LEADING MERCHANTS
And
INTELLIGENT READERS
Are
THE SUN'S
CONSTANT PATRONS.
EACH APPRECIATES THE OTHER.

The Sun.

THE WEATHER PREDICTION
For New York and Its Vicinity:
Showers; probably followed by fair in the afternoon; northeasterly winds.

VOL. LXII.—NO. 240. NEW YORK, SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 1895.—COPYRIGHT, 1895, BY THE SUN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION.—THIRTY PAGES. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

OPIUM EATING DEFENDED.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION APPROVE OF MODERATE USE OF THE DRUG.

Scores of Medical Witnesses Say It Is No More Harmful in India Than Alcohol, Temperately Used, Is in England—Its Results Are Beneficial in Numerous Cases—The Oscar Wilde Exposures Have Led to the Formation of a Moral Vigilance Committee—Lord Rosebery Will Resign When The Queen Returns to England—Arrest of an Accomplished Swindler Who Has Played Many Parts—Light on a Great Murder Mystery in Sicily—Evil Effects of the Game of Chess.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 27.—The report of the Royal Commission on the use of opium, presented in Parliament this week, will much astonish many people, especially in America, but it must be accepted as the decisive verdict of truth and science upon this vexed subject. The inquiry was conducted on a great scale and the decision was practically unanimous. Over 720 witnesses were examined, including 152 called at the desire of the Anti-Opium Society. Every care was taken to obtain representative testimony, and the Commission record their conviction that the evidence forms trustworthy ground for the conclusions reached.

Upon the crucial issue, whether the use of opium as habitually practised in India is or is not injurious, the Commissioners relied to a great degree on the statements of 161 medical witnesses. The evidence of the doctors in the service of the Government was practically unanimous. It is corroborated by other medical men in private practice, and by some medical missionaries. The medical witnesses who advocated prohibition were few, and all of them were more opposed to the use of alcohol than to that of opium. The general effect of the medical testimony is declared in the report to be that "the temperate use of opium in India should be viewed in the same light as the temperate use of alcohol in England. Opium is harmful, harmless, or even beneficial, according to the measure and discretion with which it is used."

That is the judgment of science upon the actual consequences of the opium habit. The natives of India, on the whole, agree with the doctors, but they attach greater value to the drug than science directly warrants. It is universally allowed that the excessive consumption of opium is an evil, though an evil of which the effects have been grossly exaggerated.

Opium is largely taken as a stimulant by those past middle age. They use it, in the striking phrase of one of the witnesses, as a prop to a falling house. In the opinion of the great majority of native medical practitioners and representatives of large, influential classes, this employment of the drug is attended by beneficial results. Opium eaters of fifteen to twenty years' standing appeared before the Commission. They believed the habit had done them good. Their appearance and vigor satisfied the Commissioners, at all events, that it had done them no perceptible harm.

Opium is also used as an occasional stimulant in physical emergencies. It has been issued, by medical advice, to troops engaged in fighting and roadmaking among the mountains of Sikkim. It is taken occasionally by camel drivers who work in the extremes of heat and cold that prevail in the Rajputana desert. Many consumers in the Punjab use the drug in the winter months only.

Another striking fact about the opium habit is that it prevails among some of the most manly, hardworking, thrifty races of India. The splendid Sikh soldiers and peasants, the active Marwari traders and Rajputs are among the opium eaters. Opium is consumed in the native army, and, the witnesses say, does no perceptible harm, and is often beneficial. It is used among the natives in the public service, and in the service of railroad companies, planters, and mill owners. The evidence of employers is all to the same effect. Dismissals for intemperance in the use of opium are practically unknown. Opium, Sir William Roberts observes, does not appear to beget any specific disease. Opium eaters bear surgical operations as well as non-consumers, and the manager of a large insurance company said that, after twenty years' experience, his company charged no extra premium on the lives of moderate opium eaters.

So deep has been the shock to society caused by the recent revelations in the Oscar Wilde case, that it has led to a movement for the formation of a moral vigilance committee. It is a startling commentary on the condition of the society of modern London that it is deemed necessary to resort to a special organization with which to combat a strange, unspeakable vice. Yet it is true. The present week a circular is being quietly but extensively circulated, for the purpose of forming what will be called the Queensberry Association. Its aim is the collection of a sufficient fund to justify a regular campaign against the newly exposed evil, to follow the clues that cropped up in the recent proceedings, and to do all that the Government ought, but possibly will not do. There is nothing vindictive about the circular. It points out, dispassionately, the existence of a grave public scandal which cannot be removed by the punishment of one offender. The evidence given at the Old Bailey points to a more or less organized system of vice. This will be investigated, its ramifications traced, and its foundations uprooted. The circular does not emanate from fanatics or faddists. It is the result of patient inquiry.

If the world is not now satisfied that the Tory and the Liberal-Unionist leaders are the very best of friends and most affectionate of allies it is not the fault of Lord Salisbury, Mr. Balfour, and other prominent men of the Tory party who have been quite busily engaged in giving characters to their allies by means of open letters and public speeches. Whatever wrong was secretly done, some weeks ago to Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, it has certainly been handsomely atoned for, and he ought to be satisfied, despite the fact that at the very moment the reconciliation was publicly consummated, the local Tories at Leamington kicked his chosen candidate out of the place as he had previously ejected their candidate. Many people believe the quarrel and the effusive reconciliation presage the early dissolution of Parliament, and, as the Government is steadily losing seats at the bye elections, nobody doubts the power of the Opposition to force a dissolution pretty well at any moment they like.

It is not certain, however, that the Opposition want to precipitate such a crisis. Of all the Government measures now before the House of Commons there is not one which the Tories care to reject and then appeal to the country to endorse their action. They must therefore obtain some special pretext, and that may not be obtainable until the last moments of the session. Nevertheless a crisis may suddenly arise over the Government bill for reforming the liquor laws. The powerful liquor trade, to the support of which the Tories are deeply pledged, is spending money like water in the effort to arouse the country against the bill. At least a half dozen Irish allies of the Government, whose seats depend entirely upon the support of the liquor trade, cannot be depended upon to vote for the bill. An equal number of Liberal Unionists, who ordinarily vote on temperance questions irrespective of the party, will on this occasion abstain from the division on the second reading; and finally several Liberals will either vote against the Government or abstain from voting. It is evident, therefore, that this particular measure may create a crisis despite the desires of the leaders on both sides.

The chief point in doubt will be settled as soon as Queen Victoria returns. Lord Rosebery will then resign and force an appeal to the country at once, or the session will drag along in a dull way until a snag finally upsets the Government boat.

Americans who, within the last three years, have been swindled by Eric Dickson alias M. François Lefebre of Belfort and a score of other names, can, if they like, have the satisfaction of prosecuting him, for he has been at length laid by the heels. The other day Dickson called on the British Consul at Dresden for the purpose of obtaining a passport for Russia, in support of which he produced letters of naturalization which the Consul at once saw were false. The Consul communicated with the police, and they promptly arrested the fascinating stranger, who proved to be the long-sought international swindler for whom the police of at least five countries of Europe had been vainly searching. Dickson's real name is believed to be Ferdinand Rodriguez Alvares, formerly an officer of the Guatemalan army. He is a linguist of marvellous ability, and has, in the course of his highly successful swindling career, passed, without exciting suspicion, as a German, a Portuguese, a Persian, a Greek, a Bulgarian, an Argentine, a Creole of Mozambique, a Brazilian, an Englishman, and a Frenchman. His victims have included some of the biggest people in Europe and many Americans, male and female. Four European Governments are now claiming his extradition, but the Saxon police have a little account to settle with him first.

Two years ago Signor Notarbartolo, the former Mayor of Palermo and general manager of the Bank of Sicily, was stabbed to death in a railroad carriage when travelling between Termini and Palermo. The body was thrown on the track. The murderers were undoubtedly two well-dressed men, who entered the carriage at a wayside station, but beyond that the police utterly failed to throw any light upon the mystery, which agitated the whole of Italy at the time. It is now announced that Signor Notarbartolo was murdered in order to prevent the exposure of a great financial and political scandal in which several of the most notable public men of Sicily were implicated. One of the murderers died last week after making a full confession which has already resulted in the arrest of several railway officials, and in an earnest search for a half dozen Sicilian notables who suddenly disappeared the day after the murderer's confession, of which they had a hint from highly placed officers of the State, who did not wish to see them in the felon's dock. Signor Crispi is credited with the intention to have the whole scandalous affair dragged to light.

The mysterious Russian, Prince Nakashidza, has turned up in Leghorn, and, as is customary whenever he visits a new country, he has been thrown into prison as a suspect. The Prince has been wandering about Europe for ten years now, with his wife and sister-in-law, without visible means of subsistence, varying the monotony of his travels by spells of imprisonment. All that is known of him with certainty is that he was condemned to death in Russia for complicity in some revolutionary plot, and managed to escape. The Russian police regard him as an exceptionally dangerous man, and by their persistent attentions have secured his expulsion from nearly every European country. The Princess and her sister say they are related to the Duke of Wellington and are entitled to an immense property, but the trio are often in sore straits for money, and, when arrested in Leghorn the other day, they were living together in one poorly furnished room. It is the custom of the two ladies, when their unfortunate Prince is serving a term of imprisonment, to earn their bread by lecturing upon the socialistic movement in Russia and by giving lessons in English and German, and this they are preparing to do at Leghorn. The action of the Italian police seems to have upset the Prince. He has not spoken a word since his arrest and is said to be like a man hypnotized.

Mr. Blackburne, the English chess champion, regards the game as a dangerous intellectual vice which is spreading to rather an alarming extent. Discussing the matter, after his game with Mr. Bardeleben on Thursday, he said: "I know a lot of people who hold the view that chess is an excellent means of training the mind in logic and shrewd calculation, prevision, and caution. But I don't find these qualities reflected in the lives of chess players. They are just as fallible and foolish as other folks who don't know a rook from a pawn. But even if it were a form of mental discipline, which I doubt, I should still object to it on the ground of its fatal fascination. Chess is a kind of mental alcohol. It inebriates the man who plays it constantly. He lives in a chess atmosphere, and his dreams are of gambits and the end of games. I have known many an able man ruined by chess. The game has charmed him, and, as a consequence, he has given up everything to the charmer. No, unless a man has supreme self-control, it is better that he should not learn to play chess. I have never allowed my children to learn it, for I have seen too much of its evil results. Draughts is a better game, if you must have a game."

It is announced in Birmingham that the Rev. Dr. Amory Bradford of the First Congregational Church, Montclair, N. J., has been invited and has consented to occupy the famous Carr's Lane Chapel for a time, and a strong local desire exists that he be pressed to accept the permanent pastorship as successor to the late Dr. Dale. The position is certainly his should he care to accept it. According to a local newspaper when, less than two years ago, he refused an invitation to take charge of Westminster Chapel, "he intimated that he could not be induced to leave America permanently." The present invitation, however, will reach him in a very flattering and tempting form, and his New Jersey friends would do well to keep an eye upon him should they desire to retain his services.

A representative of the French Government who recently made an elaborate inspection of the Manchester Ship Canal made a very eulogistic report thereon, with the result that it has been decided to apply the experience gained in Lancashire to the work of improving the tidal reaches of the lower Seine from Rouen to Havre. The work is to cost about 50,000,000 francs, of which Rouen and Havre will contribute 20,000,000. It is a matter of some interest to Americans, because Havre proposes to raise its share of the cost by increasing the dock dues and poll tax on people landing in the port from foreign ships.

Highly important and significant are the figures just issued, with comparisons, showing the wealth of England in spite of twenty lean years of depression. The taxable property of England and Wales in 1894 was £161,000,000, compared to £104,000,000 in 1870. This increase of more than 50 per cent. has taken place when the taxable value of land has decreased within fifteen years from about £40,000,000 to £33,000,000. The land formed in 1870 about one-half the taxable property of the country. It is now little more than one-fifth.

The result of meteorological tests with balloons at immense heights is announced from Bremen this week. One balloon, carrying self-registering instruments, reached a height of twelve miles. The thermometer could not register the temperature, 67° below zero being marked at a lower height. Many tests show that the temperature sinks gradually up to two and a half miles. Above that the fall is much more rapid.

Mrs. Alva Vanderbilt and Mr. Perry Belmont remain at the Hotel Continental and the Hotel Metropolitan, respectively, in Paris.

Crescent Bicycles Lead.
Try them and buy them at Bowman's, Broadway and 53d st., and Spaldings', Madison Square Garden.—*Adv.*

Dr. Decker's "Shake No More" as a spring medicine has no equal.—*Adv.*

NOT TO SIDE WITH JAPAN.

IT IS SAID WE HAVE REFUSED TO JOIN ENGLAND IN HER BEHALF.

If It Comes to Armed Intervention It Is Believed Russia Will Have to Act Alone—Many Believe that China Is Near Disruption and that There Will Be a European Scramble for Pieces of the Empire.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, April 27.—The critical situation in the far East is absorbing the attention of the diplomatic world, and the popular interest in the subject is scarcely less great. The Nicaragua quarrel which, ordinarily, would be a matter of much importance in the English public mind is quite overshadowed by the crisis which darkens the Eastern horizon.

The latest report in diplomatic circles is that the United States have refused to join Japan and England in resisting interference with the treaty of peace by the new Triple Alliance of Continental powers. However this may be, it is quite certain that Japan's European representatives, who are much surprised and disconcerted by the action of Russia, Germany, and France, are now perfectly satisfied with the situation, and profess to have assurances that nothing serious will result from the protest.

The revulsion of public opinion in France on the subject is almost comical. The feeling that has induced her to join hands with her bitterest enemy, Germany, in defence of her natural foe, China, against her friend, Japan, all for no possible gain for herself, has produced a popular protest which no friendship for Russia can explain and which no Ministry will dare to ignore. It may be taken for granted that France will not go a step further with her strangely mated allies. The opinion now generally held is that Russia will be obliged to proceed alone if it comes to a question of armed intervention. A more palpable possibility seems to be that China herself, perhaps encouraged by Russia, may refuse to ratify the treaty which has been made. In that case most of the diplomats in London believe that Russia alone of the European powers will be willing to intercede to prevent the fall of Pekin.

There are not wanting opinions, among competent judges of the situation, to the effect that China, in any event, is on the eve of disruption, and that she does not possess sufficient stability to carry out the terms of any treaty. These persons anticipate a European scramble for China in the near future. They believe her helpless millions will be divided between Russia, France, and England.

The *People* will print to-morrow a Shanghai despatch saying that a private telegram from Yokohama says that the Russian-Japanese position is beginning to look most serious.

A Paris despatch says that there was a report on the Bourse to-day that Japan had agreed to revise the Chinese-Japanese treaty in accordance with the tripartite demand.

By the United Press.

The final decision of the British Government to refrain from meddling with the Eastern question as regards China and Japan has been taken upon the advice, strongly put, of the British diplomats in Pekin and Tokio, who have been asked by the Government to report their views and observations. It is likely that the conditions of the treaty of peace will show that Japan has won a complete victory, not only by force of arms but in the field of diplomacy. The reports which were made after the Chinese new year indicated that Japan was determined to dictate in Pekin terms far more rigorous than those exacted at Shimonoseki.

Lord Kimberley, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received assurances from the British representative in Tokio that the present Japanese Ministry are experiencing their last days of existence as a composite body. The British agent expresses his belief that the conditions of the treaty of peace, as already published, are incapable of reduction in respect of their exactions, and that the minimum of the Japanese claims is vastly greater before the war, when, as a matter of fact, an accession of territory was the chief aim of the Mikado's government. It is represented to the Foreign Office by the British agent at Tokio that Count Ito, the President of the Japanese Council of Ministers, will be unable to govern much longer, owing to the tactics of the party of the opposition in the Diet in rejecting war measures and refusing to vote supplies, virtually bringing the legislative machinery to a standstill. Although the complete success of the war, with the consequent revision of the existing treaties, has greatly subdued this spirit, there is no doubt that the Ito party will be overthrown if they accede to the demands of Russia.

Lord Kimberley and his colleagues take the view that if the late Ministry should fail it would be a genuine calamity, not only to Japan, but to the European powers. The British Government ascribe the early and successful close of the war to the tact and capacity of Count Ito, in spite of the clamor of a vast majority of the people of Japan, who are still practically insisting that Japanese troops shall occupy Pekin. In view of this feeling the British and other European representatives in China and Japan have advised the Government that any proposal that Japan surrender any part of the ceded territory at the bidding of the European powers, whether such cession should ultimately be necessary or not, would be likely to imperil the Japanese constitution, which occurrence would inevitably undo the greater part of the progressive work which has been done in Japan within the last quarter of a century.

Mr. Pickering, an official who has served long and faithfully in the British service and who has lately been employed in the Intelligence Department of the War Office to report upon the state of the Chinese army, says:

"The partition of China is inevitable. If England is wise she will prepare for the coming scramble. In the meantime the interest lies in the success of Japan. It is my belief that Russia will not remain content until she gets an all-the-year-round open port in the Pacific and a portion of Manchuria. Germany will act merely as a cuckoo to place her young in the nests of the others, so as to make money out of our rackets and undersell us."

A St. Petersburg despatch to the Central News says there has been marked activity in the Russian War Department since Japan's terms with China became known. The officials do not avoid talking of the possibility of war, and contend that in case of an attack the Russian force in Amur is strong enough to withstand the Japanese until reënforced.

The Central News advices from Rome are that Italy thoroughly endorses England's attitude toward the Shimonoseki treaty and that the press and public opinion condemn the meddling of the new triple alliance. The *Diritto* suggests that Italy support Japan in resisting the demands of the alliance.

BERLIN, April 27.—Germany's decision to join Russia and France in the protest against the Shimonoseki treaty surprised and displeased the majority of German politicians. It was such a sudden departure from the empire's policy of non-intervention that at first the report of it was discredited. When the true course of events was made known by the semi-official dailies, the general impression was that Germany had plunged inconsiderately into a dangerous policy. Many persons expressed doubt that the cautious and experienced Hohenlohe had directed the move. In Berlin itself public opinion carries little weight in foreign affairs, as most of the people are Radicals and Socialists who do not care much for international politics. In the provincial capitals, however, the newspapers have agreed with the Berlin dailies in their attitude toward the Government's action in the Orient.

The *Kœlnische Zeitung's* semi-official notices of the joint protest have been received with significant silence or adverse criticism. In the last three days the belief has grown that Emperor William planned and directed the new move personally, so as to identify himself with Russia's foreign policy and show the St. Petersburg court his approval of the Czar's managing international politics to his own taste. He probably aims also to demonstrate to the Czar how much better it is to have a faithful ally like Germany, instead of a selfish one like England, which is likely at any time to slip away and look after her own interests without stopping to boost others less sagacious. This explanation of the Emperor's conduct is supported by the persons most intimately acquainted with the Czar's peculiarities.

Ever since his tour through China and Japan, Nicholas II. has regarded himself as an expert judge of Oriental politics. Japan's swift progress has impressed him and perhaps frightened him a little. He has had work on the Trans-Siberian Railway pushed forward with all possible speed, with a view to using it for the transportation of troops to east Asia. His opinion is that the war ought to be postponed, if possible, until the railway shall be ready for all the uses of a strategic railway, and thus enable Russia to play the arbiter of affairs in the Yellow Sea.

Alexander III. left to his son almost entirely the shaping of his policy toward China and Japan, for he believed the young man had acquired full knowledge of both peoples during his journey in the East. Emperor William finds the Czar's absolute personal control of Russia's action in the East highly commendable.

Japan's friends in Berlin say that the Czar is nursing an absurd grievance against Japan. They assert he wished Japan to postpone the war until Russia could be fully prepared to demolish the victor and dictate the whole treaty of peace. They criticise sharply the Emperor's exertions to confirm the Czar in his peculiar views of Japan's obligations to Russia. The Emperor's few defenders, however, think it right to make a slight sacrifice to tickle the Czar's vanity. For the sake of peace, they hold, Japan ought to respect his Majesty's feeling even at some cost to herself.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* St. Petersburg correspondent says that Prince Lobanoff, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has assured several diplomats that he is convinced that the united action of France, Germany, and Russia in regard to the Chinese-Japanese treaty will not cause any serious complications. The correspondent asserts that M. Hanotaux, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, tried to exclude Germany from the alliance, and only yielded to Russia's insistence. Germany stipulated that the united action of the three Governments be confined to certain limits. The feeling in St. Petersburg, according to the correspondent, is that the danger of an armed conflict is very remote.

PARIS, April 27.—In an interview with a high official of the Foreign Office to-day he said the Government had not fully decided upon their eventual action. The matter was discussed at length yesterday, and a primary remonstrance to Japan was made, merely to please Russia. It was not then thought that England would withhold action in the matter or that Japan would resist any action that Great Britain might take. England's action in the matter confronts France with a variety of possibilities, which require reflection and discussion.

The Chauvinist section of the Cabinet are in favor of following the lead of Russia throughout, but certain prominent Ministers and statesmen are disposed to endeavor to persuade the hot-headed ones not to push French action to an extreme point.

Mr. Kato, the Chief Secretary of the Japanese Legation, to-day expressed the opinion that Japan would fight the European powers rather than abandon her territorial claims.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Yang Yu, the Chinese Minister, called upon Secretary Gresham at 3:30 P. M. to-day, and half an hour later, a few moments after Yang Yu departed, the Japanese Minister, Mr. Kurino, who came by appointment, was closeted with the Secretary. Both visits related to the clause in the treaty of peace relating to the occupation by Japan of the Regent's Sword promontory and the Corean Bay coast from Port Arthur to the Yalu River, to which Russia has so strenuously objected. It is now understood that Russia is endeavoring to induce China to resist this demand, which was agreed to by Li Hung Chang. The United States have declined to be drawn into the controversy to such an extent as to take sides, but will continue its good offices, as in the past, to secure peace between China and Japan.

The United States Ministers at Pekin and Tokio, Mr. Denby and Mr. Dun, were largely instrumental in securing the agreement between the two countries, it being wholly due to their efforts that the plenipotentiaries were brought together. During the preliminaries they made China acquainted with Japan's requirements, and through them the terms were practically arranged in general terms before the Shimonoseki conference met. As the United States was thus the confidant of both parties, and being familiar with the arrangements from the beginning, the assumption is that this Government approved them. Therefore no reasonable ground seems to present itself for United States interference now.

FIRE ALARM IN THE BERESFORD.

Mr. Gray's Room Burned Out and the Dinner Hour Disturbed.

The Hotel Beresford, at the northwest corner of Central Park West and Eighty-first street, was afire last night. W. H. W. Morris, son of the late John J. Morris, was playing his piano in his apartment in the southeast corner of the sixth floor, when he smelled smoke. He called down the speaking tube, and Alva S. Walker, owner of the hotel, ran up through the building until he found the fire in the double apartment occupied by O. D. Gray at the southeast corner of the fifth floor. He burst in the door, but was driven back by the smoke. The two front rooms of the apartment were ablaze. The fire was soon put out. Mr. Gray had left his rooms a few minutes before the fire started. The gas in one of the rooms was lighted, and a curtain may have blown into the flame.

Mr. Walker's damage was about $3,000. Mr. Gray lost a number of valuable paintings.

Most of the eighty dwellers in the hotel were at dinner on the ninth floor of the new addition when the alarm was given. They left their dinners and made hurried grabs for valuables in their rooms. Later they camped in groups in the halls until the firemen had gone and things were getting dry.

HAS MR. BELL KILLED HIMSELF?

A Report that the Body of the Author of Emily Hall's Ruin Has Been Found.

LONDON, April 27.—A rumor that the body of the Rev. Jonathan Bell, who was concerned in the downfall of Emily Hall, who died in a Detroit hospital, had been found in a pit in the neighborhood caused a great sensation to-day in Old Barry, the missing minister's home.

The Rev. G. Middleton, the circuit steward, presided at a meeting of the local Methodist officials, held to-day, to arrange the circuit work. In a speech he referred to the Hall scandal, saying that both the persons involved committed a fearful sin. It was not a case of one deceiving the other. The years and position of both justified extreme surprise at their conduct.

NEW LONDON, April 27.—Inquiries in this city lead to the belief that the Rev. Jonathan Bell of Primrose Villa, Blackheath, England, who is accused of being an accessory before the fact to the death in Detroit, Mich., of Miss Emily Hall of Primrose Villa, England, was twenty years ago pastor for one year of a Baptist church in New London.

AFTER GEORGE GOULD AGAIN.

Zella Nicolaus Sues in Jersey for $50,000 for Malicious Prosecution.

Zella Nicolaus has brought suit against George Gould, in the New Jersey Supreme Court, for malicious prosecution, the damages being placed at $50,000. Mr. Gould was interrupted at the Central railroad station in Jersey City on Friday, as he stepped from the Lakewood train, and served with a copy of the bill for damages. He has until next Wednesday to file his answer.

Zella Nicolaus, or Mrs. Ruhman as she now calls herself, begins this suit outside of the jurisdiction of Superintendent Byrnes and in the State in which Mr. Gould now resides. Her previous suit against Mr. Gould was brought to recover possession of a check for $40,000 which she said he had taken from her. She had an interview with Byrnes and sailed for Europe with Ruhman and the suit was dropped. Her most recent appearance in this city was under the wing of Dr. Parkhurst, who had her before the Extraordinary Grand Jury as one of the collection of queer witnesses on whose testimony he sought to have Superintendent Byrnes indicted. She said, among other things, that police detectives had caused her to be turned out of various lodgings in the city, until finally Dr. Parkhurst provided her with a shelter.

ASHORE ON LONG ISLAND.

The North Erin Off Quogue and the Helen Mar Off Oldfield Light.

QUOGUE, L. I., April 27.—The steamer North Erin, from Palermo, Capt. Thomas Williams, grounded off Quogue at 6 o'clock this morning. The Erin came on in the fog, and struck about one and a half miles east of the Quogue life-saving station. She lies on the outer bar, and is in no immediate danger and is not damaged. The Captain expects to float his vessel as soon as a tug and lighter arrive from New York and be can partly unload his cargo.

The North Erin is loaded with oranges and sulphur for New York, with twenty-two men in her crew. She is 1,300 tons burden. The steamer was sighted by the Tiana life-saving crew. She displayed no signals of distress. A beat was launched, and she was boarded by the life savers from both Quogue and Tiana stations. The Captain refused any assistance, as he was in no danger. She came ashore at high tide, and will have to be unloaded before she can float.

PORT JEFFERSON, L. I., April 27.—Schooner Helen Mar, Capt. Holly, is ashore off Oldfield Light. A heavy sea is running; wind east.

A Lake Erie Steamer Founders.

TOLEDO, O., April 27.—The steamer Sadie Shepherd foundered to-night off Turtle light, Lake Erie. Only one life was lost.

Fall in with the Procession!
Of up-to-date people who save 40 cents on every dollar by buying all doctors' prescriptions and general drug store supplies at Riker's, 6th av., corner 23d st.—*Adv.*

Trilby Choice Seats—Regular Price.
Am. Dia. Tel. offices, service 25c., including messenger.—*Adv.*

BRITONS AT CORINTO.

Twenty-two Boat Loads of Them on Nicaraguan Soil.

MACHINE GUNS AT THE BOWS.

Crowds Look On in Silence as the Blue Jackets Leap Ashore.

Nicaraguan Troops with Artillery Were at the Other End of the Town, but They Withdrew When the English Came—The Admiral Declares Martial Law—His Marines Occupy the Public Square—A Proclamation to the People, Telling Them They Will Not Be Harmed—They Are Also Told that if Opposition Is Offered, the Fleet Will Fight—Nearly All the People Followed Their Country's Soldiers Out, Fearing Bombardment.

LONDON, April 27.—A despatch from Managua says:

"Shortly after 2 o'clock in the morning, twenty-two boats filled with marines and seamen were lowered from the English war ships, and immediately after the vessels came around bows on and advanced in a line toward the Government pier.

"Each large launch carried a machine gun forward. There was a great crowd at the pier, but no hostile demonstration was made.

"The landing party marched without opposition to the Custom House and hoisted the British flag thereon.

"A part of the marines occupy the principal square of the city. Rear Admiral Stephenson has declared martial law.

"A large force of Nicaraguan troops arrived at Corinto on the evening of the 26th with artillery and encamped at the lower end of the town.

"Order is maintained by the British marines, who patrol the streets. The populace is quiet. The landing party was commanded by Capt. Frederick French of the Royal Arthur, who immediately issued a proclamation assuring the citizens that their rights would be respected and that they might pursue their vocations without fear of molestation. The proclamation also contained a warning that any acts of hostility would be opposed with the full force of the fleet."

A Colon despatch says that the Nicaraguan forces at Corinto withdrew, crossing the lagoon separating the town from the mainland, and are now strongly intrenched there.

The British ships had taken a position from which they can open fire if the Nicaraguan forces should attempt to interfere with the occupation of the town.

Corinto is almost deserted, a bombardment having been generally expected.

COLON, Colombia, April 27.—Advices just received say that the populace at Managua held a mass meeting yesterday, at which resolutions were adopted urging the Government to refuse to accept England's ultimatum. A mob headed by a military band paraded the streets and attempted to attack the British consulate, but were prevented by the Nicarguan police, who finally succeeded in dispersing the rioters. The consulate was guarded last night by a Nicaraguan military force, and every precaution was taken to prevent any violent demonstration. The enthusiasm of the people is aroused. Their hatred of England cannot be eradicated. The Government is using all means in its power to restrain the populace from committing violence.

Advices from Corinto dated 8 P. M. say that the British cruiser Wild Swan has left for San Juan del Sur with despatches for Lord Kimberley, the British Foreign Secretary.

No further action will be taken until a reply has been received.

The Nicaraguan Government has ordered the Pacific Mail steamers not to stop at Corinto.

Nicaragua will address a note to the European powers justifying her conduct.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Nicaragua has refused to accept the British ultimatum. This information was communicated to Rear Admiral Stephenson at a late hour last night. The three days given Nicaragua to make reply having expired at midnight on Friday, the British forces at once took possession of the town. The garrison at Corinto, which consisted of a small force of 150 or 200 men, was withdrawn to the interior, leaving the British in peaceable possession of the town. No opposition was made to their landing, but it is said by those familiar with the Nicaraguan programme that any attempt on the part of the British forces to penetrate to the interior, or, in short, to leave the environment of Corinto, will be resisted by Nicaragua. Great excitement is reported to exist, not only at Corinto and Managua, but throughout the republic.

Should the determination not to pay the $75,000 indemnity demanded by Great Britain be adhered to, the occupation of Corinto by the British forces may be indefinite. The British ultimatum provided not only for the payment of $75,000 "smart money" to pro-Consul Hatch, but it included also a payment of $2,500 to compensate a number of English subjects who were arrested and taken to Managua with Mr. Hatch, and provided further that a joint Commission should be established to fix the damage which resulted to these and other British subjects as a result of their arrest and expulsion from the republic, this Commission to consist of one representative each of Great Britain and Nicaragua, the third member "not to be a citizen of any American State." Various interpretations have been given to this qualification. The Nicaraguan Government construes it to apply to a citizen of the United States or Central or South America. The British contention, unofficially stated here, is that it refers only to citizens of Central and South America, whose countries are denominated as "States" in European diplomacy, and not to the United States, which is usually referred to by the term "United States."

So long, however, as Nicaragua sustains her own interpretation she will not agree to the establishment of a Commission to consist of two Europeans and one citizen of her own country. She feels that such a Commission might assess damages amounting to millions of dollars, and that she cannot afford to be bound by such decision.

At a late hour to-night Secretary Gresham said that he had received no advices of any kind concerning Nicaraguan affairs, and was ignorant as to the correctness of the report regarding the landing of the British troops.

The policy of the Administration concerning this affair seems to have been pretty plainly stated, but in view of the occupation of Nicaraguan territory by the British, it becomes an interesting question as to what will be done here should the new occupants of Corinto push their way into the interior.

It is said by one versed in international law that the abandonment of the port of Corinto and any other act tending to make it more difficult or impossible for Great Britain to collect her "smart money" would be a casus belli, and Great Britain would be justified in punishing the Nicaraguans for it. No interference in this probable programme would be suggested by the United States, further than to reiterate the doctrine laid down by Cass and later by Seward. These two statesmen took the position that the United States would not interfere to prevent even war in these countries, but that she would maintain the fixed policy of preventing any subversion of the Government of the country thus sought to be punished, or the appropriation of any of its territory. Such war could only be waged for the purpose of punishment, and not for the acquisition of territory. This, it is believed, will be the policy of this Administration.

Just what will be considered a reasonable time for the occupancy by the British of Nicaraguan territory is a matter for the diplomacy of the future to determine, but if this Government became satisfied that undue delay was apparent, a note of inquiry would be addressed to the British Government concerning it. The impression prevails that Nicaragua may still pay the money and the "incident" be closed.

The question now arises what will Great Britain do? Since it is contended that the payment of the "smart money" complies only with a part of the ultimatum, it is obvious that her forces may remain in possession of Corinto until some decision has been reached regarding the claims of the other British subjects. If Nicaragua declines, as it is positively asserted that she will, to agree to a Commission unless a citizen of the United States be a member thereof, the British, under present conditions, must continue in occupation of Corinto. This gives them a foothold on Nicaraguan territory which they may retain for years, unless a compromise of some nature be reached.

The town of Corinto is so situated as to be almost entirely surrounded by water. It is connected with the mainland by a bridge 600 yards in length. The Corinto soldiery and people removed to the mainland across this bridge. The town has a ponulation of about 2,000 souls. Many of the inhabitants are foreigners, principally Americans, Germans, Italians, and British, engaged in trade. It is the principal port of entry for Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan Minister, Dr. Guzman, received two cablegrams from Managua to-day in addition to the one which arrived at midnight on Friday. Both despatches stated unequivocally that the British forces were in possession of Corinto. No additional details were given beyond the statement that the British flag was flying over the town and that the Nicaraguan flag had been hauled down.

Dr. Guzman believes that the Nicaraguans themselves lowered their own colors, so as to give the British the absolute control of the place. Dr. Guzman says there can be no mistake about the British occupation of Corinto. His telegrams are signed by the Nicaraguan Minister of Foreign Affairs. They are dated at Managua, the capital, which is about eighty miles distant and easily reached by telegraph and train from Corinto.

The Nicaraguan Minister was an early and anxious visitor at the State Department this morning, but failed then to see Secretary Gresham, who had driven out to Woodley to consult the President, and who was met there by Secretary Carlisle and other Cabinet officers. Shortly after 12 o'clock Secretary Gresham returned to the city and had an interview with Dr. Guzman at the State Department.

LONDON, April 27.—It is said that the United States Government, at the instance of Nicaragua, has suggested that the indemnity be paid in London instead of Corinto, and has also asked that the time be somewhat extended. England, however, has deemed it necessary to enforce the terms of the ultimatum upon the ground that Nicaragua's attitude does not entitle her to any concessions.

OVER SIXTY LIVES LOST.

The Bursting of a Reservoir in France Spreads Death and Destruction.

PARIS, April 27.—The reservoir on the dyke of the canal at Bouzzy, near Epinal, gave way this morning, sweeping away many houses with their inmates.

The flood quickly subsided, and a search for the bodies of the dead was immediately made. Thus far the bodies of thirty-eight victims of the disaster have been recovered. The pecuniary damage will amount to several millions of francs.

The Bouzzy reservoir had a capacity of 7,000,000 cubic metres. The torrent carried off bodily some of the houses in the villages of Bouzzy, Darnieulles, Uxegney, and Domevres, and swamped many others, besides demolishing walls, bridges, roads, crops, and farm buildings.

The railway between Epinal and Nancy is deeply flooded, and a breach has been made in the road between Epinal and Chaumont. Assistance was sent from Nancy this forenoon, but as yet it has been found impossible to reach the point where the break was made.

The disaster occurred at 5 o'clock this morning. The rush of water through the villages was so sudden that there was hardly any chance to escape, and many persons were drowned in their beds. The number of deaths will exceed sixty.

The Bouzzy reservoir fed the southern branch of the Eastern Canal. The water followed the valley of the Aviere. The sudden accretion of the canal burst its banks, and the water poured from it over six miles of country until the channel was empty.

The torrent, hemmed in by high hills, rushed down the valley like a bore, sweeping the villages mentioned, and after a course of ten miles emptying into the Moselle at Nomexy and Chatel.

Every house at Bouzzy was demolished, and very few remain at Les Forges, where there are 1,400 inhabitants. At Uxegney twenty-three persons were drowned. Every building was destroyed at Darnieulles, where the population number 600.

Notwithstanding the fact that Nonexy is ten miles from the dam, many of the inhabitants of that place had not time to reach the upper portions of their dwellings before the torrent was upon them.

The corpses of eight victims have already been found there.

Many farmers throughout the valley are ruined, and a large number of families are without food or clothes. The damage caused by the flood is estimated at $10,000,000.

M. Dupuy-Dutemps, Minister of Public Works, who is visiting Toulon, on receiving information of the disaster, sent telegrams to the local officials instructing them to use all despatch in devising measures of relief for the sufferers. The Minister himself will start immediately for the scene of the disaster.

A Quigg Club Disbanded.

The Lemuel E. Quigg Republican Association of the Twenty-second Assembly district disbanded last night rather than pay a judgment for $12.50. The trouble was that the club couldn't get any patronage.

R. & W. Chesequa. R. & W. A new collar.—*Adv.* R. & W. Chesequa.

Bathing Season Opens at Manhattan Beach Saturday, May 4. Surf and hot water baths.—*Adv.*

M'CABE TOLD OF BOODLE.

DISCLOSURES, JUST BEFORE HIS SUICIDE, TO GEN. LA GRANGE.

**Funds that the Ex-Chief Said Had Been Turned Over to Assemblyman McManus, Senator Ahearn, and Cab Reilly—$6,000 in this Year's Fund, McCabe Said—"He Could Not Lie and Would Not Be An