The Sun.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1895.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY SUN, *issued to-morrow morning, must be handed in this evening before 6 o'clock.*

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.

Two Democrats Who Are Not Rocks.

It is natural and proper to expect that the new Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, appointed to succeed Judge JACKSON, will be a citizen of New York. This State, which furnishes so large a part of the important cases going to that tribunal for final decision, has not been represented on the Bench since the death of Justice BLATCHFORD. The group of States from which Justice JACKSON came has another representative in the person of Justice HARLAN of Kentucky. Geographical and political considerations alike require the appointment of a New York Democrat.

But higher considerations than those of locality or of party demand the appointment of a man who will stand like a rock against all Populistic and Socialistic attempts to revolutionize our institutions.

The names of Mr. FREDERIC R. COUDERT and Mr. JAMES C. CARTER are mentioned as possible nominees for the judicial office which the President must soon fill.

Both are eminent in their profession, both are friends of Mr. CLEVELAND, both are New Yorkers and Democrats. Is either of them likely to strengthen a bench already weakened by the presence of a WHITE and a HARLAN?

At Cooper Union, on May 3, 1894, there was a mass meeting to protest against the delay of Congress in passing the WILSON protectionist Tariff bill, with its Populistic income tax appendage. Mr. COUDERT addressed the meeting. In his quizzically humorous way, he described the income tax as bad, dishonest, and undemocratic: "a carcass out of which the festering flies of lies and perjury constantly rise." On the question of the constitutionality of the tax he then expressed no opinion; perhaps he had given the subject no thought. Mr. COUDERT disliked the income tax, but his hatred of it was of so exceedingly mild a character that he regarded the principle involved as of infinitely less importance than the prompt passage of Prof. WILSON'S protectionist Tariff bill. For, after filing his objections to the Populist income tax and getting in a few friendly hits at Brother CARTER, Mr. COUDERT went on to say:

"Now, go ahead and pass such laws, if best you think, but don't say when you do it that you are intelligent Democrats, for you are not. And yet, such is the importance of passing a tariff bill that I swallow it, income tax and all. If we have to swallow a medicine, let us swallow it like a man."

He swallows too easily. A great constitutional lawyer with so good-natured a palate will be more useful to his country in some other place than the Supreme Court of the United States.

At the same mass meeting Mr. JAMES C. CARTER also spoke. He did not regard the income tax as so bad a thing as it seemed to Brother COUDERT. On the whole, in a general way he considered the income tax as "the most fair, just, and equitable of all taxes." He would rather it were not in the Tariff bill, but was ready to waive that objection as insignificant:

"Feeling as I do, I am opposed to the income-tax feature of this bill; but when the question comes as to whether we shall have a reform tariff or not, the question of income tax or no income tax is as dust in the balance."

So Brother CARTER, like Brother COUDERT, was ready to swallow, and did swallow, the outrageous project of Socialism which was subsequently declared to be unconstitutional. And Mr. CARTER'S deglutition was so easy that, having swallowed the Populist income tax, he came to like it very much, and accepted a retainer to defend it before the Supreme Court of the United States. In his speech to that tribunal on March 12 of the present year the eminent Democratic jurisconsult warned the Court that unless it yielded gracefully to the demands of Socialism the revolutionists would "find a way to the accomplishment of their purpose, if need be, over the ruins of Constitutions and of Courts." It were a wise thing, said Mr. JAMES C. CARTER to the Court, not to provoke such a conflict.

We think that neither Mr. FREDERIC R. COUDERT nor Mr. JAMES C. CARTER, estimable gentlemen though they be, is just the rock that is needed at this time for the repair of the last bulwark of our Constitutional rights and liberties.

The Mora Claim.

The report current at Madrid that Spain does not propose to pay interest on the MORA claim introduces a new element into the discussion of this matter.

The joint resolution passed by Congress at its last session called upon the President not only to insist upon the payment of the sum of $1,500,000, which Spain had long before agreed to furnish in settlement of this claim, but also to insist upon "interest from the time when the said amount should have been paid, under the aforesaid agreement." It is therefore plain that any proposal by Spain to pay merely the principal of the claim would not be such satisfaction as Congress requires, and also that any acceptance by the Administration of the principal, without the interest, or with only a part of the interest, would violate the expressed will of Congress.

The reason why the payment of interest was insisted upon may be found in the facts laid before Congress at the last session. ANTONIO MAXIMO MORA was condemned to death by court martial, and his estates were confiscated during his absence, in the year 1870. Thus for a quarter of a century the Spanish Government has had the use of his property, and there is no less reason for paying interest upon it during that period than for restoring the principal. Again, Spain, under the republic, ordered the restoration of his estates, and this order was confirmed by the monarchy in 1876, but subsequently Spain offered to pay, in lieu of restoring the estates, the round sum of $1,500,000. It was shown in the report of the House Foreign Committee that the receipts alone from the estate more than covered that sum:

"It appears from the petitions of the Spanish syndics, SAINZ and ARANGUREN, to the Director-General of the treasury in Havana, that they had deposited in the royal treasury, to the credit of MORA'S estates, up to Dec. 3, 1877, the sum of $2,317,000, and that the estates were allowed to go to ruin because the Treasurer refused to furnish the syndics with the necessary funds for repairs and taxes, or even the wages of the laborers on the sugar plantations. As MORA'S debts amounted to less than $800,000, the Spanish treasury had received more than enough to pay those debts and the stipulated indemnity besides."

It therefore appears that when, in 1876, the restoration of the estates was orginally ordered, had the sum of $1,500,000, since substituted, been paid, Spain would actually have made money out of the transaction. Again, the acceptance of Spain's final offer of $1,500,000, after years of postponement, was made by our Government in 1886. Evidently Spain admits that she is now bound by the agreement thus accepted, and thus we have nearly nine years' interest palpably due on this claim. The only reason why the settlement has been postponed is to be found in the endeavor of Spain to offset against the MORA case certain claims which her citizens made against the United States. Our Government refused to complicate a matter definitely agreed upon with claims that had never been liquidated, although it long ago expressed its willingness to agree to an arrangement for considering the Spanish claims, if one could be made within a reasonable period.

It is not surprising that Congress has determined that Spain shall not deprive those concerned in the MORA claim of the interest which the amount might have earned had it been paid nine years ago. "The Spanish authorities themselves being judges, it would scarcely be possible for the United States to suffer a more grievous wrong or a more evident denial of justice than this in the person of one of its citizens." Such were the words of the House committee.

It would be bad enough to base the attitude of the United States toward the current struggle of the patriots in Cuba upon the desire to win a diplomatic triumph in the MORA affair; but it would be out of the question for the Administration to settle it on any terms but those which Congress has definitely prescribed.

A Mammoth "If" from Bar Harbor.

An alleged interview with Mr. WHITNEY at Bar Harbor, as printed in the *New York World*, contains the subjoined passage:

"As for the third term, I can only say this: If you went among the Democrats of the country, and could ask every actual Democratic voter whom he really preferred as President, *wholly apart from any considerations of the feasibility or propriety of a third term*, I think a majority of them would tell you that they preferred Mr. CLEVELAND to any other man as President."

We have italicized a certain clause in this passage, because, if Mr. WHITNEY really uttered the sentiments attributed to him, the qualification seems to be important.

A majority of Democrats, in Mr. WHITNEY'S opinion, would prefer Mr. CLEVELAND for President, if the third term issue were not involved; or, as he puts it, "wholly apart from any considerations of the feasibility or propriety of a third term."

But that is not the question. The question is whether a majority of the Democrats of the country would prefer Mr. CLEVELAND for President again, the feasibility or propriety of a third term *being taken into consideration*.

No danger of losing sight of that consideration! It will strike the mind of every "actual Democrat" with the force and persistency of a first-class triphammer.

Still assuming the genuineness of the interview, we observe that Mr. WHITNEY carefully abstains from expressing any opinion as to the prospects of the success of a campaign, or intrigue, or plot, to procure for the Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND a third term. His utterances on the subject of a third term resolve themselves, upon analysis, into one of those polite and politic compliments which no man in America knows how to frame more charmingly, or less expensively: "If it were not for the third term, the Democrats would be glad to have Mr. CLEVELAND as their candidate."

By a fortunate coincidence, another eminent Democrat and sincere and loyal upholder of Democratic principles took up the theme on Saturday just where Mr. WHITNEY left it. Mr. WATTERSON is not always so polite as Mr. WHITNEY, but he is not less truthful. He supplies the logical conclusion to Mr. WHITNEY'S remarks: "If by any concatenation of miracles Mr. CLEVELAND should be the nominee, he would not carry a county in the United States."

Health Statistics of London.

We find in *Nature* a summary of the last health report issued by the medical officer of the London County Council. While the facts brought out are on the whole creditable to the sanitary condition of the British metropolis, they are fraught in some respects with warning and suggestion to other cities of the first class.

What actuaries call "the expectation of life" has undoubtedly improved in London. The statistics for the period of 1881-90, compared with those for 1861-70, show that the expectation of life of males at five years of age has increased from 47.49 years to 50.77—that is to say, there has been during the interval a gain of 3.28 years. As regards females, the expectation of life has risen from 50.87 to 54.43, a gain of 3.55 years. At subsequent ages, also, there is in all cases an improvement, though it is less marked. A comparison of these tables with those compiled in Manchester and Glasgow for 1881-90 proves that the expectation of life in London exceeds that enjoyed by the inhabitants of either of those large cities. We note, further, that the death rate was lower in London than in Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds, or Sheffield. Moreover, it was lower than that of New York or of the majority of the European capitals. While the death rate in London was 21.3 per 1,000, it was 23.9 in New York, 21.8 in Paris, 22.3 in Rome, 24 in Vienna, and 30.6 in St. Petersburg.

Yet, while the death rate, taken as a whole, reflects credit on the sanitary conditions of the British metropolis, the mortality from zymotic diseases attains alarming proportions, and is in fact exceeded among capitals only by Stockholm and Vienna. During the period under review (1881-90) there was an increase of fatal cases of smallpox and scarlet fever, while influenza and pneumonia claimed a number of victims greatly in excess of the average of the preceding ten years. The most serious problem, however, which the health authorities of London have to face, is the serious increase in the mortality from diphtheria. Some have attributed the augmentation of the number of deaths from this cause to alterations in the classification of diseases, deaths formerly registered as croup being now ascribed to diphtheria; while others have found a cause in sewer ventilators, or have laid stress on the facilities for infection afforded by increased school attendance. The objection to these explanations is that they are circumstances shared by all the other great cities and towns of Great Britain; yet London alone is preëminent in its death rate from diphtheria. Neither is it certain that diphtheria tends generally to increase in densely inhabited centres. The experience of Germany is to the contrary, the result of an elaborate inquiry in a number of German cities during the years 1883-93 being to show a decrease in the death rate from this disease. Evidently the problem of diphtheria in London is as yet unsolved, and what is needed, according to *Nature*, is the appointment of a commission composed of scientific men qualified to undertake a drastic investigation.

The diminution of the London death rate from typhoid fever is manifestly due to the great pains taken in the matter of filtration by the water companies. Reports made by Dr. PERCY FRANKLAND to the Local Government Board demonstrate that by the filtering processes which the Thames water undergoes before delivery, as much as 99 per cent. of the bacteria present are removed. We add that the numerous inspections of dairies and milk shops, as well as cow sheds, made by officers of the County Council, furnished convincing proof that zymotic diseases are disseminated broadcast from such centres of infection. The inference is that the practice of drinking cow's milk raw, which is fast becoming obsolete on the Continent of Europe, ought to be abandoned also in Great Britain and the United States.

The First Skirmish of a Great Fight.

JOHN RAINES, the PLATT Republican Senator, has triumphed in the Ontario county primaries over his insufficient local Republican adversaries there, formidably reënforced, however, by the anti-PLATT Republicans from other counties, and particularly the BROOKFIELD men from New York city. The latter have been canvassing Ontario for more than a week.

There are twenty voting townships in Ontario, and of these RAINES carried sixteen on Saturday. Under the new apportionment, the counties of Ontario and Wayne constitute the Forty-second district. It has long been the usage of Republicans in the interior of the State to assign in turn by counties the honor of a Senatorial nomination, equivalent to an election in a strong Republican district. Under the former apportionment, the Twenty-sixth Senatorial district, of which Wayne and Ontario formed a part, was, prior to a year ago, represented in the State Senate by CHARLES T. SAXTON, now Lieutenant-Governor, and a resident of Wayne county. Mr. SAXTON was elected in 1889, in 1891, and in 1893, and by an agreement entered into by the Republicans of the district, the nomination was given to Ontario in 1895. When Mr. SAXTON was nominated for Lieutenant-Governor by the Republican Convention in Saratoga in September last, it was agreed that his successor in the Senate should be chosen from Ontario county. Accordingly, Mr. RAINES was put in nomination last year, and Ontario county became entitled to the choice of the candidate this year.

The new Forty-second district has some peculiar political conditions. Wayne county has a larger population than Ontario, but Ontario casts a larger vote. Though Ontario casts a larger vote than does Wayne, it has in the Republican Convention only seven delegates, Wayne having eight. This makes it possible for the Wayne county delegates to defeat, if they desire to defeat, the renomination of RAINES, notwithstanding the compact heretofore made to give Ontario the nomination. Apparently, the theory of the anti-PLATT Republicans is that anything to beat the Tioga man is justifiable; and to such an extreme act of party rebellion as the violation of their compact the advisory statesmen from other counties are counselling the Wayne Republicans.

So far as the Democrats of the city of New York are concerned, the choice of a Wayne county Republican, or of an Ontario county Republican, to represent in the Senate the overwhelmingly Republican Forty-second district, is a matter of very little interest. A Democratic Senator from that district would be a useful recruit in a Legislature where Democrats will be needed and welcomed, but whether the Republican elected be of the PLATT or of the anti-PLATT variety is not at all important.

But there is another view of the matter which does concern New York Democrats. In their eagerness to overtake and overthrow a PLATT candidate, the anti-PLATT Republicans advocate such political tactics as the invasion of a distant district and the violation of a square compact. Now, the PLATT Republicans, who are well represented in the city of New York, may as a mild measure of reprisal set themselves against BROOKFIELD candidates hereabouts. And it is a fact that there is not one Senatorial district in either New York or Brooklyn which the Democrats cannot carry this year in the event of a faction fight between Republicans. Thus the Ontario-Wayne conflict may prove to be more than a local skirmish. It may be the very beginning of Republican hostilities all along the line.

The End of That Chapter.

The announcement is published that Col. W. C. P. BRECKINRIDGE of Kentucky is out of politics and will never again accept or apply for a public office.

The punishment of this brilliant Kentuckian has been severe; but it has been rendered severer than it need have been by his persistent defiance of the healthy sentiment demanding his immediate retirement to private life.

He apparently believed that he could live down his shame just as well in a conspicuous station as in obscurity; and for that reason he has been treated a little more harshly than would otherwise have been the case by a world which certainly does not lack charity for sinners when they have once bent the knee.

The tidings of an attack by the mob upon St. Paul's Institute at Tarsus came at a bad time for the two ships that make up Admiral KIRKLAND'S command on the European station. The Marblehead had arrived at Gravesend to go into dry dock for the purpose of having her bottom cleaned and painted, and the San Francisco was also preparing to be docked at Havre. Both vessels, it is said, were to have been sent back to the Levant a few months hence, since, in the disturbed condition of Armenia, they would be more useful there than in the English Channel, but with the desire not to expose the men needlessly to the cholera, their departure had been fixed for a time beyond the summer season. However, one or the other ship could go to Asia Minor immediately in case of need.

The exploit of the signal corps in exchanging heliograph messages between Pike's Peak and Denver, a distance of 120 miles, shows how wonderfully this system has been developed in our army. That it is a practical appliance in warfare was shown during Gen. MILES'S campaign against GERONIMO nine years ago, when the news of every movement of the hostiles, and even of signs of possible movement, was flashed by mirrors from point to point, one such message travelling 500 miles from station to station in four hours. This method of communication, where there were no telegraph wires, not only proved most valuable to the troops, but, it is said, disheartened the hostiles when they learned of its uses.

In promptly and quietly arranging to fix upon a certain line running through the Bashi Channel as the boundary between the Philippine Islands and Formosa, Spain and Japan have shown good sense.

The Batan, called on some maps the Bashi, Islands lie about midway between Formosa and Luzon, and the Bashi Channel is between that little group and Formosa, so that Japan could not well be much more restricted than she is under this agreement. But for that very reason Spain may well ratify the protocol which her Minister at Yokohama has signed, while Japan can be satisfied with her ample area for navigation around her new possessions, and her title to a little group east of the southern point of Formosa, especially in view of her friendly relations with her new neighbor.

There was once some talk of Spain's allying herself with Russia and France, through a real or pretended fear of danger from Japan's extension southward, but a peaceful agreement of the boundary question is much better.

HENRY CLAY had not even one term. He would rather be right than be President.

The Maryland Democratic Convention, dominated and absolutely controlled by Senator GORMAN, adopted resolutions complimentary to Mr. CLEVELAND. The Iowa Democratic Convention, wherein a victory was won for sound money and a safe currency, ignored the President, while eulogizing the Tariff act, which Mr. CLEVELAND denounced and refused to sign.

WHAT MR. QUAY WILL DO.

The Great Reformer's Purposes in Case He Is Elected as Chairman.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 12.—Senator M. S. Quay, who has been in Philadelphia for several days, looking after his interests in Montgomery, Chester, Lehigh, and other near-by counties, has returned to Beaver for a few days. Before leaving he stated clearly what course he intended to pursue in the event of his election as Chairman of the State Committee. To THE SUN correspondent Senator Quay said:

"The municipal combinations in the two great cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh constitute the most important factors in the opposition. Their methods and purposes being, in my judgment, sinister and selfish, in direct hostility to the best interests of the people of those cities, and productive of misgovernment, our contention is inevitable for better municipal government and improved political methods. The struggle for their overthrow, and the substitution of a new order of affairs will go forward until the desired results are reached.

"Our success will commit the State organization against the use of money in politics; to resistance to corporate control of Legislatures, municipal councils, political primaries and elections; to a form of civil service which will prevent the enslavement of public officers and employees, and compel those appointed to preserve the peace of cities, and to confine themselves to their official duties; to absolute freedom and fairness in executing State, county, and municipal contracts, and to the punishment of any form of favoritism; against exclusive franchises to deal in public comforts and sanitary requirements and contracts, and a recognition of ability and fidelity in the public service, keeping service to the country ever foremost, when accompanied by ability and fitness.

"Furthermore, public office should be for the public benefit, and its term in subordinate positions should be during good behavior. No State or county employee or officer should be permitted to influence primaries or elections, or should, upon any pretence, be assessed upon his salary. All unnecessary positions and salaries should be abolished, and municipal expenditures and taxation should be reduced.

"There should be a uniform basis of valuation for public purposes. Corporations enjoying public privileges should pay for them. Schools should be divorced from politics and kept absolutely free from political influence and control.

"The laws necessary for the establishment of these reforms should be enacted at the next session of our Legislature. In my judgment the present contest will result in their successful evolution, which I consider essential to the continued supremacy of the Republican party in Pennsylvania."

Would Mr. Cleveland Sign Such a Law?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The idea that the next Congress will pass a law for the benefit of drafted men is interesting. But will Mr. Cleveland sign such a law if it is passed? He himself would be peculiarly interested in such legislation to the extent of $300 and thirty years' interest. I believe the President would promptly veto a Drafted Men's Reimbursement bill on that ground, if on no other.

ROCHESTER, Aug. 12. D.

Refrigerated Office Buildings.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In view of the fact that architects plan buildings and fit them with appliances so that they may be warm in winter, why would it be quite as much in their line so to construct buildings that they would be cool in summer? I might suggest, for instance, that in erecting, let me say, a ten-story building, it be built with a court in its centre twenty feet square with windows and doors opening into it on every floor. Now, at the top of this court put a fan like the ordinary electric fan, only larger, say nineteen feet in diameter, and start it going at a thousand revolutions or so a minute. This would create a draught that would make office life in summer in such a building quite worth living, and would be a decided improvement upon the small individual fans now in use. The court might also be used as the elevator shaft, or such part of it, at least, as the elevator might occupy. What's the matter with that sort of an office building? RENTER.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.

The Kearsarge's Sister Ship.

From the Philadelphia Record.

A name stands at hand which recalls in its very sound one of the most glorious deeds of patriotism in all the naval annals of the civil war. Pierced by the rain of shot from the rebel ram Merrimac, the gallant ship Cumberland at last sank beneath the waters of Hampton Roads. But she went down with a defiant shout still ringing from her true American crew, and the Stars and Stripes floated to the last above the waves. The suggestion is capital; by all means let the unnamed battle ship be baptized Cumberland!

Only Two Bloomer Girls in Washington.

From the Washington Evening Star.

So far as the most searching inquiries go, it appears that only two women wear bloomers on bicyles in Washington. The men who are apt to know about such things report but two women who have so far braved the eyes of the public with the bloomer costume. As a matter of fact, if women are going to discard skirts, why not adopt knickerbockers? They are more natty and look as if the women using them were not half afraid.

A Sheriff in Skirts.

From the Philadelphia Record.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Aug. 10.—America's first female Sheriff was appointed here last evening. A five-day deadlock was ended last evening in the County Court by the appointment of Mrs. Helen C. Stewart to be Sheriff of Greene county, to succeed her husband, who died a few weeks ago. As the Sheriff must preside at all executions for capital crimes, Mrs. Stewart may yet become the world's first woman executioner.

The Ruling Temperature Is 96.

In the State of Maine, where the spruce gum
Blooms like the summer rose,
And the rough and hardy sawlog
In tropic richness grows;
Where the frost can't hurt the ice crop,
Where they spade the ground with picks,
There Tom Reed feels the weather
And finds it '96.

In the State of Indiana,
Out in the broiling sun,
Where the ague gets a foothold
And goes it on a run;
Where the Hoosier and his grammar
Are never known to mix,
Ben Harrison feels the weather
And finds it '96.

In the State of thriving Buckeyes,
Where great men are a crop,
That will always come to harvest,
And freeze-outs do not stop:
Where the clip of wool is second
Only to politics,
McKinley feels the weather
And finds it '96.

In Iowa, where the bottle
Has never held its own,
Where the G. O. P. has always
Got all the meat and bone;
Where the simple guileless rustics
Have never swiped the tricks,
There Allison feels the weather
And finds it '96.

All through the blazing country,
We find the red-hot sun
Is melting what it touches,
So as to make it run,
And thus it is not surprising,
When things are in this fix,
That those herein recorded
Should find it '96.

TRUTH ABOUT THE CUBAN WAR.

A Plain Statement of the Real Facts in Cuba—Spain's Re-enforcements Can Only Take the Place of the Men She Has Lost.

HAVANA, Aug. 7.—To those to whom the Cuban rebellion against the Spanish Government is of any interest, and who, wishing to know the truth, trust entirely to the official news, or, on the other hand, give credit to stories of filibustering sympathizers, perhaps mistaken on account of verbal transmission, the conflicting nature of the news brings only uncertainty.

The difference exists that, while the rebels communicate exclusively through verbal messages, acting as an army on foreign territory, the Spanish Government, in possession of the wires, the post, and the railroad lines, ruling with a powerful hand in the quiet cities of the island, exercising on the newspapers a strong censorship, omitting the reports from the interior that tell of the rebels' lawful treatment of prisoners, their organization and resources, their movements and victories, publishing a record of crime as the main deeds of the rebels, has in its hands all the material necessary to give out those made-up stories of the campaign that astonish the reader by the extraordinary phenomenon of an enemy always dispersed and torn to pieces, though gathered and hostile next morning; of a nation winning every military action, though still sending troops by the thousands to fight against the vanquished.

Since February a great many scattered encounters have occurred of no consequence whatever, though both parties proclaim them to be serious engagements, involving heavy losses to the other side and no harm to themselves; but apart from these slight skirmishes, in the four real battles fought, El Ramon, Jobito, Cacao, and Peralejo, victory has shone upon the single star banner. At El Ramon firing began early in the morning, lasted until 7 P. M., and eighty survivors of the Spanish forces were set free by the insurgents after giving up their arms and ammunition; the battlefield, a cemetery, helped the Cubans. At Jobito the troops were caught in a defile, losing 300 men, but aided by reënforcements expressly sent for from the town, Commander Robles made a gallant retreat at 5 P. M.; Col. Bosch, the surgeon, and several officers lost their lives there. The battle of Cacao has been told of lately, and at Peralejo, Gen. Fidel Alonso Santoscilides, his aides, seven officers, and over 120 men were killed on the Spanish side. The Cubans lost three officers and 100 men, but held the ground, and though the troops reached Bayamo at 9 P. M., they had no time to cut a wire fence that gave way under the pressure of the retreating men. Sixty pack mules laden with cartridges belonging to the Campos forces were *accidentally* seized by the rebels, and the retreat has been considered by intelligent observers a wonderful feat of skill and good luck for Gen. Campos, who commanded in the action. In a letter to the Minister of War at Madrid he said, "Never did I see such a storm of lead; it was a perfect shower of bullets." But events like this must happen if the quality of the enemies is borne in mind. On one side strong, healthy, and sturdy veterans of the past war, knowing every inch of the ground, and thus able to act separately, with no other burden than the native machete, carried since boyhood, and a rifle, fighting with the enthusiasm that the desire for freedom gives, against raw recruits, forced by discipline to go forward, without interest or passion, carrying, under the burning sun, to which they are unused, the load of their ammunition, bayonet, rifle, blanket, and knapsack, and obliged to follow the column, or if they get lost, to meet hunger and death. When ready for battle 15,000 insurgents must face 52,000 Spaniards, and if all the lawful advantages of warfare were not taken, and the "guerrilla" system were abandoned, perhaps Spain would have an easy task; but with the Cubans constantly harassing the troops, gathering in great numbers to strike a sure blow, scattering when the cannon sounds, firing heavily as soon as the troops form a square to resist a machete charge, the advantage is plainly on their side, and has to be a marked one, for the life of a Cuban is more to the "Insurrectos" than ten men to the troops, replenished every day by new arrivals from Spain. In short, so far, the native and the expeditionary armies are on equal terms, at least on land; at sea expeditions sail whenever they are ready, and land successfully.

When the Cuban rebellion broke out, Spain looked on it with disdain, stigmatizing the movement as that of a lively party, out for mere sport; but matters went on, Gen. Calleja was recalled and blamed for not checking the war at the beginning, and, as the truth was not to be told, he apologized, wishing Campos to straighten out everything. Spain had in Cuba 3,000 regulars; the rebels numbered as many in the western province. Spain had 80,000 volunteers that would not leave the cities for the battlefield, and, if forced to, would revolt. Now Spain has on the island her chief military genius, thirty Generals, and 52,000 regulars. Thirty thousand more are to come before October. Official news published in the papers a week ago spoke well of the sanitary statistics, as only ten per cent. of the troops were in the hospital, or 5,200 out of 52,000. Supposing yellow fever, malaria, diarrhœa, small-pox, and other diseases to steal an average of ten men from every division, it amounts to 100 per day, or 3,000 per month. But though the 52,000 did not come together, nor were all here in February, calling the death rate only 2,000 a month from April to October, when the new reënforcements are to arrive, 14,000 men of those coming will be no addition to the expeditionary army, but will merely cover the losses produced by sickness, and the whole number of 30,000 may be looked upon as substitutes, if the influence of lead and steel is taken under consideration. So we cannot possibly see how Spain is going to stop the rebellion before winter with the same standing army that has been steadily unsuccessful for nine months.

In 1874, 7,000 Cubans at most fought for independence, brought Spain to make a treaty of peace, and got nothing. In 1895 there are in the field already at least 15,000 Cubans, and there will be 25,000 by December next. The entire population of the island is convinced of Spain's poverty, of the uselessness of demanding from the Government the political reforms, economic measures, and general benefits not granted in seventeen years. All this has changed the "Buenos Españoles" (good Spaniards), who in 1868 would have given their money and lives to preserve Cuban soil for Spain, into mere spectators of present events, fully conscious of the harm done to the industries and commerce of the island in behalf of those of Spain. Cuba will soon bring to an end the present war, and put an end to the last domination of the most miserable of European monarchies on any portion of land situated within the limits of America.

Cotton Mills in Japan.

From the Industrial Record.

Cotton manufacturing in Japan is the growth of the last fifteen years. No a cotton mill, with one exception, of those now in operation was in operation prior to 1880. There is now running in Kagoshima a mill of 3,030 spindles that has been in operation since 1865. In 1880 and 1881 an era of cotton manufacturing was inaugurated by the erection of 14,000 to 15,000 spindle mills. In 1882 a 31,200-spindle mill was put up at Osaka. This mill is the largest ever erected in Japan. There are two 30,000 spindles, one at Tokio and the other at Osaka. The latter location is the principal manufacturing centre in the empire. Nearly, if not fully, one half of the cotton spindles are to be found there. The cotton mills at Osaka are reported as paying average annual dividends of 18 per cent., the highest having been 28 per cent. and the lowest 8 per cent. Not more than about ten years ago the people depended almost wholly upon foreign products of factory-made cotton fabrics, while now not over a fourth of this demand comes from foreign sources. The Cotton Spinners' Association of Japan is the most reliable source of information, and that placed the number of spindles in 1894 at 565,065, yet the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce placed the number in 1893 at about 600,000. Between these two authorities we put our estimate of 500,000 spindles. The cotton mills of Japan will never be able to spin from the native cotton very fine yarn. The cotton is not suitable for anything but for the spinning of coarse yarns.

Turned to the Wall.

HIX—I notice that one household motto has been turned to the wall in Chicago, anyhow.

FIX—Which one is that?

HIX—"God Bless Our Holmes."

FRANCE AND BRAZIL.

Talk About Annexing a Large Section of Brazil to French Guiana.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Aug. 5.—Mail despatches from Cayenne, French Guiana, state that an official proclamation has been made to the effect that the responsibility for the recent conflict near the boundary of French Guiana and Brazil rests with the Brazilian Government, which should have guarded against such an occurrence. The proclamation also declares that advantage will be taken of the events at Mapa to ground a formal claim to the whole territory in dispute, and that the entire country down to the Amazon will be annexed by the French. This proclamation occasioned considerable excitement in the city, and something like a war fever was the result. Ever since the late disaster to the French force sent to chastise the Mapans the colonists have been in an excited state, and this proclamation by the Government has not tended to calm matters. Taking advantage of the permission granted to minors to carry arms, the youth of the colony are going out into the disputed territory in strong bands, well armed, ostensibly as prospectors, but it is understood, really to hunt for the irregular Brazilian forces.

How the "Miss Nix" Fish Got Its Name.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In an article in last Sunday's SUN on smuggling on the Florida coast, the fisherman from whom the facts are obtained, in mentioning the various descriptions of fish inhabiting the Gulf, mentions among others the "Miss Nix." This name was originated in Nassau, the principal port of the Bahama group of the West Indies, over sixty years ago, and though Miss Nix has been dead these many years, her name still lives in a way which in life was not overpleasing to herself.

The fish to which this name has been applied is of the turbot family, of a blue color, and ranges from four to twelve inches in length. In flavor its flesh is coarse and rank in the extreme, and it is used only by the poorer classes as food, being the cheapest fish in a country where sea food forms the staple article of diet, and is sold at remarkably low prices.

The father of Miss Nix, though well to do as wealth goes there, was by no means liberal in providing for the family table, and often the despised fish formed the central dish. In course of time he sent his daughter to England, where she remained some time, and on her return she affected great interest in matters which had once been the common incidents of her dreary life. One morning she visited the markets, and was apparently greatly charmed with all she saw. At length she paused, as luck would have it, before the stall of the family fish dealer, and went into ecstasies over the rainbow-hued fish there displayed.

"Tell me," she exclaimed, "what is that brilliant blue fish there?" and the unkindly "conch" native islander, in deep disgust, replied in tones heard many feet away, "You ought to know that fish. You had it for breakfast every day of your life." Miss Nix did not pursue her inquiries into natural history any further, and as her father's unnecessary economy was well known, the name was taken up, and though the actors have long since passed away, the name holds fast, a monument to a man's parsimony and a woman's affectation. E. W. S.

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.

The Lambda Keel and the Flying Pontoon.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The Lambda form of double keel is not so new as your correspondent, Erasmus Stahl, seems to think. It was fully described years ago in *Forest and Stream*, in connection with a certain yacht. What became of the boat I don't know, whether it ever was raced, or, indeed, whether it ever was built. It might only have been a drawing-board idea. Anyhow, the plan did not seem to meet with favor, and I judge there would be difficulties in construction. Bilge keels, common enough on the south coast of England, are really better, and I submit a rough draft of something better still, a form which would beat Defender as easily as I hope she'll beat Valkyrie III.:

This form requires no ballast, and but shallow draught if the beam is carried out fore and aft, and is from one-third to one-half the total length. If heeled to 15°, which would be next to impossible with the heaviest sail plan, the lee side would be like a wall to resist drift, while the leverage of the weather board would aid in keeping the boat upright.

For the proof of the pudding, look at the growing popularity of "whalebacks" and their prototypes and superiors, the "Bouncer boats" of Rosslyn. Both whalebacks and Bouncers are flying pontoons spoiled. The former are too deep and too narrow, besides having rounded bows and sides. Vessels should sail over the water, as upright as possible, and have no lead to lug. The only way to manage that is by beam, beam, beam. Immense flying pontoons with six or more propellers could enter very shallow harbors, and be infinitely steadier gun platforms than our deep-keeled men-of-war. FLYING PONTOON.

BROOKLYN, Aug. 10.

The Origin of Canada.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The passage cited by your correspondent, J. Wilfred Pearce, in explanation of the origin of the name Canada needs a slight correction.

The expression made use of by the Indians in replying to the French explorers' inquiries as to what might be found further on, pointing to the Northwest, was "acá nada" (there is nothing over there).

I cannot at this writing give my authority, as I have not my books of reference at hand; but the phrase "acá nada," uttered under the circumstances described in Mr. Pearce's quotation, and which I learned many years ago in connection with the etymology of the name Canada, has greater presumptive weight in its favor than aguí nada. J. T. MAGUIRE.

SHELTER ISLAND, Aug. 9.

One of the Oldest Bicycle Girls.

From the St. Louis Republic.

The oldest lady wheeler yet heard of in the bicycle world is Mrs. William Elmer of Cabanne, wife of the Rev. Mr. Elmer. She has been riding for some months, and although a lady of some years past the half-century mark is as graceful as many of her younger contemporaries.

Foreign Notes of Real Interest.

Jules Breton is going to publish a volume of essays on art.

English curates are thinking of forming themselves into a professional union, on the plan of the trades unions.

Microbes killed a Vienna bank clerk lately who, in counting a pile of bank notes, moistened his fingers with his lips.

"Die Walküre" and "Siegfried" it is hoped will be given in English next season in London, with Frau von Jannschowski as the soprano.

Field Marshal Count Blumenthal, the Crown Prince's chief of staff during the wars of 1866 and 1870, has just celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday.

Archduke Robert Salvator of Austria, the ninth child of the ex-Grand Duke of Tuscany, died recently from the effects of a cold bath in the lake of Constance. He was 10 years old.

All the personal memorials of Carlyle contained in the Chelsea house, lately turned into a museum, consist, according to *Truth*, of a battered trunk, a walking stick, a wretched tin bath, a marble top washstand, and a stovepipe hat under a glass case.

Ducks' eggs are shipped pretty ripe from Swatow, in China, to Bangkok and Singapore. They are put in shallow baskets in layers two or three deep, wrapped up in soft paper, and the climate is so hot that they are all hatched before they reach their destination.

Massenet is hard at work on his new opera "Cendrillon." Cinderella, with a libretto written by M. Cain, author of "La Navarraise." The best known operatic version of the fairy tale is Rossini's "Cenerentola," which furnished Lablache with one of his most famous parts, *Don Magnifico*.

A French speculator who had been acting through English brokers recently refused to pay his losses, on the ground that French law only recognized transactions through French *agents de change*. The courts, however, have decided that as the transaction was legal in England, the English brokers can recover in French tribunals.

At Mile End in London there is a serious outbreak of small-pox, but the vestry and guardians, being opposed to vaccination, refuse to exercise the power placed in their hands by law to make it compulsory. In the district there are from twelve to fourteen thousand unvaccinated children. The guardians assert that the small-pox has come from the neighboring districts, where the law is enforced.

In Tazanrog in Russia a company of Barishuiks, or small traders, finding they could not reach their destination one night, decided to sleep in the open air. One of them, however, refused, and went to a cottage not far off. In the morning he found his nine companions had been murdered in their sleep and 48,000 roubles which they had were stolen. The murderer was found soon after; he had joined the band disguised as a trader, had drugged them with morphine, and then killed them.

Bismarck's head was measured by Schaper, the sculptor, who made his statue at Cologne, and from the measurements the French scientific journals are trying to calculate the size of his brain. The head is enormous, being 212 millimetres from forehead to occiput and 156 millimetres between the temples; the average figures for German heads are 195 by 155 millimetres. The volume of the skull is 1,965 cubic centimetres, the average being 1,478 and the greatest recorded 1,860; from this the inference is that the brain weighs 1,897 grammes, 35 per cent. above the average weight.

The Château d'Amboise has been bought from the executors of the Comte de Paris by the Duc d'Aumale, who intends making it a home for the soldiers that fought under him in Africa, after which it will become a State museum like Chantilly. Charles VIII. was born and died in the