The Sun.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1895.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

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.

The Western State Conventions.

Within the past three days Democratic State Conventions have been held in Missouri, Iowa, and Mississippi. The position of the Democracy differs in all three. Mississippi is surely and immensely Democratic, even if there should be a factional split. Iowa was formerly regarded as a hopeful State, but the rainbow over it has almost disappeared. Missouri elected a Democratic Governor in 1892 by about 30,000 plurality, and in 1894 elected a Republican Supreme Court Judge by 3,000 plurality.

In these three conventions the main interest, almost to the exclusion of every other question, has been the issue with the free silver men.

The Missouri Convention was absolutely controlled by Mr. BLAND and his followers. Free silver captured the machinery of the party organization and declared itself in as stiff a resolution as has yet been adopted by any party in any State:

"We, the Democrats of Missouri, in Convention assembled, demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold into primary or redemption money, at the ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the action or approval of any other nation."

The Iowa Convention resulted in a defeat for the free silver wing of the Democracy. After a square fight free coinage resolutions were rejected by a vote of 652 to 420, and a platform was adopted reaffirming the currency plank of the last National Democratic Convention. That is not the most lucid and satisfactory declaration that could be desired, but there is no doubt that the Iowa Democracy is for sound money.

In Mississippi yesterday the Convention followed the example of Missouri and adopted the language of the Pertle Springs resolution for free silver.

The result, on the whole, is not discouraging to the friends of a stable currency and sound financial doctrine. The worst was expected from Missouri and Mississippi, and the expected happened. All of the circumstances at Pertle Springs, at Marshalltown, and at Jackson strengthen the belief that the free silver tide in Western and Southwestern politics has reached its highest mark.

It is gratifying to observe that in all of these conventions the issue was clearly defined and squarely met. That should be the case in all the Democratic conventions which are to follow. Whatever the result, let there be no straddling.

Cold Comfort for the Canadians.

It will be remembered that about a year ago delegates from the principal self-governing dependencies of Great Britain met in conference at Ottawa for the purpose of considering how to "draw continually closer the bonds that unite the colonies with the mother country." They finally passed a resolution asserting "the advisability of a customs arrangement between Great Britain and her colonies, by which trade within the empire may be placed on a more favorable footing than that which is carried on with foreign countries." Since the downfall of the ROSEBERY Government the reply to that resolution has been published, and although the author of it, the Marquis of RIPON, is no longer Secretary for the Colonies, there is no reason to doubt that the views embodied in the document are shared by his successor. For, while Mr. CHAMBERLAIN is no more ardent an advocate of imperial consolidation than is Lord RIPON, he is even less likely to sacrifice the interests of British manufacturers, shippers, and workingmen to sentiment.

In his reply Lord RIPON pointed out that the result of the proposed customs union, even in the least objectionable form, would be a partial remission of existing duties in favor of British and colonial commodities, and an imposition of duties on foreign goods which at present compete on equal terms with those of Great Britain and the colonies. He went on to show that, since the volume of the empire's trade with foreign countries is far greater than that of the trade between its various parts, the total amount of traffic which would be relieved would be considerably less than the amount which would be more heavily burdened. This result, he said, "would not only necessitate increased taxation, but would involve a serious loss of trade, the burden of which in both cases would fall with greatest severity on those parts of the empire which have the largest proportion of foreign trade, and the loss to those parts would more than outweigh the gain to other parts of the empire."

Lord RIPON proceeded to mark in detail the effects of the projected customs union on British manufacturers and ocean carriers. Inasmuch as an obvious consequence of the imposition of duties on foreign goods would be a diminution of British imports from foreign nations, the volume of British exports to them would diminish *pari passu*; not necessarily because such an action on Great Britain's part would provoke foreign hostility, but because international trade is largely a matter of barter, and foreign traders could not afford to take the same quantity of goods from Englishmen, if the volume of the commodities sent by the said foreign traders were lessened. Now for the bearing of the proposed union on Englishmen, considered as ocean carriers. Lord RIPON notes that one-fourth of the export trade of Great Britain consists of foreign and colonial produce intended for reëxportation, and the imposition of duties on foreign produce would involve an enormous immediate outlay for the extension of bonding facilities and the necessary charges for their use and maintenance. The result, he says, "would be to place such obstacles in the way of this trade that its transferrence elsewhere would speedily take place, goods which England now receives for reëxport being sent direct to their ultimate market, or through some other entrepôt where they would not be subjected to such disabilities. Thus, the position of Great Britain as the great market of the world, already threatened, would be destroyed." The conclusion is that the differential duties advocated "could not fail to seriously injure the carrying trade of Great Britain, and to react injuriously upon all its industries."

Especially patent is the injury to which British workingmen would be subjected through the customs union desired by the imperial federationists. The greater part of England's imports from foreign countries and nearly the whole of her imports from the colonies consist of food stuffs and w materials for use in manufactures. Under such circumstances the imposition of differential duties in favor of colonial products would be, on the one hand, a rise in the price of food, and on the other, a fall in industrial wages, the fall being made inevitable by the fact that profits are now so small that any advance in the cost of raw materials can only be met by a reduction of working expenses. Thus the British workman would be hit in both ways. His food would cost him more, and he would earn less wherewith to pay for it. They are credulous, indeed, who fancy that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN would go before the artisans of Birmingham as the sponsor of such a programme.

As to the assertion, often heard in Canada, that any loss of Great Britain's foreign trade would be insignificant, owing to the rapid increase of her colonial trade, this, Lord RIPON shows, is far from being borne out by figures. It is pointed out that, "taking imports and exports together, the trade of Great Britain with British possessions during 1854 to 1858 formed 25.8 per cent. of the total, and during 1889 to 1893 it formed 25.3 per cent." In other words, England's colonial trade has for thirty-five years remained practically stationary at about one-quarter of her total commerce. Flagrant, therefore, would be the absurdity of putting restrictions on the other three-quarters, on the plea that the rapid expansion of colonial markets reduces foreign trade to a secondary position.

A flimsy sentiment is the only bond which now unites Canada to Great Britain, and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN is even less likely than Lord RIPON to furnish, at the mother country's expense, the Canadians with the extra tie of selfish interest.

The Day of Electricity.

The recent combination between the Westinghouse Electric Company and the Baldwin Locomotive Works, the largest in the world, affords a practical demonstration of the fact that the use of electricity as a motor in transportation is to be greatly increased and extended.

It means that in the judgment of the men best informed as to the subject the time has come when their business interests require that in the manufacture of engines they must make ready for the application of electricity instead of continuing their construction with reference to the employment of steam only. They foresee a revolution in railway locomotion as a consequence of the successful experiments with electric locomotives, and they are combining their resources to be prepared to meet the new and great demand it will create.

Thus the problem of the use of electricity for such a purpose may now be regarded as solved, after many years of experiment and investigation. The solution has opened up a new field for mechanical activity which the largest interests engaged in locomotive construction have speedily undertaken to cultivate. The managers of both the companies combined for that end declare that so far they have no expectation that steam will be supplanted by electricity on the great railway lines, but they recognize that the extensive use of electricity as an aid and supplement to steam has become inevitable; and they have united to assist in its forthcoming development by the more economical and improved manufacture of electrical locomotives.

The steam railroads, also, are discovering that as a means of self-protection against competing electric roads, in suburban traffic, for instance, they are likely to be compelled to make extensive use of the new agent. Electricity permits, and its profitable employment requires, that its motive force shall be put to constant service. By its means trains can be run with very brief interruptions and at small proportionate expense, and hence its superiority to steam on the short distances of suburban travel, so enormous in amount, seems to be unquestionable. It would enable a railway to run its trains in almost continuous procession, so that the traveller would find the transportation ready for him whenever he arrived at the station, or, at most, he would have to wait for it for a few minutes only. He would not have to consult a time table and exhaust himself in hurrying to catch a train to save himself from a cold dinner or from the reprobation of his employer.

Moreover, the electric lines are gradually becoming continuous between large centres of population, running through town after town; and inevitably they will be consolidated in systems, which will make their competition with the steam roads still more serious, if those are not prepared to meet it by themselves making use of the electric motor. The railroad situation has been changed radically by the introduction of the new agent, and the railroads accordingly must adjust themselves to the novel conditions or suffer because of them. At present the prospect of the use of electricity in long hauls on the great trunk lines seems at least far distant. Those concerned in this manufacturing combination say that they are not influenced immediately by any such outlook; but they must foresee that eventually the motor which demonstrates its superiority in the more restricted sphere is sure to be adapted and developed for the largest and broadest use. They are making ready for the coming day of the general triumph of the electric motor over steam.

The two companies thus united for the improvement and more economical construction of the electric locomotive and for the supply of a great and wide demand for it, have a combined capital of about $20,000,000, and it is capital invested and managed by hard-headed and experienced men, expert in their knowledge and understanding of the subject of railway transportation and locomotion.

The Summer Naval Manœuvres.

The gathering of the ships of the North Atlantic station at the rendezvous off Newport is now in progress. Not all of the vessels belonging to the station are immediately available, the Atlanta being on duty in the Gulf, while the monitor Amphitrite is under orders to test the fitness of the new Port Royal dry dock.

These vessels, however, may take part later in the manœuvres. Meanwhile Admiral BUNCE can concentrate at Newport the flagship New York, 8,200 tons, 21 knots, and six 8-inch and twelve 4-inch guns, with sixteen smaller pieces; the Minneapolis and the Columbia, each of 7,375 tons and one 8-inch, two 6-inch, and eight 4-inch guns, with twenty auxiliary pieces, and of 22.8 and 23.073 knots respectively; the Cincinnati and the Raleigh, of 3,213 tons, probably 19 to 20 knots, for they have not yet been speeded, and one 6-inch and ten 5-inch guns, with fourteen auxiliary pieces, and the Montgomery, 2,094 tons, 19.05 knots, and nine 5-inch guns and ten smaller pieces. Next week the battle ship Texas will go into commission at Norfolk, with her 6,315 tons, 17 knots, and two 12-inch and six 6-inch guns, besides twenty-four smaller pieces. Perhaps she will join the squadron of manœuvre before the season is over. Now awaiting her complement is the Maine, of 6,682 tons, 17 knots, four 10-inch and six 6-inch guns, and twenty smaller pieces. The Maine also should join the Atlantic squadron in autumn.

Out of these ten vessels, including those now ready and those that may be hoped for later in the year, there can be gathered the most powerful steel fleet ever assembled under our flag; and, indeed, it would be easy to secure two fleets for evolution, to simulate the movements of two hostile forces. But for some time, and until a larger part of the possible vessels shall be assembled, the exercises are likely to consist largely of fleet drills and target practice.

As the years go on, the tendency will doubtless be to hold more and more thorough squadron manœuvres for the vessels of the North Atlantic station, especially when they are not required for duty in foreign waters. Thus this station can be used for training purposes, and for supplying the needs of foreign stations. When our fleet in the Pacific has increased sufficiently, it will be possible to maintain a similar system there, holding also a second set of summer manœuvres on that coast.

The Rural Republican Senators.

An amusing manifestation of the disposition of some Republican partisans to interfere in matters which do not concern them has been witnessed during the past two weeks in connection with certain candidates for Senator on the Republican ticket in up-State districts.

The Republicans of the city of New York have not had a member of their party in the State Senate since the session of 1891. Since the election of 1883, twelve years ago, two Republicans only have been elected in Senate districts of this city, both of them owing their success to Democratic divisions, and not to the preponderance of Republican votes. While the Republicans of New York city have been making this poor showing, the up-State Republicans have been standing to their guns, with much better success. They have regularly returned Republican Senators. Now, however, there is a great outcry among New York city Republicans, through Republican journals, against the renomination of certain Senators: "Ontario Is on Fire! Mighty Flame of Indignation Against RAINES! The Whole Region Aroused! Reputable Republicans Rallying to HAMLIN'S Standard!" Such is a specimen headline. Here is another headline: "Out Against RAINES! Lieutenant-Governor SAXTON Speaks His Mind! Words of Wisdom for Ontario!"

JOHN RAINES of the Ontario Senatorial district, elected in 1894 to succeed SAXTON, Lieutenant-Governor, is the chief object of attack just now; but other Republican Senators who have incurred factional opposition, not in their own districts, or among their own constituents, but among the Republicans of New York city, are to be opposed with equal vehemence. The plain fact of the matter is, there is now an excellent prospect that the Republicans of the city of New York, in their uncommon eagerness to interfere, admonish, and threaten the Republicans in the interior, may suffer again in the complete overturn of their candidates in this town. The responsibility for this strange interference with the freedom of action of rural Republicans is commonly attributed to the bewildering political strategy of the Hon. WARNER MILLER.

What makes this recent manifestation more peculiar than it might otherwise seem to observers, is the fact that but for the votes of these Republican Senators, who have stood by the standard of their party when it was deserted by Republicans in New York, the local success of the Republicans last year in New York city would have been barren and unsubstantial. The Power of Removal bill, for instance, passed the Legislature without a solitary vote by a New York city Republican in its favor in the Senate, where the chief pressure was exercised against it. The simple reason was that not a single New York Republican Senator had been sent there by the city districts to vote on that, or on any other matter. Yet RAINES, LEXOW, HIGGINS, COGGESHALL, and ROBERTSON have been opposed by the New York Republicans, who would have been powerless, without their votes and aid, to get through the bill giving Col. STRONG the summary powers of officegiving which have put the local Republicans upon their feet, politically.

The recent signs of Republican hostility to the renomination of these up-State Republicans are an invitation to laughter.

Mr. Whitney's Sense of Humor.

One of the most original and most ingenious political theories now current, is that it is a part of the third term scheme to bring out periodically and systematically in the newspapers the name of ex-Secretary WHITNEY as an alternative proposition. The alleged purpose is to restrain and keep in check until the proper moment the otherwise uncontrollable enthusiasm which might demand too prematurely the renomination of Mr. CLEVELAND, as the nation's sole hope. The working of this process is described by the Washington correspondent of the *Cincinnati Enquirer* in a letter which we print elsewhere.

Our esteemed contemporary in Cincinnati does not regard this use of Mr. WHITNEY'S name, if in fact it is so used for the purpose alleged, as very complimentary to that gentleman. The *Enquirer* seems to think that Mr. WHITNEY ought to do something about it.

Our own impression is that he will do nothing about it. Besides being a very good-natured person, ready in an unusual degree to sacrifice himself for the benefit of his friends, Mr. WHITNEY possesses a quiet sense of humor which is worth more than a million dollars to him.

An interesting instance of the rapidity with which civilization advances nowadays is furnished by the dozen blacks from Cuba now stopping at a Christopher street hotel, on their way back to the African home from which they were stolen some twenty or thirty years ago. They are all middle-aged persons, the oldest being 50, the youngest 36; yet all are old enough to have been taken away from Africa by the slavers at the age of fourteen or fifteen, an age when they could distinctly remember what they left behind; to have endured the horrors of the passage across the sea in a sailing slave ship, and those of slave life on Cuban sugar plantations; to have seen and profited by the emancipation of their class in Cuba, and to have derived benefit from STANLEY's great discovery of the Congo only eighteen years ago. Illiterate though they are, they have been in constant communication of late with their friends and relatives in Africa, and will return with a fair assurance of finding them again. Postal communication with the heart of the Congo region is now such that these helpless, lately emancipated slaves have found it possible to exchange messages by mail with individuals in the remote villages of a land totally unknown to us half a generation ago, and still hardly out of the first stage of exploration.

These men seem to be of more than average intelligence and determination. They have clear ideas of what they intend to do. From some European port they will be transported to Kabinda or Boma, at the mouth of the Congo, and, after six months spent there to become acclimatized, will start on the long journey up the river to their native villages, where they will till the ground. They have labored in Cuba until they have accumulated some savings, and should make desirable immigrants. They report that since the decline in the Cuban sugar industry, ten or a dozen years ago, with the consequent reduction in wages, native-born Africans have been returning from Cuba to their own country by ship loads. It is these men who will best and most naturally spread what they have learned of civilization among their savage countrymen. It is a pity that all they can take with them is the experience of a field hand on a sugar plantation, purposely kept in gross ignorance, but with a lively sense of harsh treatment by overseers and masters.

There is a firm in an Indiana town which supplies Mr. CLEVELAND with patent fish-line sinkers. Writing recently on the philosophy of sinkers, the President sagaciously remarked:

"I am of the opinion that a sinker that can be easily put on or taken off the line when in use would meet a constant need of the fisherman, especially when the tide necessitates the use of different weights of leads within a short time."

That is sound and true and it applies with equal force to sinkers and to political principles.

Chicago newspapers boast that there are creatures in the Chicago River every bit as frightful and disgusting as the sea serpent, even if they are not so large.—*Rochester Democrat.*

Everything has its use. These hideous river inhabitants are all enumerated and they appear in the Chicago Directory, indicating a total population considerably larger than that of Paris.

A correspondent in Brooklyn writes:

"I quite agree with what you say of the Scotch genius for narration. But the same genius extends to their poetry."

Yes, and it extends even to their whiskey.

THE PERIODICAL WHITNEY ARTICLE.

Are Mr. Cleveland's Friends Using the ex-Secretary's Name as a Brake?

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The inference that Mr. Whitney is being used as stalking horse is almost positive. That he is being moved as a pawn on the Presidential chess board is an idea that appeals to the man of alert comprehension. There must be ten months of travelling over rough political roads before the next National Convention meets. The officeholders get prematurely zealous in the third-term idea. They overwork it, and a rough lock has to be put on occasionally. Mr. Whitney is used as a brake. In spite of his own declaration that he is not a candidate for the nomination for the Presidency, he is periodically thrown into the arena when the third-term movement is in danger of destroying itself. Then, after a playful and relaxing recess with the accomplished ex-Secretary, the Cleveland boom is insidiously introduced again. Part of the programme is for the officeholders, playing and probably believing that they are the people, to get indignant at the mention of any other name than that of the sage of Buzzard's Bay.

So works the mighty scheme to impress the people with the notion that there are only two possibilities for the Democratic Presidential nomination. Mr. Cleveland cannot adapt himself to all the phases of sunshine and shade in the party situation. He must have a buffer occasionally. Mr. Whitney is selected as the man who, on account of his former relations with the President, could not stand against him.

The circuit is confined to two names. When a breach comes in the third-term movement, which might invite a popular demand for Vice-President Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois, or Col. William R. Morrison of the same State, or Gov. Claude Matthews of Indiana, or ex-Gov. James S. Campbell of Ohio, or Senator David B. Hill of New York, or ex-Gov. Roswell P. Flower of the same State, or Secretary John G. Carlisle of Kentucky, or Senator Arthur P. Gorman of Maryland, or ex-Gov. Russell of Massachusetts, or some other prominent and competent Democrat, the name of William C. Whitney is thrown in with a blare of brass. Then the third term is gradually pushed to the front again till it palls once more on the public attitude, and, presto, we have Whitney again.

From an editorial article in the same newspaper.

This game is something like the Strasburg Cathedral clock. Mr. Whitney might be satisfied in being one of two figures making their appearance at stated intervals, provided he had half the time. Under such circumstances he could afford to take the fifty per cent. chance of being outside at the striking of the Convention clock, but the trouble is that Mr. Cleveland wants the matter so regulated that he shall be in and Whitney out only at such times as shall suit his personal convenience or interests.

RUM, CRIME, AND MISFORTUNE.

Dr. Funk States the Prohibitionist Idea of Excise Law Enforcement.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There is a side to Sunday selling that the public mind just now should be fixed upon; it underlies the entire liquor problem. Permit me to illustrate it: In your to-day's issue, several of your columns drip with blood. Mr. Lane, "a respected citizen" of Kentucky, recovering from a drunken debauch, shoots to death unprovoked a father and son; in a saloon row in New York a man is scalped, and the ambulance surgeon narrowly escapes being cut to pieces by drunken rowdies; in Brooklyn a drunken driver rips open the nose of his horse. These are but sample drops of the daily deluge of crime and sorrow caused by liquor. Gladstone says that it is the business of a Government to make it easy to do right and hard to do wrong.

But, it is urged, "A man's drinking is his business; it is his personal affair; he drinks and takes the consequences." Did that drunken driver or that Brooklyn horse take the consequences? Did Lane and Carl Rodenbauch and his son take the consequences of Lane's drinking? "But," we are told, "we must not interfere with the personal liberty of men to drink or not drink." The genius of our Government guarantees life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. What chance have the tens of thousands of children of drunkards in this city to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness? Have not the taxpayers any personal liberty or rights that should be considered?

Judge Noah Davis says that his experience for a score of years on the bench is that 80 per cent. of all the crimes that came before him would not have come had it not been for the traffic in alcoholic liquor. Dr. Willard Parker, one of the ablest physicians New York has ever had, in his preface to the Lectures of Dr. B. W. Richardson, said that this liquor traffic is responsible for 35 per cent. of idiocy, 45 per cent. of lunacy, 80 per cent. of crime, 90 per cent. of pauperism, and 10 per cent. of all deaths. Apply that to New York city and it means that last year the liquor traffic is responsible for the birth of scores of idiots, 400 lunatics, the sending of 70,000 men and women to jail, the pauperizing of 10,000 families, and for 4,000 deaths.

Let our taxpaying, hard common sense business citizens climb the rounds of these figures and get a clear conception of this monster evil which demands seven days in the week to do its awful work and demands exemption from obeying the law, an exemption that is not granted to businesses that are making the city prosperous, morally clean, and happy. It is estimated that one-third of all the enormous evil wrought by liquor results from Sunday sales. Surely Roosevelt is right in demanding that liquor sellers obey the laws, as the rest of us have to do. Here are a few truths that apply: Charles Sumner said, "If you would save the nation you must sanctify it as well as fortify it." Said Pomeroy, "The liquor traffic is responsible for by far the larger part of the evils that afflict labor." Every child has a right to be well-born. It is the business of the city Government to help in every way it can to this end. As Byron said of enfeebled and degenerate Greece:

When Grecian mothers should give birth to men,
Then mayest thou be restored, and not till then.

Whatever tends to help children to a healthy birth and healthy surroundings, moral and physical, is a fundamental blessing. Anti-liquor is the incoming tide. I. K. FUNK.

NEW YORK, Aug. 7.

The Height of the Season in Colored Society at the Capital.

From the Washington Colored American.

The Afro-American ladies of this city are speaking of having a baby show in September.

The first Jersey watermelons of the season came in market this week.

A REED BOOM IN PENNSYLVANIA?

Spirited Communication from a Republican Who Thinks Harrison Is Too Slow.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I must commence this communication with an apology for addressing it to you. My reasons for so doing are that I know of no Republican journal in the country at the present writing that is not too "conservative" to publish it, and if published in any other Democratic journal than THE SUN it would be alleged to come through a partisan source; but its publication in THE SUN, which has a reputation for candor and fairness, will give it the status I desire.

There is so much talk nowadays of the wise and "conservative" Administration of President Harrison and so many deeply drawn sighs for a return to it that I desire to ask my fellow Republicans to stop and consider the truth about that Administration.

That it was a wise and "conservative" Administration I will not attempt to controvert. It was patriotic, too. But was it due entirely to Mr. Harrison that it was so? Was not his Secretary of State at least equally wise, patriotic, and "conservative?" Did he not have a wise, patriotic, and "conservative" Congress to frame legislation for his Administration? Why was it that such a wise, patriotic, and "conservative" Administration was kicked out of power so unceremoniously? The American people love wisdom, patriotism and conservatism.

It is my humble opinion that Mr. Harrison, who is so wise, patriotic, and conservative in speech, was not the same man in his practices. The American people did not like his treatment of his friends and those who made his Administration possible; they did not like his methods used for the purpose of perpetuating his Administration; they did not like his treatment of his Secretary of State and the Speaker of the House of Representatives; they did not take kindly to Son Russell running about the country organizing cliques to help "dad;" they didn't like the methods of Private Secretary "Lige" in editing press despatches in such a manner as to claim all credit for his boss and detract from others; they didn't like the scheme of giving Cabinet portfolios and diplomatic berths to the friends of a feared rival as premiums for treachery and ingratitude to that friend; they were disgusted with the attempt of a set of delegates who sold their tickets of admission to the Convention for $10 and $15 apiece, and, coming from States which could not contribute a single electoral vote, forcing upon them a "logical candidate" who was so illogical as to shelve his equally "logical" running mate for a man who it was believed could command the support of the friends of the idol of Republicans, who had been outraged, traduced, and belittled because his party loved him for his wisdom and patriotism. There are thousands of Republicans in the country who remember these things.

But, aside from these facts, was the Administration of Mr. Harrison any more "conservative" than that of Mr. Arthur or that of Mr. Cleveland? Is this country badly in need of a "conservative" Administration? I think not. The political conservatism of to-day means to let well enough alone. That policy might do for older countries, but this is a growing, progressive, and partially unsettled country. Conservatism is proper talk for the man who can order his special train, maintain his private yacht, and has his fortune made. But how about the great mass of the people, who are anxious, and the millions of money that are ready to develop to the utmost extent the great Northwest and the New South? How about the man who has his growing family and is concerned about their education and proper equipment for the duties of life in this country of countries, with its countless millions of fortunes yet unearned? They are in favor of aggressiveness; that aggressiveness that is consistent with God-fearing-and-loving justice; with energetic, honest conquest of new empires within our proper sphere—not with brutal selfishness, but for the mutual betterment of man; with that self-reliance that warms the American heart with pride in its nationality. They prefer the policy of cutting up into building lots and factory sites the 200-acre farm near town to rail-ing wheat on it "because dad did." They rejoiced to see the policy of waiting for more troops and better conditions before moving on Richmond superseded by that of "I'll light it out on this line if it takes all summer." They don't believe in leaving the face disfigured because the cuticle has been destroyed; they favor skin grafting. They are not content to let a friend die because the old family doctor says "it's no use, the blood is poisoned beyond relief," but they hustle for the fellow with the new idea of infusing new blood. They don't take kindly to the idea of letting the losing side make the game a "stand-off" by running it into the darkness; it warms the cockles of their hearts to hear the aggressive command, "Play ball!" They grow restive under the cry, "We can't do business; there is no quorum." They throw their hats in the air, no matter how conservative they are, over the Yankee candor that asserts, "I see Bill Jones and Jim Smith in the cloak room, and you bet your boots I'll count 'em!" They want a man to lead them who will be obeyed because it is a pleasure to obey superior wisdom, and not because he has patronage to bestow; a man who has for years stood among giants, with no one either sufficiently jealous or conceited to dispute his superior ability as a leader; a man who doesn't have to "go gunning" for delegates, but who has the ability to attract them; a man than whom none has a bigger head or heart, a typical Yankee, wide-awake, wise, patriotic, conservative in a proper sense, and aggressively broad and humane.

It is my humble opinion that such an Administration as a man of this character would be likely to give the country is what the industrious bread-winners of this country want. I have not considered the "hobo," Populist, and agitator. I leave them to the demagogue.

HARRISBURG, Aug. 7. JERE. CONNOLLY.

THE RED MAN AND OUR LANGUAGE.

Further Notes on Indian Words.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In a communication to your Sunday edition, Mr. Julian Ralph asks the meaning of the word "wiskinskie," used as an official title in the Tammany Society. The word was taken by the founders of that organization from "Carver's Travels," wherein, in a vocabulary of the Odjibway language, it is given as the name of the eye (literally, "his eye"). The proper spelling of the word is oshkinjig.

I would suggest that the word "hackamore," sent to Mr. Ralph from Colorado as the name of a riding halter, is a docked and corrupted form of "hákahmopi" (the vowel o nasalized), a Sioux name for a cord or rope.

The word "skatum," given by Mr. Ralph as a name for the service berry, appears in my list of plant names under the form "skatoon." There may be other variants of the word, which is a corruption of "misaskwatomin," the fruit of the "misaskwat," the Cree name of the shad bush.

The omission of the word "husk" from my article was accidental. It is an abbreviation of the Creek "póskita," (1) a fast, (2) a fest val preceded by fasting. I might have added the word "mingo," sometimes met with in books as the name of a chief, king, or governor among the Creeks, Choctaws, &c. It is a Choctaw word. I have to thank Mr. Chambers for his correction of the etymology that I gave of "winninish." My mistake was due to the erroneous notes that I had as to the habitat of the fish. It is curious that the Odjibway word meaning "poor in fat," should indicate the character of the fish's flesh as described by Mr. Chambers.

In a letter to THE SUN of Aug. 5 Mr. Theodore Roosevelt notes that I did not include in my article the word "cayuse," the name for small Indian horses in the far Northwest, and "whiskey-jack," a name for the Canada jay. The latter of these words appears in the same paragraph with "whiskey John," another corruption of the Indian word. "Cayuse" is not Indian. The peculiar breed of Indian pony, so called, obtained its name from the Cayuse Indians, among whom it originated, and whose former headquarters on the upper part of the Wallawalla River, affording excellent pasturage, allowed them to become extensive breeders of horses, and to keep large droves of them. The English name of these Indians, Cayuse, is a corruption of Callioux, the name applied to them by the French Canadians.

In some of the lists of words sent to THE SUN certain of the words are not American Indian. Thus, of Mr. H. Walsh's list, zebu comes to us from India; hummock is English; picayune is a corruption of the French "picaillon," the name of an old Piedmontese copper coin worth a little less than a centime; yam is African, and canuck is a word of uncertain origin. An intelligent French Canadian told Dr. J. H. Bartlett that it was a corruption of Connaught, the French Canadian name for an Irishman.

NEW YORK, Aug. 7. W. R. GERARD.

A Woman's Ideas Concerning Notoriety.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I would kiss the hand of the woman "Isabel W.," who is the author of the letter entitled "Selling Ice on Sunday." It is such acts as those referred to that create anarchy and riot. Let me tell "Isabel W." why it is "that a large body of people should be using all their powers in endeavoring to save a justly condemned murderess," instead of helping the downtrodden poor. It is simply that in assisting the poor and lowly one achieves no notoriety. Our name is not printed in the papers. We do not attract attention to ourselves. If you want to be anything in these days you must enforce the law (of your own choice), throw bouquets at a murderer, advocate woman's rights, wear bloomers, and ride a bicycle. I would like to wager a big apple that "Isabel W." does not, and that she is not one of those homely, misshapen, miserable specimens of the female sex whom God has either cursed by omission or commission, and who cannot attract a man except by some form of self advertisement. ISABEL'S ENDORSER.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8.

The Name for the Ship.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A more appropriate name than that of Washington cannot be found for the proposed new battle-ship. LAWRENCE J. HOPES.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8.

TREES ON PUBLIC LANDS.

Efforts to Be Made to Protect the Forest Reserves from Depredations.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—At the next session of Congress strong efforts will be made to procure the passage of a law for protecting from the ravages of fire and the axe the public woodlands, and particularly the forest reserves.

Under the Harrison Administration, in 1891, the President was empowered by Congress to withdraw timber lands from sale and to set them apart for forestry purposes. Millions of acres were promptly secured, and at the last session of Congress the number of such reserves was reported as seventeen. They included: in Arizona, the Grand Cañon, 1,851,520 acres; in California, the San Gabriel, 555,520; the Sierra, 4,096,000; the San Bernardino, 737,280, and the Trabuco, 49,920; in Colorado, the White River, 1,198,080; the Pike's Peak, 184,320; the Plum Creek, 179,200; the South Platte, 683,520, and the Battlement Mesa, 858,240; in New Mexico, the Pecos River, 311,040; in Oregon, the Bull Run, 142,080; the Cascade Range, 4,492,800, and the Ashland, 18,560; in Washington, the Pacific, 967,680; in Wyoming, the Yellowstone, adjoining the park, 1,239,040 acres.

Here are 17,564,800 acres, from which, however, may be subtracted such small areas as had already been carefully appropriated. The seventeenth reserve is the Afognak, in Alaska, the area of which is not exactly estimated. The purpose of the reserves is to save the forest growth upon them, in order to secure favorable conditions of water flow, and, in general, to keep supplies of timber for public use and enjoyment. Yet, owing to the small appropriations, it has been found impracticable to detail any special agents for their protection, so that they are still as open to trespassers as the unreserved lands, although they cannot be sold. It has been urged that one superintendent, with a force of assistants, should be placed on each of these reservations, but an act introduced at the last session of Congress proposed instead that the Secretary of War should be authorized to make such a detail of troops for the purpose as the Secretary of the Interior might require.

Since that legislation was not finally secured, it may be asked why the War Department cannot act on its own authority, as it does in protecting the Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grant, and Sequoia Parks by details of troops. The answer is that this authority cannot be exercised lawfully without the express direction of Congress, the Judge Advocate-General having given an opinion to that effect, on which the War Department felt bound to act. There is no doubt, however, that the detail of troops to some or all of the forest reserves just spoken of would be the last method of protection. As trained men, acting under competent officers, and without any extra cost to the Government, except for their camps and barracks in the woods, they would furnish a most efficient and economical guard while giving the details practice in field duties. It is therefore probable that efforts will be renewed at the coming session to procure such details from the army for the forest reserves, especially as numerous complaints have been made for some years past that stockmen drive their sheep in these reserves, thus destroying the herbage, and in some cases, carelessly or purposely, setting fire to the trees.

This part of the proposed legislation is clear; but what seems to have hindered its enactment hitherto is a failure to settle upon methods of cutting and selling surplus timber, and of allowing it to be cut, also, for local uses. At present there has been a system of permits for obtaining timber; but if cutting is to be allowed at all, the Government should apparently receive a proper value for timber cut for sale, instead of making a gift of it as now.

About a dozen years ago a general estimate of the public woodlands undisposed of in the whole country made the area 73,000,000 acres, mostly on the slopes and crests of the far Western mountain ranges, the trees largely consisting of pines, spruces, firs, cedars, and redwoods. Since that time timber tracts have been sold, thus greatly reducing the estimate; but it is enough to know that the principal aim at present is to look after the forest reserves, of which only one, that which adjoined the Yellowstone Park, can apparently rely at all on supervision by the army. Under existing acts, there have been some attempts to secure the timber lands. In the States of California, Oregon, and Washington, private citizens could purchase 160-acre tracts each for their own use; but it has been alleged that millions of acres have been taken up under this act and immediately transferred to lumbermen, often foreigners, thus preventing the whole intent of the act. Again, in the Rocky Mountain States, while timber lands could not be sold, citizens were allowed to take timber without payment for domestic and mining purposes, and railroad companies could take it for construction along their right of way. The result was a good deal of promiscuous pillaging, when it would have been better to provide some uniform method of obtaining timber by purchase where this was desired.

A committee of Congress reported some time ago that settlements upon timber lands in the States and Territories just spoken of, under the Homestead act and preëmption laws, were "usually a mere pretence for getting the timber," as the lands rarely possessed any agricultural value. As to cutting timber from mineral lands, "perhaps not one acre in 5,000 in the States and Territories named is mineral, and perhaps not one in 5,000 of what may be mineral is known to be such." The law of 1891 empowers the Interior Department to regulate the cutting of timber for domestic and railroad use, but in the lack of officers to enforce the regulations little can be hoped for.

In the last Congress the McRae bill was the leading measure on this subject, and it received the support of forestry associations and of persons interested in the subject of the preservation of timber. Under it could be provided a method of substituting sales of timber, after proper advertisement and bidding, for the present system of permits, and it also allowed a taking of timber for local uses. Probably this will be the basis of efforts made at the coming Congress to secure legislation on this important subject. One estimate of the timber stolen during the years from 1881 to 1891, inclusive, was $54,135,481, and of the stumpage as $10,098,627, while the amounts actually recovered in that period, partly by compromise, were $1,009,243, which did little more than cover the appropriations for protective service, aggregating $780,000. Several years ago the losses by actual theft or unlawful cutting were much greater than they appear to be now, but guards of troops in the leading forest reserves would doubtless be a great source of protection.

Why Do Fools Sail Boats?

From the Hartford Courant.

What makes a man of 30 or 40 take a sailboat when he can't sail it, put in his friends or family for ballast, and go right out to capsizing and tragedy? You can't answer that any more than you can explain how such a fool has made out to survive to his present age. Why didn't he reach his deserved fate long before? No one can say. Enough that it does overtake him and he gets from ten lines to a column in the paper, according to how big a fool he was.

At the shore we see sailboats run away out into the Sound, until they can hardly be seen, and when the clouds come up and it begins to thunder the venturesome amateur who is away out there is the last to start for shelter. He doesn't know enough to know his danger.

So it goes each summer, and each summer has its long string of drowning tragedies for a part of its history. But, as we said before, no one summer does it up completely, so as to give civilization a fresh chance. A lot of people are drowned for their folly this year who lived through last year, which was just as good a year for drowning, and a lot will live through this year and go out and drown in 1896 as readily as if they were left.

Shall We Work the Trotting Horse to Death?

From the Buffalo Evening Times.

There is much logic in what THE SUN says about shorter trotting races. It is not an uncommon thing now for a horse attached to a sulky to go a half mile at a two-minute gait and a quarter at a speed rivaling Salvator's in his palmy days. When five or six and sometimes seven and eight heats are trotted very nearly at this pace the strain on a horse must be tremendous. Eventually he must break down under it. It seems likely that in the near future the trotting race will, as THE SUN says, be shorter. This year in Buffalo, however, the old plan will be in operation, except in special contests, and no doubt the great majority of horse lovers will be glad that it is.

The Editor Meant Well.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

JASPER, Ala., Aug. 2.—A Western Alabama editor was writing up a local theatrical entertainment recently, and he wanted to be particularly nice about it, so he mentioned the names of several