that he has shaped the financial policy of his party for thirty years ought to satisfy his ambition, and is certainly a greater crown of glory than if he had been made President.

The Last Resting Place.

From the Adams Freeman.

The waste basket is full of thoughts.

WHAT PUZZLED HIM.

It Turned Out to Be Loose Waterbury Works in the Catfish's Interior.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

ROCKWOOD, Tenn., Jan. 25.—Attorney-General W. C. Owens of Roane county is one of the most noted devotees of the rod and gun in East Tennessee. Last week, after attending court at Loudon, he hired a skiff, as is his usual custom, and floated with the current down to Rockwood Landing, some twenty miles, using rod and gun as occasion required. After passing the mouth of Clinch River and making his boat fast to indulge in his noonday lunch, he was startled to see the water churned into a white foam and a big catfish weighing at least fifteen pounds come to the surface, turn over on its back, and die.

Mr. Owens's first impressions were that a battle royal had taken place between the catfish and a gamy garfish, which are numerous in the river. Pulling out into the stream, the fish was soon safely aboard the skiff. What puzzled the Attorney-General was the unusual appearance of the fish. The stomach was three times as large as it ought to be and funnel shaped. He opened the stomach and first removed some thirty feet of steel wire, spiral in shape, and on further investigation the cases and frame