# The Sun.

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## Preliminary Conditions.

A Protestant clergyman, who writes us an earnest letter which he conceives to be in the interest of "permanent peace relations between the two big English-speaking nations," has been informed that "before the Americans can be expected to stretch forth the hand of everlasting peace, home rule must be given to Ireland."

Well, we dare say this is true, but Irish home rule is not enough, nor is it the most important of the indispensable conditions precedent to the establishment of lasting peace and friendhip.

As long as England maintains in her colony of Canada an outpost of hostility against the United States, an arsenal and fortified camp threatening the very flank of the North American republic, so long it will be the armed hand of self-protection and of predetermined war, which the United States will hold out toward her. Instead of the hand of everlasting peace, it will be the sword that will salute her.

But let Canada become an independent country and the situation will be changed. Then the United States and England may be brought into relations of tolerance toward each other, if not of friendship.

## The Alaska Boundary Line.

The true character of England's proposal to grab a part of Alaska by the very simple process of drawing a frontier line different from the one prescribed by treaty, is well set forth by Prof. T. C. MENDENHALL in the April number of the *Atlantic Monthly*. The attempt itself, as he concludes, is quite in accordance with her diplomatic policy, which "is and long has been characterized by aggressiveness, greed, absolute indifference to the rights of others, and a splendid facility in ignoring every principle of justice or international law whenever commercial interests are at stake."

The treaty of Feb. 28, 1825, between Russia and England, fixing the common frontier line of their possessions on this continent, described it as beginning at the southernmost point of Prince of Wales Island, which was to belong to Russia:

"The said line shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland Channel, as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the 56th degree of north latitude; from this last-mentioned point the line of demarcation shall follow the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast as far as the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude, and finally, from said point of intersection, the said meridian line of the 141st degree, in its prolongation as far as the Frozen Ocean."

What, then, is the ground on which Great Britain proposes to set aside this treaty agreement, or, as Prof. MENDENHALL expresses it, to "drive a coach and six through it"? In the first place, Portland Channel, or Canal, as it is often called, is forty miles or more due east of Cape Muzon, the southernmost point of Prince of Wales Island. As the treaty says that, beginning at the latter point, "the said line shall ascend to the north," the use of the words "along the channel called Portland Channel" must have been "an error or oversight." For, by ascending at once to the north, the line would go through Behm Channel; and if it were not to go at once to the north, the treaty, as the Canadians might argue, should have read, in effect, "the said line shall proceed eastward to the north of the channel called Portland Channel, and thence up said channel." And a confirmation of the British theory is thought to be furnished in the fact that while the line is to go along Portland Channel, "as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the fifty-sixth degree of north latitude," the head of Portland Channel does not reach the fifty-sixth parallel, whereas Behm Channel does. Prof. MENDENHALL does not even mention any theory that the channel that washes Prince of Wales Island was once called on the maps Portland Channel.

The practical effect of the British view would be to take from us the large island of Revilla Gigedo, which we have long held and occupied, a smaller island south of it, and finally the large peninsula of the mainland between Portland Channel and Burroughs Bay.

But it seems plain that we stand on the express language of the treaty, whereas the British are driven to the sheer assumption of an error or oversight. Yet if oversight there was, why did it not consist in omitting the words "proceeding eastward," rather than in saying Portland Channel when Behm Channel was meant? The truth is that there is no oversight to be assumed. The stretch of twoscore miles across the water to the mainland at Portland Channel was trivial compared with the thousands of miles northward belonging to the proposed treaty line, and there is nothing strange in the absence of the words "proceeding eastward from the starting point," since there is no other way to get to Portland Channel. As to the point that this channel does not reach the fifty-sixth parallel, Prof. MENDENHALL notes that it probably falls short by not more than three or four miles, and possibly by only a fraction of one mile. If now, after seventy years, we have not yet got the exact measurements, it is not strange that there should have been a lack of knowledge about them in 1825. And this is not all:

"The Salmon and Bear rivers debouch into this canal at its head, and the bed of either may represent the extension of the inlet to the fifty-sixth parallel. In any event, it is a matter of no great importance, as some sort of hiatus must necessarily exist in a line passing from the level of the sea to the summit of mountains."

Such is that part of the case. There is another and a more important part. The treaty speaks of following the coast mountains, and then limits this provision:

"Whenever the summit of the mountains which extend in a direction parallel to the coast from the 56th degree of north latitude to the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude, shall prove to be at the distance of more than ten marine leagues from the ocean, the limit between the British possessions and the line of coast which is to belong to Russia, as above mentioned (that is to say, the limit to the possessions ceded by this convention), shall be formed by a line parallel to the winding of the coast, and which shall never exceed the distance of ten marine leagues therefrom."

Now we know that what once seemed to coast navigators a range of mountains does not exist. There is only, instead, a "most confused and irregular scattering of mountains over the whole territory, at least until the Fairweather range, south of Mount St. Elias, is reached." Of course, then, the ten-marine league alternative of the treaty must come in. But how does England meet that? By the declaration, as one British authority in effect expresses it, that the coast line from which the ten marine leagues are to be measured shall be a tangent to the outer edges of the islands along the coast! Could anything be more preposterous? The treaty makes the line follow the "windings" or *sinuosités*, as the original French has it, of the coast, and hence it is a continuous line. It palpably, also, conveyed to Russia an unbroken strip of the coast, as Prof. MENDENHALL shows:

"The word *lisière* used in the treaty to describe this strip, and which becomes 'line' in the English version, means much more than that, being originally equivalent to 'border,' 'selvage,' 'fringe,' or 'list' of cloth, always standing for something of very definite width and continuity. Contemporary writers might be quoted, showing a common belief among Englishmen themselves that the treaty accorded to Russia a very definite and continuous strip of the mainland, which, by cutting off direct access to the coast, 'rendered the great interior of comparatively little value.'"

But, as if recognizing the absurdity of attempting to take as a substitute for the sinuosities of the mainland coast a line patched up from the outer edges of scattered littoral islands, with the intervening gaps made up of tangents across the water, England resorts to another device. The mountains are scattered from the shore back through scores of miles, "generally increasing in elevation as the distance from the coast increases." Some British authorities therefore propose, in the absence of a single definite range of mountains, parallel to the coast, such as the treaty of 1825 supposed, to manufacture such a range by connecting with straight lines the peaks, high or low, near the coast, and calling that the line. This is actually done on the official Canadian map of 1887, and also on DAWSON's recent map. This preposterous substitute for the plain ten-league mainland strip required by the treaty, where the mountains do not run parallel to the coast, is of course adapted to British desires by a judicious selection of the peaks.

By one device or the other, the amended line not only crowds Alaska down nearly to the water's edge, but in some places coveted by JOHN BULL actually cuts through the water, and gives him seacoast! Apart from the plain violation of the terms and the intent of the treaty as to the *lisière* or mainland strip which it confirmed to Russia, the impracticability of establishing these alternate patches of American and British coast jurisdiction, some of ours being actually cut off from mainland continuity with each other, is manifest.

All this was unknown to British and Russian maps, as to our own, for half a century after the treaty of 1825, and dates back less than a dozen years, as Prof. MENDENHALL shows. But the fact that has recently been troubling England is that "through Alaska's waterways and over its passes much of the emigration and material supplies for her northwestern territory must go." The development of mining interests on the Upper Yukon has caused her settlers and ours to gather there, and she wants the control of harbors in southeastern Alaska, and of trails thence leading northward. Prof. MENDENHALL writes that while he has before him an original Canadian official map of 1884 carrying the boundary line to the head of Portland Channel, a good ten leagues inward, where the treaty puts it, a subsequent map, although purporting to be a copy, in title and date, takes the Behm Channel route. JOHN BULL's territorial theories are sometimes found to fit his land-grabbing desires.

Prof. MENDENHALL is so indignant at all this that he would not even have the British claim go to arbitration, and regrets that we have put ourselves on record in favor of arbitration in the case of Venezuela, since Great Britain may use this fact against us in demanding a like settlement for the Alaska boundary. But let us not worry about that. One thing at a time. England's check by us in attempting to crowd Venezuela is not going to make her the readier to risk trying to seize a part of Alaska.

## Will There Be a European Conference?

The majority of 96 which Premier BOURGEOIS obtained on Thursday in the French Chamber of Deputies, is only explicable upon the theory that he is believed to be pushing negotiations for a conference of the powers interested in the Egyptian question. The failure of the late Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. BERTHELOT, to oppose with vigor the Nile expedition, had provoked not only indignation in Paris, but also remonstrance from Russia; and unless the Radical Prime Minister had shown himself in sympathy with the popular feeling, his enemies, the Moderates, would have seized the opportunity of driving him from office.

Whether a conference will take place depends, no doubt, on the position taken by the German empire. The representative of the Berlin Government on the Egyptian Debt Commission voted to grant England's request that a part of the surplus at the Commission's disposal should be appropriated for the aggressive movement against Dongola. It has since been declared, however, in semi-official newspapers, that this assent was given out of regard for Italy, whose soldiers in Kassala, threatened by the Mahdists, would be relieved, it was supposed, by an advance from Wady Halfa. According to the same German newspapers, this assent was not to be construed as acquiescence in the design imputed to England of establishing a permanent protectorate over the Nile country. Not only is such a reservation said to have been already made at Berlin, but that the latest news from Abyssinia shows that the situation there has been materially changed by the withdrawal and disbandment of King MENELEK's forces, and by the certainty that they will not resume operations for some six months to come. Under the circumstances the Italians should need no help for the defence of Kassala, if they think it worth while to retain a place which they must turn over to the Khedive the moment the latter is strong enough to recover the eastern Soudan. The question then arises, Should not the powers interested in the welfare of Egypt insist that Wady Halfa should continue to be the most southern outpost of that country, and that none of the funds in the hands of the Debt Commission should be spent upon needless aggressive movements? Should the question be answered in the affirmative at Berlin, the proposal for a conference would be accepted by all of the interested powers except England and Italy, and the two latter would have to yield.

Russia has not forgotten that the Congress, demanded by England eighteen years ago, compelled her to renounce a part of the gains secured by the treaty of San Stefano. The Congress of Berlin would never have been held, had not England's demand been countenanced by BISMARCK. In view of that precedent, the Berlin Government, which ardently desires the Czar's good will, can scarcely repel his proposal of a conference, nor could such a project be rejected, with any show of consistency, by Lord SALISBURY, who, bringing back, as he said, from Berlin, "peace with honor," boasted that diplomacy has her victories, no less renowned than war. Nothing would give the Russians more lively satisfaction than to see the English statesman, who, in conjunction with Lord BEACONSFIELD, prescribed a European Congress as the solvent of international disputes, now compelled to swallow his own medicine.

The attempt of the Senate on Friday to renew its assertion of authority coördinate with that of the Chamber of Deputies by declaring the Premier's explanation of his foreign policy insufficient, and refusing him a vote of confidence, was almost equivalent to an act of suicide. The demonstration will have the effect of making M. BOURGEOIS stronger in the Chamber than he was on Thursday; for the Deputies properly resent the pretension of the Senate to exercise the same control over the Executive which is exerted by the Chamber. The pretension is irreconcilable with the principle of Ministerial accountability, and it is founded on a clause inserted by the Monarchists in the Constitution of 1875 for the express purpose of throwing the whole legislative machinery out of gear the moment they lost their hold upon it. The existence of the Senate was threatened from the outside the moment GAMBETTA's friends acquired ascendancy in the Chamber; but, now that the Senate has itself passed into the hands of GAMBETTA's disciples, it is fast digging its own grave. The chances now are that the next time the French Constitution is revised the Senate will be obliterated.

Nothing that the enemies of M. BOURGEOIS in the French Senate can do will avail to avert a conference of the European powers interested in Egypt, provided Germany shall approve of the project. But political ruin awaits all Frenchmen who at the present grave conjuncture try to stop France from gaining a great diplomatic victory.

## Shortening the Course at Harvard.

Opposition from governing boards has never made President ELIOT give up an idea that he thought valuable. When checked by an adverse vote, he waits a reasonable time and returns to the attack. Three years ago his proposal to shorten the course of study leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts at Harvard College, though carried after long deliberation by a small majority in the faculty, was rejected by the Board of Overseers, not so much on its merits as on the ground that it would be unwise to introduce so great an innovation when the opinions of those best qualified to judge were so evenly divided. Three years being deemed a period long enough for even Harvard Overseers to change their minds, the question has been put again before the Harvard faculty, and has been discussed for many weeks. As during the interval a good many members of the former minority have been removed by death and other agencies, the proposal will in all likelihood be carried before long by a majority large enough to draw from the governing boards an expression of opinion on its merits.

The argument in favor of the scheme is largely utilitarian. The evil which it is intended to obviate in part undoubtedly exists, and is so serious that a careful administrator like President ELIOT is ready to sacrifice a large portion of the college's income from tuition fees to make it less. This evil is the late period in life at which college graduates are now sent out into the world from the professional schools. This has arisen from the increased demands for time for professional training on the one hand, and, on the other, from the increasing age of the students sent to college by secondary schools; though its root is in the waste of the bright scholar's time that taints our whole educational system from the primary school up. At present the secondary schools, in spite of the latitude in the choice of subjects allowed by the Harvard admission requirements, send up pupils at eighteen or nineteen years of age, upon an average. Though the requirements are much higher than they were twenty-five years ago, it is safe to say that they are not beyond the capacity of an intelligent boy of sixteen or seventeen under good teaching. The secondary schools, however, cannot be blamed for this, as they receive their pupils at fourteen or fifteen. The regular age for graduation from college is twenty-two or twenty-three. Add to this three or four years in a professional school and we have from twenty-five to twenty-seven as the normal age at which college-bred men can first face the world. A very large majority of students at Harvard, as at all colleges, come from families in moderate or poor circumstances. To support, or partly support, a son till he is twenty-seven, is a heavier burden than they can or should sustain. The deferring of the start in life to so late a period, with the concomitant habit of dependence, financial and mental, loss of boyish enthusiasm, and delay in settlement and marriage till after thirty, are harmful to the men themselves. Many men solve the problem by giving up a college education entirely, and this is a serious loss to themselves and to the community. A yearly increasing number of students at Harvard compress the four years' course into three, while still more contrive, by doing additional work in the earlier years, to leave a part of the senior year free for professional studies. Both processes are looked upon by many, both in the college and professional school faculties, as harmful to scholarship and demoralizing to the students.

The remedy proposed is to give up the present senior year in college. All are agreed that to diminish the requirements for admission, so as to take in students one year earlier in their preparation, would be a mistake. The lowering of the secondary school standard would affect the much greater mass of pupils who never go to college; while the college would gain nothing, as at the end of four years its students would be exactly where they are now at the end of three. The cut must be from the top, and to justify it, it is shown that at the end of the present junior year Harvard men have reached a point at least as far advanced as they would have attained at graduation twenty years ago, or as is thought worthy of the degree at many good colleges throughout the land. Those students who have the time and inclination for further liberal study can proceed to the degrees offered by the Graduate School.

The opponents of the innovation uphold the cause of sound scholarship. They object to sacrificing at one stroke the gain acquired by years of patient endeavor. The year to be given up, they say, is the best year in college, when teacher and pupil can work together most profitably. It means far more than one-fourth of the work accomplished; for, as all intellectual labor is cumulative, good students do in it their most effective work, while those who have been negligent, or have not before found their right place, often show then for the first time what they can do. Many of them cling to the idea of the college as the place for liberal study for its own sake, apart from utilitarian applications. They see that a large part of each class will end its liberal studies on obtaining the Bachelor's degree, and that even those who continue in the Graduate School will practically turn to professional study as much as those who go to the law, medical, and scientific schools. The best year's work in the higher education of men will be lost, not only at Harvard but throughout the country, for many other colleges will follow Harvard's example. Nor can they see, in the constantly increasing classes in the college and the professional schools crowded with college graduates, any evidence that the evil so clear to President ELIOT is a pressing one. They hold that a smaller number of well-educated men is preferable to a larger number only partly educated.

Such will be the substance of the two views presented to the Overseers. The Harvard faculty is now occupied in threshing over details that cannot materially alter them. It will be a choice between retaining the old ideas and the four-year course, or reducing the standard to comply with the needs of the public; that is, the three-year course. In the latter case it is to be hoped that the faculty will not repeat the mistake in its former proposal of trying to compress more work into the three years. It was misled then by the habit of reckoning by courses and looking on the degree as the result of so many examinations, a theory which when carried out logically by too ambitious students it properly condemns. In cutting down the time to three years, it should leave to the student the opportunity to acquire his liberal education. That is only in slight part the result of attending lectures or passing examinations. It comes from desultory reading, from browsing in the library, from the rubbing together with one's equals on the athletic field, in class meetings and scrapes, from boyish discussions on morals and politics and theology and what not, on long tramps or by a college fireside. It is the one thing in a college education that cannot be crammed, that justifies a set term of years as a requirement for the degree, and that makes a college-bred man different from others in after life. Three years or four years will make little difference so long as Harvard sees to it that she turns out men.

## The Immortality of the Soul.

Very appropriately, the *Independent* gives a large part of its Easter number to articles on the immortality of the soul. These are of two radically different kinds. First, there are papers by eminent clergymen, doctors of divinity, and theological professors, who treat the subject from the point of view of theology or faith. Next are essays by men of science, who discuss it in the cold light of reason only, and apply to it methods applicable merely when physical demonstration is possible.

The most considerable of the second class of discussions is a paper by Prof. E. D. COPE, the distinguished paleontologist. He starts out by saying that as a matter of science, or "as an inference derived from observation and experiment, the doctrine of immortality has no standing;" that "there is no conclusive evidence" either that it is true or that it is false. Then Prof. COPE proceeds through a long article to play with the subject, and concludes by saying that "the question of immortality is an open one, and he who considers it closed is as unscientific as the person who believes it on insufficient evidence." According to his beginning, however, "there is no conclusive evidence of the truth of the doctrine;" and hence anybody who believes in it is necessarily unscientific.

Of course, belief in the immortality of the soul is unscientific. Science depends on practical demonstration, and hence is radically and essentially opposed to religious faith. If immortality were demonstrable by science, it would not be a doctrine of religious faith. Every religious believer is unscientific to the extent of his belief. No faith is requisite in the seen and the known. They can be proved. But the unseen and the unknown, and the unseeable and unknowable require faith. Where there can be scientific evidence there can be no faith. Accordingly, Prof. COPE contributes nothing to the *Independent's* discussion which was pertinent. It was impossible for him to throw any light on the subject. His intellectual speculations are altogether without importance from the point of view of religious faith. As a scientific man he has nothing to do with faith, and faith has nothing to do with him.

We are surprised, therefore, that the *Independent* brought the incongruous and condescending essays of these scientific professors into its Easter number. If a scientific paper were seeking discussions of a question of science, it would not invite them from theologians. Why, then, should a religious paper give prominence to the discussion of a question of theology by men of science? If the theory of the *Independent* is sound and its faith is not mere baseless superstition, its belief in the immortality of the soul does not require the support of any human or temporal evidence. Whether science sustains or rejects the doctrine, is a matter of no consequence to the believer who has faith that it has been revealed to men by an omniscient GOD. Asking for the opinion of Prof. COPE and other "students of modern experimental psychology" suggests that the faith of the *Independent* is getting shaky. Science as science is necessarily infidelity. It believes nothing that it does not know. The doctrine of the immortality of the soul rests solely on faith. It is not possible to find any merely scientific ground for it to stand upon.

## Some Fun Ahead.

On Wednesday next at 10:30 in the morning the distribution of tea will be temporarily suspended for a hearing before Col. WILLIAM LYSONG STRONG of the Richland Reserves and the members of the Armory Board over the proposition to establish the Sixty-ninth Regiment in a permanent armory on the southeast corner of Lexington avenue and Twenty-third street, now occupied by the College of the City of New York, which is to be removed.

At the last meeting of the Armory Board, of which Col. STRONG is *ex-officio* President and Commissioner BARKER *ex-officio* Secretary, Gen. FITZGERALD submitted his report recommending the formal adoption of this site for the Sixty-ninth Regiment, which has for years had insufficient and unsatisfactory quarters over the Tompkins Market, on the Third avenue. The Sixty-ninth Regiment was organized in 1852, and it has an honorable record of patriotic service during the civil war, particularly in the defence of Washington and in the Pennsylvania campaign of 1863. But it has always been, among New York city militia regiments, the last to be considered where an armory was wanted, having succeeded to the Tompkins Market armory when the Seventh Regiment abandoned it for a larger and better armory up town.

The proposition of the Armory Board to equip the Sixty-ninth Regiment with suitable headquarters has incurred the opposition of the Hon. ABRAM S. HEWITT, and of the "Twenty-third Street Protective Association." The latter obstacle may not prove to be important on Wednesday next, but if our amiable, systematic, and cordial ex-Mayor, who has never, such is the ingratitude of republics, been made an honorary member of the gallant Sixty-ninth, casts himself forcibly with oratory and statistics into the breach at the Mayor's office at 10:30 on Wednesday next, there will be a lively time, compared to which the summary seizure of the pictures in the Governors' room or a riotous invasion of the Aldermanic Chamber will seem to be a trifling occurrence. Mr. HEWITT appears to be indifferent to the advantages of an armory in the immediate vicinity of his residence. He appears to be indifferent to the opportunities it would furnish him to join the boys of the Sixty-ninth in an occasional frolic, and it is even said that he favors the retention of the New York College at its present site. The controversy over the armory will begin at 10:30 in the City Hall on Wednesday, simultaneous with the beginning of the Damsen inquiry.

Wednesday's tea should be a good brew!

## A People of One Mind.

There is any amount of Spanish testimony that the Cuban people are of one mind upon the subject of independence. The Spanish Premier justified the statement when he said that even the Cuban Autonomists have united with the enemies of Spain. The Captain-General justifies it by his orders for a general slaughter of Cubans. The Spanish cavalry leader, PEDROS, justified it in his declaration that every Cuban is a rebel at heart, and deserving of the sword or the garrote. The unchristian Spanish priest, Father CANONICO of Trinidad, justified it when he said that all Cubans should be slain, so as to make room for Spaniards. The religious journal, *La Lectura Dominical*, justified it in commenting upon WEYLER's plan for exterminating the whole Cuban people.

There is practical unanimity among the Cubans in regard to independence.

This is the testimony of the President of the Cuban republic, and of the revolutionary Generals, and of all the spokesmen of Cuba. As many as 50,000 able-bodied Cubans have joined the revolutionary army within a year, and twice as many would join it if arms could be procured for them. Every time a revolutionary General or other leader appears in any place or province, he is welcomed with enthusiasm. The Cuban people have done all they could do ever since the war began to supply the revolutionary forces with provisions. A large proportion of the taxpayers of Cuba voluntarily pay their taxes into the treasury of the republic. Revolutionary alcaldes exercise authority in the greater number of the towns of Cuba. All the manifestations in Cuba, excepting at Havana and other places suffering under martial law, are in favor of independence.

We do not know of any people that were ever more nearly unanimous in any desire than are the Cubans.

Those Spaniards who argue that, in order to secure Spanish ascendancy in Cuba, the Cubans must be exterminated, argue truly. The Cubans, on the other hand, speak truly when they declare that, in order to secure peace in Cuba, the Spanish flag must be driven out of it.

## Weyler's Bloodiest Week.

It seems necessary that we should frequently repeat the statement that the most harrowing reports of Spanish atrocities in Cuba are sent out to the world not by the insurgents, but by the perpetrators of them. Why should WEYLER's word in regard to his own deeds be disputed by any member of the Senate, any Yale lecturer, or any newspaper? When this man makes public boast that he is a savage and a coward, and offers daily proof thereof, what is the value of a contradiction of his statements by any one possessing no knowledge other than that with which he supplies them?

We are led to believe by the despatches from Havana which we have printed during the past week, that it has been the bloodiest week in WEYLER's career; and that the bloodshed has not been that of battle, but that of butchery. Every day of the week we have had despatches of the most shocking kind, telling of the deeds done in execution of decrees, the existence of which we would not believe in, if we did not possess official copies of them.

On Sunday last we got news of a "battle" in which a woman and her babe were among the victims, and of the shooting of laborers working in the cane fields, and of numerous murders by the Spanish bands. On Monday and Tuesday, we had chapters of wanton cruelty, one of which told of the massacre of the tenants upon an estate, who had been accused of housing some disabled insurgents; another of which told of the killing or wounding of forty-two peaceful people, five of whom were women; and others of which told of the killing of defenceless victims to the number of hundreds, including women, children, and patients in hospitals. The despatches of the next four days of the week reeked with gore, and those of yesterday were the worst yet. The deeds perpetrated by detached bodies of Spanish troops in villages and upon plantations, the names of which were given, make up the week's record of butchery for WEYLER, so far as the record can be got from Havana. The torture and assassination of suspects, the execution of captured insurgents and political prisoners, the burning of insurgents' infirmaries, and the commission of deeds not to be named, have made the past week a scandalous one for Spain. We do not suppose that a hundredth part of the carnage is known to any other man than the Captain-General. Such reports as have reached us lead to the belief that WEYLER's bloodiest week began on Sunday last. His victims for the week, excluding insurgents slain in battle, can probably be numbered by the thousand. It is as an assassin, not as a soldier, that his name will appear in Cuban history. We judge him by his own utterances and by the authentic reports sent to us from Cuba.

We take occasion to say that we honor the nine or ten Spanish Generals in Cuba who have declined to execute WEYLER's orders, and whom he has shipped back to Spain. WEYLER says they failed in their battles, by which it may be understood that they failed to render such service as WEYLER required of them. We honor the Spanish Colonel who threw up his command when the miscreant LUQUE ordered him to kill wounded insurgents at San Diego. We honor Spaniards like the Alcalde of Jovellanos, who has resigned his office and fled to Mexico rather than countenance WEYLER's atrocities. He informed the United Press last Wednesday that the Spanish troops were killing innocent people right and left, pillaging the stores and estates, and wrecking the towns which they visit. We know of other Spanish Alcaldes in Cuba who have left their office for the same reason for which JOSÉ RAMON DEL VALLE gave up his. No honorable soldier or functionary of Spain in Cuba can either uphold Weylerism or receive the favor of WEYLER.

Black and bloody has been the week, by reason of the execution of the February decrees. WEYLER is in a heat, which is not that of battle, but that of an inflamed butcher. We do not doubt that he will glut his lusts again this week, and in yet other weeks, until every Cuban, peaceful or belligerent, man or woman, upon whom he can lay hands, shall be counted among his victims, or until he shall be manacled by the revolution, or until America shall give him a warning.

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Every member of the Reform party, the anti-Tammany party, must see like other people that the highest credit ever enjoyed by New York city was during a Tammany administration. In 1889, when GRANT was Mayor, New York borrowed the millions to pay for the great up-town parks, at 2¼ per cent., at par, up to 101.50. That little performance has not been duplicated since the beginning of the reform dispensation.

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We learn with interest that the Hon. RUSSELL SAGE is wearing a MCKINLEY badge, and openly declaring his preference for the Ohio statesman. We congratulate Major MCKINLEY upon this event. Mr. SAGE is a politician who always has the courage of his convictions and constantly holds true to his principles. We remember well when he was elected a Whig member of the House of Representatives in 1853. The great anti-slavery contest which preceded the civil war, was at its height; and, although the breaking up of the Whig party and its division into anti-slavery men and pro-slavery men, known as Silver Grays, had not yet been fully consummated, it was a question of much interest to which faction the new members of Congress would attach themselves. People supposed that, because Mr. SAGE was wealthy and of conservative tendencies in general, he would go with the Silver Grays; but when the test came, he was always found to be on the side of freedom; and the hearty sympathy which his course then called forth has never been forgotten.

Once again we congratulate MCKINLEY on such an acquisition.

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In certain elevated portions of Colorado the air, even under the most favorable conditions, is so highly rarefied that it is difficult for any other than the most athletic lungs to breathe it. For the next two weeks there will be no air at all in Colorado, highland or lowland. The Hon. PITCHFORK B. TILLMAN, the great South Carolina dispensation, is going out to Denver, where the Democrats are to hold their State and Congress Convention. The motion generated by Mr. TILLMAN is so great as to exhaust all the atmosphere. Clouds consisting entirely of a silver lining have been hanging over Colorado for years, but the coming of Mr. TILLMAN will produce great changes, great convulsions, great conniptions, even there. The silver in the banks beneath the earth begins to shoot up in spouts and columns. Gold bugs, making a mournful and fruitless strident sound with their antennæ, are crawling out of the State as fast as they can crawl. The mountains begin to gush fire; the cañons are full up to the brow of the steepest cliff with the reddest fire; the corsets of nature begin to crack; a great and wondrous time is at hand. The Hon. PITCHFORK B. TILLMAN brings a message to the silver Democrats of Colorado; and he brings it in a hundred express trains, rushed through space by a hundred locomotives, propelled by his own steam and rolling on his own wheels.

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It is to be hoped that Hayti's new President, Gen. TIRESIAS SIMON SAM, will be at least as friendly as HIPPOLYTE, his predecessor, to the United States. The latter was indirectly under obligation to our Government for its attitude in regard to blockaded ports during his struggle with LÉGITIME. That attitude practically aided HIPPOLYTE's success, although based on broad principles of international law, and not on the merits of his struggle for the Presidency. It turned out that HIPPOLYTE did not dare, on account of popular hostility, to return the favor by aiding us to acquire a naval foothold at St. Nicolas Mole. But other things have since occurred to make us no longer eager to secure it, and TIRESIAS SIMON SAM need have no fear of Uncle SAM.

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The Hon. WHARTON BARKER of Pennsylvania and Argentina continues to be in an improving condition of illumination and excitement. He is vying with some of the most industrious silver spouters in the country, but he is not going to give up the record without a struggle worthy of it and of himself. Wherever and whenever he is found, he leaps to his feet and offers a resolution in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, by the independent action of the United States. Everybody is precipitated to his feet; intense excitement is precipitated; precipitous remarks are made; the Chairman and the delegates are full of fits; and ambulances and physicians have to be summoned. But above all this wreck of brain matter and crush of financial worlds, the Hon. WHARTON BARKER towers preëminent, like Teneriffe or Atlas unremoved. His eye is loud; his voice is clear; his heart is thoroughly engaged; and silver trickles from his lips in floods that would make Niagara sink and sag with nervous prostration and inundation. Whatever the wickedness of gold bugs may have succeeded or may yet succeed in having done or doing to silver, that seemingly pure, if not altogether precious, metal, the wrongs and the sufferings of which keep in agitation the lungs and mental processes of so many sentimentalists and philanthropists, it will always be pleasant to remember that the Hon. WHARTON BARKER never faltered and never failed. In season and out of season, and especially out of season, his voice has been raised, and raised so that the deafest could hear, for the pale god of his idolatry. There can be no doubt that he has rendered a due service and worship; and if he should ever care to recreate his strained convolutions with a long vacation, the world would make a noble effort to allow him to go with honorable mention and full pay.

### Senator Hill and the Cleveland Administration.

*From the Chicago Record.*

When anybody draws a bead on the present Administration Senator Hill always knocks up the gun if he can reach it, and he has been the most consistent, alert, and energetic defender and apologist the President has had in either branch of Congress. Notwithstanding this fact, Senator Hill has been inside of the White House but once since he has been in the Senate, and that was to accept an invitation to dine about a year ago. The other day some one asked him how he reconciled his public defence of the Administration with the private opinion he makes no attempt to conceal.

"I am a Democrat," was his reply, "and I am a citizen of New York. President Cleveland was elected by the Democratic party, and we are responsible to the country for his acts. He is also a citizen of my State, and in that sense is my constituent. I defend and support the Democratic party under all circumstances and on all occasions, and when one of my constituents is attacked I do my best to stand by him."

### A Hebdomad of Diversified Infernalism in Punxsutawney.

*From the Punxsutawney Spirit.*

The past week has been heavy with all sorts of infernalism.

### Parkhurst.

*From the Albany Evening Journal.*

Parkhurst is a notorious character, a minister of the Gospel who is given to the delivery of slanderous and sensational harangues, which are meant to inflame public passion and prejudice.

## WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY.

Society during the silent week has found its only solace in the St. Nicholas Skating Rink and in making preparations for events that loom up pleasantly in the future. Not that any bewildering gayety is to be expected, but if the grip of the most detestable month of the twelve could be shaken off, bright faces and happy hearts would be more conspicuous than they are just now. No people in the world, not even the French, are so ready as our own to do justice to a holiday, and to adopt all that is beautiful in the various times and seasons set aside by other nations for commemorations.

New York, at this moment, is one great garden of flowers and blossoms, brought to such perfection of symmetrical bloom as neither the *Marché aux fleurs* in Paris nor Covent Garden in London ever attempts to produce. From the churches to-day organs will peal forth their most inspiring strains, while crowds of worshippers and music lovers listen to the great works of great composers, interpreted by the best artists, to do honor to Christendom's grandest festival. When the skies, the clouds, and the wind are propitious there are few more attractive spots than New York on Easter Sunday.

A good deal of time during the last week has been devoted to the rehearsal of the tableaux which have been in course of preparation during Lent, and which will be presented in Sherry's ballroom to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. Mr. Eliot Gregory and Mr. Albert Operti have been faithful in their attendance and untiring in their efforts at posing and arranging, with the result of winning high praise from the few who have been privileged to peep. Miss Edgar as Marie Antoinette in her girlhood is said to be especially successful, and Mrs. Leslie Cotton, as a flower girl, as picturesque as an artist ought to be. "St. Cecilia," "Egypt," "Carmen," "Angels," and "Easter Hymns" are all equally promising, and the exhibition will probably be one of the most beautiful that has ever been given in this city. There will be music, instrumental and vocal, during the waits, and the pretty ballroom will be gay with spring costumes and bonnets which it is not good taste to display in church on Sunday.

With the exception of Friday, there is a wedding for every day this week, and on some days there will be two or three. Those most interesting to the smart set are Miss Rogers's, daughter of the late N. Pendleton Rogers, and a relative of the once prominent Hosack family, to Mr. Rawson of Cincinnati, which will take place on Tuesday in St. Bartholomew's Church; Miss Louise Robb's, to Goodhue Livingston, on Wednesday, the 8th, in St. George's Church; Miss Helen Kingsland's, to Newbold Morris, on Thursday, at St. George's, and Miss Ethel Johnson's, to Mr. Alfred Conkling, at St. Thomas's Church, on the same day. These, with the bridegrooms' dinners and the brides' luncheons to their bridesmaids, will make some little stir in the gay world, and with dinners at Mrs. Bayard Cutting's and Mrs. Seward Webb's, in honor of Miss Lawrence of Boston, who is here on a visit, will break the monotony which has prevailed the last few weeks.

Boisterous winds and frozen ground have interfered materially with the early runs of the Meadowbrook and Rockaway hounds, and the followers of Izaak Walton's gentle sport have had but scant success in fly casting in consequence of northeast winds and turbulent waters. Fishing being decidedly a sport of middle age, its votaries rarely take the risk of colds and rheumatism; so that the South Side and Suffolk Clubs have been filled during the last week with disappointed fishermen waiting for favorable weather. Living, too, under the shadow of the Raines bill, they are not quite as cheerful as they were wont to be.

An interesting wedding in Washington on the 8th inst. will be that of Miss Julia Edie and Mr. John O'Donnell, son of the late Oliver O'Donnell of Baltimore and nephew of Mrs. Adrian Iselin of this city. Mr. O'Donnell is also a nephew of Gov. Carroll of Maryland and first cousin of Mr. Royal Phelps Carroll. The O'Donnells have large landed estates in Maryland, as well as in Virginia, and are among the oldest of its Roman Catholic families. The bridegroom that is to be has crossed the ocean many times, and it is said formed an unhappy marriage in Paris in his early youth, which has only recently been dissolved. The wedding will be a quiet one, a very small reception following the ceremony, and the young couple will then go abroad.

The arrival of the young Duchess of Marlborough at her husband's ancestral home has an interest for all Americans by reason of the historical associations connected with the old palace, and of the picturesque forms and ceremonies, emanating from feudal times and unknown to our recent civilization, which attended the event. There was probably nothing, even in the size of Blenheim Palace, which is its most striking feature, to dazzle the eyes of Consuelo Vanderbilt, who was born to wealth and luxury, and has been used from her infant days to all the glitter and display that gold and silver, art, science, and architecture can furnish; but the renown of Woodstock Manor dates further back than to him who is known as the great Duke and whose military triumphs entitled him to honors and distinctions which his moral obliquities ought justly to have cancelled. Few brides, even of English birth and lineage, are welcomed to a locality where so important an event as the birth of the young hero of his day, Edward, the Black Prince, occurred more than six hundred years ago, and where sentiment and romance in the person of Fair Rosamond and her royal lover had their abode at even an earlier period. To an American girl there is something novel and impressing in the noisy welcome of villagers and tenantry, the triumphal entrance into a vast park which is all her own in a carriage drawn by men and not by horses, or by any of the inventions and contrivances so familiar to her in our country, while rows of liveried servants, both male and female, bow humbly and obsequiously as she passes through the great hall.

The interior of Blenheim has not much to boast of. Vice and prodigality have robbed it of its chief treasures. The picture gallery contains now only family portraits. Its paintings by the old masters were sold about ten years ago, when the great Sunderland library of fully 17,000 volumes was also brought under the hammer. The famous Madonna by Raphael was purchased at this time by the National Gallery for $150,000, and many costly gems and porcelains also passed out of the Churchill family forever. The rooms to be occupied by the young Duchess have been beautified and made ready for her in a simple and homelike way, and probably the sight of her American bicycle standing ready for her in an unfamiliar corner awakened the pleasantest emotions.

In the midst of all this glamour and traditions of bygone times the young daughter of the Vanderbilts starts upon a career which it rests with herself to make good, useful, and happy, or vain, worldly, and frivolous, as her character and inclinations may lead her. Those who have known her here in the innocence and simplicity of her girlhood, which has hardly yet drawn to a close, cannot but hope that a record so prominent, and which will go down through so many generations, may be such as will reflect credit on the country of her birth as well as on that of her adoption.

London is said to be waking up to what promises to be a very gay season. The Ranelagh Club, that favorite resort in the time of the Georges, and which, after a temporary decline, was brought to life again about ten years ago, has elected Lord Ava for its resident Secretary, and very gay doings are expected. Several of London's great ladies are taking an active interest in the Anti-Dress League, which has recently been formed, and which is directed against extravagance in clothing. One of its first laws is, that no woman shall have more than two gowns a season, one for day and one for evening wear. A tea gown will be graciously thrown in, and hereditary jewels are not objected to. Lady Algernon Lennox, who is prime mover in this reform act, is said to be a very beautiful woman, one of whose chief attractions is the perfection of her taste.

Speaking of jewels, Mrs. Arthur Paget is mentioned in the accounts of a great function at Londonderry House as wearing superb diamonds, the brooches nearly covering the bodice of her dress, and which were "inherited from her mother, Mrs. Paran Stevens of New York."