The Sun.

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The Fall in Silver in 1893.

In support of the proposition that the United States could safely enter upon the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, without the concurrence of any other nation, our esteemed Georgia contemporary, the *Augusta Chronicle*, quotes a letter on the subject written by Mr. MORETON FREWEN, a distinguished British bimetallist, to the Hon. R. P. BLAND of Missouri. Among other things Mr. FREWEN says:

"On a certain Monday in June, 1893, the ratio of silver to gold was as 1 to 24; on the Friday of the same week it was 1 to 30; your 'seventy-cent dollar' had in four days become a 'fifty-cent dollar'—and why? Because the mints of a single foreign country, India (not a 'first-rate' country in point of trade), had been closed. Presumably, then, had the Indian mints reopened on that Friday, the ratio would have reverted from 1 to 30 to 1 to 24 before the following Wednesday. Now, let me ask those who object to free coinage in the United States what would have been the effect if, on that same Wednesday, you had opened your mints to the free coinage of silver? If India single handed had been able to raise the ratio 20 per cent.—that is, from 1 to 30 to 1 to 24—by free coinage, would not the additional support of the United States have carried the ratio to 1 to 16—a rise of 33 per cent. more; and, if the United States could not have accomplished this through free coinage, will somebody explain why?"

Mr. FREWEN is slightly inaccurate in his figures. The highest price that silver reached in London in June, 1893, was 38⅛ pence per standard ounce, equivalent to 84 cents per fine ounce in this market, so that its ratio to gold was as 24½ to 1, not 24 to 1, and the bullion value of our silver dollar was 65 cents, and not 70 cents. Upon the closing of the India mints the price in London suddenly dropped to 30⅛ pence, equivalent to 68 cents per fine ounce in this market, making its ratio to gold 29⅝ to 1, and the bullion value of our silver dollar a little more than 50 cents.

These errors are of no importance, except as showing the lack of precision and of carefulness of statement in Mr. FREWEN'S mind; but a more serious defect is his omitting to mention that the drop in price from 38⅛ to 30⅛ pence in London was owing to speculative sales, from which a recovery almost immediately took place, carrying the price up to 34¾ pence in July, 1893, and to 34⅛ pence in August, 1893. It would probably have gone back to 38⅛ pence, but on Aug. 7, 1893, came the special session of Congress called expressly to stop the purchase by our Government of 54,000,000 ounces of silver a year, and this threw, in effect, 54,000,000 additional ounces a year upon the market. Even when the stoppage actually took place, the price, instead of falling, rose from 31½ to 32¾ pence, because Secretary CARLISLE, without waiting for the action of Congress, had reduced his purchases of silver, so that from July 1 to Oct. 31, 1893, they amounted to but 8,225,000 ounces, instead of the 18,000,000 required by the provisions of the SHERMAN act, and thus the effect of the stoppage had been anticipated.

Mr. FREWEN asks why the United States cannot, by free coinage, raise the value of silver to 16 to 1. The answer is, that under free coinage the converting of silver bullion into silver dollars would not in the least diminish the quantity of the metal in the market. At present nobody can afford to melt down silver dollars for manufacturing purposes, because they are worth nearly twice as much in the shape of coin that they would be in that of bullion. If, however, silver bullion is made convertible at pleasure into coin, coin will also be convertible at pleasure back into bullion, and thus free coinage would have no effect upon the commercial ratio of silver to gold. The ratio would continue to be, as it is now, about 31 to 1, and our dollar would be depreciated to about 52 cents in gold.

An Inevitable Consequence.

The organization of an association of Roman Catholics for self-protection against the proscriptive A. P. A. is a natural and inevitable consequence of the mischievous activity of that reviver of Know-Nothingism. It is deplorable that either should exist; but it was impossible that there should be the one without the formation of the other to counteract and offset it. The introduction of the issue of religion into politics is always full of danger; but perhaps the establishment of the new society will have the desirable result of arousing the people to an understanding of the pernicious character of the original movement, and thus remove the reason for the existence of the consequent Roman Catholic order. They may neutralize each other.

The purpose of the new order, so far as concerns candidates for office, is explained by one of the officers to be to "require of each public officer a pledge to carry out his oath to support the Constitution, which guarantees religious freedom and equality." That ought to be an unnecessary requirement. It is a surplusage, which implies that the officer is capable of violating his oath; but the explanation made by the Roman Catholic society that the A. P. A. is industrious in seeking to obtain the adhesion of political candidates to its policy and principles of proscription affords an excuse for such a policy. If the one side obtains the ear of the candidate, he ought to pay attention to the other when it comes demanding only that he should obey his oath in the letter and the spirit. "The A. P. A.," according to the illustration of this Roman Catholic, "goes to Major MCKINLEY, for instance, and asks him to support it in its persecution of Roman Catholics;" and "all we shall ask him is whether or not he has given assurances to the A. P. A. that he will support its policy." That, assuredly, is a fair question, and Mr. MCKINLEY ought in reason to give it a square answer. Every candidate for office ought to be willing and anxious to announce that he is free from obligations or sympathies which would prevent him from rendering full obedience to an official oath.

Consequently, let us hope, this organized opposition to the A. P. A. will tend to deter all candidates for office and all parties and politicians from any course which looks like toleration of that un-American movement, so mischievous and so dangerous in its purposes. The new order should carefully avoid every inclination among its membership to go further in a political direction. So far, it will stand upon sound ground, but beyond there is peril.

It is not probable, nay, it is not possible, that the A. P. A. movement should be permanent. The old Know-Nothing fanaticism seemed at one time to be assuming proportions dangerous to the republic; but it suddenly went to pieces at a time when proportionately the number of Roman Catholics was much less than it is now, and there was a provincial ignorance of the disposition of foreigners which does not exist at all at this period.

Now the Roman Catholics constitute about one-third of the religious communicants of this country. They are about as many as the combined strength of the two principal Protestant denominations, the Baptists and the Methodists. Except in the South, they are numerous and are increasing in every State and every considerable community. New England itself, once the great stronghold of Protestantism, is steadily becoming more and more Roman Catholic. As they are multiplying, too, the old prejudice against them, such as it was, is passing away. There is now more religious tolerance than at any previous period since the birth of Christianity. There is no widespread or considerable public dislike or distrust of them. That sentiment, so powerful, apparently, in the Know-Nothing days, is obviously weak now. Roman Catholics are American citizens, divided between the two great political parties, and such proscription as the A. P. A. inculcates is opposed to the interests of both.

Hence the new order is really unnecessary for the self-protection of our Roman Catholic countrymen. They are in no danger from A. P. A. bigotry. But, as we have said, it was natural and it was inevitable that they should organize against that pernicious institution.

Whom or What Will They Fight?

"The money question," the MCKINLEY men keep on saying, "is a secondary issue, although important. The main issue is the tariff, and the Republican party will make its fight on that."

This sentiment finds repeated expression from MCKINLEY managers and MCKINLEY organs in various parts of the country. It is pronounced so persistently and so emphatically that it must mean something.

What does it mean? What is the tariff issue which is to be the principal issue of the coming campaign? On that issue who is it, or what is it, that the MCKINLEY Republicans expect to fight?

Certainly not the present high protective tariff, enacted by a Congress Democratic in both branches, and allowed to become a law by a Democratic President, who, nevertheless, denounced it as too atrociously protective to receive his signature. The present tariff is one of the highest protective tariffs ever in force in the United States. Its average rate falls short of the average rate of the preceding tariff, distinguished as the MCKINLEY tariff, by very little. A Presidential campaign waged in support of the general theory of protection as against the general theory of tariff taxation for revenue only, is a conceivable thing. Such a campaign occurred four years ago. But a Presidential campaign turning on the question whether forty-one per cent., let us say, or forty-seven per cent. shall be the average rate of protection, is utterly inconceivable to the ordinary mind. You are not going to fire up much enthusiasm in the hearts of either the forty-oners or the forty-seveners.

Is the fight to be for the rearrangement or readjustment of the protection afforded by the schedules of the existing tariff? That undertaking might involve differences of opinion important enough to start a controversy in a Committee on Ways and Means, or even to occasion a lively debate in the House, sitting as a Committee of the Whole. Hardly important enough to fill and inflame the length and breadth of the Union in a Presidential year.

Or is it merely to contend in behalf of the theory of protection, as an abstract proposition, that the warriors of McKinleyism are arming themselves? Do they want to smash the last Democratic national platform? The enterprise is superfluous; the Democracy has smashed the platform already. The Democrats themselves have abandoned the position which the MCKINLEY Republicans purpose to attack. The MCKINLEY warriors may march forth to occupy a stronghold which has been evacuated by its garrison, but it is a strained use of the English language to speak of such a proceeding as a fight, much less as the principal fight of a great Presidential campaign.

It requires two sides to make a fight. It requires two political parties, both earnestly interested and hot for the wager of battle, to make a main issue for a Presidential campaign. What is the tariff issue which looms before the excited imaginations of those Republicans who profess to regard the cause of honest money and the gold standard as of subordinate importance?

Nobody yet has told us this, in language clear enough to be comprehensible.

The Great Canal.

We fear that the best interests of the Nicaragua Canal enterprise have hardly been served by the way in which Congress has acted upon the subject at the present session. It is certainly a matter of great regret that so little of value has been accomplished toward furthering it, and that when Congress comes together again in December it may be found scarcely advanced beyond its condition in December, 1895. It is true that a canal bill has been reported by the House committee, but the whole subject must still be fought out next year.

Before Congress met last December a commission of expert engineers had made a report on their visit to the canal, which had been undertaken at the express direction of Congress, and for the specific purpose of informing that body what ought to be done. These three engineers, of high professional repute and unquestioned integrity, spent about forty days on the Nicaragua canal route, besides further time in examining the Panama Canal, and in revising their conclusions and making their report. They informed Congress in substance that the Nicaragua Canal could probably be built for about $133,472,893. They suggested some changes in the present plans of construction, and above all recommended that a more elaborate study of the canal route should be made, with ampler means than had been put at their disposal. They proposed that this supplementary examination should occupy a year and a half, covering two dry seasons, and that $250,000 should be appropriated for the purpose.

Had this advice been followed a commission could have been authorized and appointed, and by this time could have been far along in its work. By next winter it might even have so far investigated certain matters of importance that Congress could have taken the preliminary steps to commit the Government to the great enterprise. Beyond all question, its work could have been completed by next summer, and the Fifty-fifth Congress would have found awaiting it the most thorough and complete details, showing whether the canal ought to be undertaken by the Government, and, if so, what plans should be adopted. It would have had a very careful estimate of the cost by persons not connected with the company; and possibly this might have been less than the provisional estimate of the commission of engineers.

Instead of taking this sensible course, the House committee has chosen to spend its time in discussions of the report of the engineers, in an effort, apparently, to decry its value. A bill has been reported which provides, as we understand it, for the issue of $100,000,000 three per cent. bonds, guaranteed in principal and interest by the Government, which in return is to hold $100,000,000 of new stock to be issued, except $4,500,000 to be given to the present company for its reimbursement. The present stock is to be cancelled, except that which Nicaragua and Costa Rica hold. The canal is to be built under the supervision of the War Department, and the bonds are to be gradually extinguished out of net earnings. The amounts in the bill suggest the injustice of the estimates of the engineers sent out under the authority of Congress.

All this seems to us very unwise. If the canal ought to be undertaken, there is no evidence that an estimated cost of $135,000,000 would deter Congress from undertaking it, any more than half or two-thirds of that sum. Unless there is a gross exaggeration in the hoped-for earnings from tolls, these earnings might cover the low rate of interest on the construction bonds for the former amount; but, as the case stands, the bill now on the calendar or any other bill on this subject must face the fact that the experts appointed to examine the project have emphatically warned Congress to make another examination before committing the Government to the scheme.

If no such commission had been sent down, the case would be entirely different, but, with the memories of the Panama project so fresh, we cannot desire our own great enterprise to be undertaken with a cloud of doubt resting upon it. If it turns out, as possibly it may, that the examination recommended by the engineer commission must after all be made before Congress will assume the enterprise, then the policy adopted at this session will prove to have been simply throwing away a year.

French Scientific Schools Opened to Americans.

We published on Monday an account of a movement started in Paris by an American, Dr. H. J. FURBER, Jr., of Chicago, which has resulted in increasing signally the opportunities offered to Americans for study and the attainment of degrees in those departments of the University of France which deal with the sciences and their applications. This is a service rendered to our country, the importance of which will be recognized when one considers how small is the number of Americans now pursuing scientific studies in France, outside of the École de Médecine, compared with the hundreds who proceed annually to Germany for the same purpose.

To comprehend the state of things which until recently existed, and the changes now made, one should recall the organization of the higher education in France. In 1793 all the universities and colleges in France, together with the faculties of theology, medicine, jurisprudence, and arts, were abolished by a decree of the Convention. The system which now obtains coincides, as regards its main lines, with that established by NAPOLEON I. The Collège de France, when restored in 1831, was reconstituted mainly as a school of adult instruction, for the most part of a popular character, and entirely dissociated from the university. It now numbers some forty chairs, among which is one of the Slavonic languages and literature. What is known as the University of France (which in some sort succeeded to the historical University of Paris) is at present little more than an abstract term, like that which in the State of New York is known as "The University." It signifies the whole of the professional body under State control, and comprises various faculties at various centres, Paris, Montpellier, Nancy, &c., together with twenty-seven academical rectorates. Each of the rectors presides over a local *conseil d'enseignement* (education board), in conjunction with which he selects the professors of lycées and the communal schoolmasters, whose formal appointment is then made by the Minister of Instruction. There are ecclesiastics in some of the *conseils d'enseignement*, but the rectors are all laymen, who have graduated in one of the faculties. The great schools, corresponding to what we should call post-graduate schools, which have been established from time to time, have in no small measure supplemented the work of the universities by their advance in the direction of scientific instruction. Among these the *École Pratique des Hautes Études*, founded in 1868, and the *École Polytechnique*, whose origin goes back to 1794, are especially distinguished. The course of instruction at the former institution is divided into five sections, namely, mathematics, physics and chemistry, natural history and physiology, history and philology, and economic science. At the Polytechnic School the scheme of instruction is conceived solely with regard to the application of scientific principles to all branches of the public service, but more especially the military and mercantile.

Now, until the present year, the conditions prescribed for admission, study, and the attainment of a degree in most of the institutions established for the higher education under the University of France were so onerous as to discourage Americans, who preferred to go to Germany, where greater facilities were offered them. In the universities of the last-named country an American could matriculate on exhibiting a certificate of graduation from some reputable college in the United States; he could elect the studies he desired to pursue, and he was not subjected to examinations until he applied for a degree. In France, on the other hand, with the exception of the École de Médecine, the École des Mines, and the École des Beaux Arts, the regulations were practically prohibitive, so far as Americans were concerned. There was no fixed equivalent for the diploma of a lycée as a condition precedent to admission, the course of study was to a large extent prescribed, and compulsory examinations were held at frequent intervals. The movement started by Dr. FURBER and supported by M. MICHEL BRÉAL of the Institute, led to the appointment of a Franco-American committee for the purpose of examining what relaxation of the rules just cited might be feasible. The outcome of the committee's work was, as was pointed out in THE SUN on Monday, the issuance of a decree in February of this year by the Minister of Instruction, which placed all students, both foreign and French, in the faculties of science on a new footing. Henceforth there is to be a wide latitude in the choice of studies, the liberty of migration from one French university to another without loss of grade, and the privilege of passing examinations either in succession or in block.

Dr. FURBER does not assert, in so many words, that hereafter the degree of any first-rate American college will be put on a level with the diploma of a French lycée, considered as a proof of the acquirements demanded for admission to the faculties of science; but such, we presume, is the purpose of the appointment of an American advisory committee, consisting of Prof. LANGLEY of the Smithsonian Institution, Mr. CARROLL D. WRIGHT, and the Presidents of Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Cornell, Johns Hopkins, and Michigan universities.

The value of the concessions made by the decree of the Minister of Instruction will be appreciated when it is remembered that Americans have long enjoyed such privileges in the French École de Médecine, but that the expediency of depriving them of these has been urged in order to prevent them from practising in France. Such inhospitality would be unworthy of the traditions of the University of Paris, and there is now no cause to fear that it will be exhibited.

Rods and Reels.

It is doubtless a good sign of the times to find that the materials used by sportsmen are coming down to prices which bring them within the reach of people of moderate means. If horses and dogs are still dear breechloaders are cheap, and bikes promise to be cheaper. But the most noticeable tumble in prices is found in fishing tackle. Rods and reels can be had now for less than one-quarter of what they cost twenty years ago. The quality of the former has probably not been improved, but in the latter there is a marked advance. Reels superior in every way to any that cost twenty-five dollars in old times can now be bought for three dollars, and for the same small sum a good bass rod can be had that will hold its own with poles for which our fathers paid at least fifteen dollars.

Strange as it may seem, it is not the less true that, as the fishing hereabouts becomes poor, the number of fishermen increases. Before the days of two-mile nets, five-hundred-ton mud scows, and water-fouling factories, the finest fishing grounds probably in all the world were in the upper and the lower bays of New York. Some old fishermen on Staten Island remember well when they used to stand upon the rocks on the shores of the Narrows and with their long bamboo reeds, with a line fastened to the tip, catch a basketful of fish in less than an hour. In those days when the reel was the luxury of the rich man, weakfish, the favorite game of the modern salt-water angler, were despised, doubtless because they were too plentiful. The kingfish, at present becoming extinct in these waters, was the favorite of former generations. Now fishermen are glad to bring home anything they catch, dogfish excepted. But the "bow wow" (the Aquahonga word for "dogfish") is the friend of the fishing tackle maker. He holds the record as a line parter and a rod smasher; and when he is taken into a boat he is sure to receive pretty rough treatment at the hands of lovers of the gentle art.

As we said, fishing hereabouts is not like what it used to be, but there is sport enough in the bay yet, and the fishing fever is raging in the city. There is no town in the world that can mobilize a host of fishermen equal in numbers to the army that turns out in New York on Decoration Day, or on the Fourth of July, and no town that can boast of anglers so well equipped from tip to butt.

This fishing fever has puzzled the philosophers for ages. It attacks young and old alike, and they love it all the more for the fatigues and the hardships which it brings. Old fishermen tell us that they enjoy the sport in their old days just as much as they did when they were young, and that the only way to become a boy again is to buy a rod and reel and study the mysteries of sheiders and shrimp.

Man and Ghost.

What a radical difference there is between the respectable business men who, while professing devotion to honest money, are favoring the nomination of MCKINLEY and their bitterly objurgated antagonist, the Hon. THOMAS C. PLATT! They are Mr. PLATT'S counterpart in professing to desire a candidate who is honestly for the maintenance of the gold standard; the difference comes in respect of candidates.

These business McKinleyites are struggling hard to make people believe that the solid-gold MCKINLEY, whom they want nominated, actually exists, although they cannot produce him. On the other hand, the candidate favored by PLATT and the Republican organization of the Empire State, Governor MORTON, is alive, known, certain, and visible to all.

The PLATT candidate is a man of flesh and blood; the anti-PLATT or Ohio candidate is a ghost.

The ghost dancers think, perhaps, that they can materialize a substantial MCKINLEY out of a few sentences to be known as the St. Louis financial plank, and the dumb spirit now kept locked in their cabinet. Watch spiritualism's grandest work!

The new Greater New York Commission contains more than the usual amount of goodness and sufficiency. So far so good.

A Republican silverite, the Denver *Republican*, fearing that the St. Louis Convention will condemn free coinage, begs that the Democrats with whom it expects to affiliate will nominate RICHARD P. BLAND of Missouri. This does not mean that the *Republican* doubts Mr. BLAND'S partisanship as a Democrat, but that it believes him to be an honest and trustworthy champion of free silver.

We believe that every gold Democrat who fears that the Chicago Convention will declare for free silver, prays that the Republicans at St. Louis may nominate LEVI P. MORTON or THOMAS B. REED. This does not deny that either MORTON or REED is the soundest of Republicans, but it shows that either one of them is believed to be honestly and incorruptibly against free silver.

Formal charges against ANDREW D. PARKER, Commissioner of Police, have been filed and served, and the date has been fixed for the appearance of the Commissioner before the Mayor to answer these charges drawn by the Corporation Counsel. Flimsy indeed is their character. They accuse the Democratic associate of President ROOSEVELT and Col. GRANT of nothing more serious than chronic or persistent absenteeism from the deliberations of the present Reform Police Board. It is alleged in the charges that Commissioner PARKER was absent from so large a number of Police Board meetings as to embarrass and obstruct the business of that Board, clearly prescribed by statutory regulations, and, moreover, that by his constant neglect of the consideration of charges filed by citizens or of charges filed against accused officers by their superiors in the department, the present discipline of the force was broken down and the ordinary transaction of police matters disabled. Such, in substance, are the charges against Mr. PARKER, first to be passed upon by Mayor STRONG, who has become their sponsor, and, in the second instance, to be either ratified or disregarded by Governor MORTON.

During the tenure of EDWARD COOPER as Mayor of New York two Commissioners of Police, NICHOLS and SMITH, were removed and CHARLES F. MCLEAN, now one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and the late JAMES E. MORRISON were respectively appointed in their places. This was in 1879, and on Feb. 7, 1880, Mr. NICHOLS and Mr. SMITH were reinstated by the courts on the ground that they had not received proper opportunity to defend themselves from the charges made. Commissioner PARKER is a lawyer by profession and will know certainly how to defend himself.

If the able scholar who condemns THE SUN'S use of "de monumentibus" will remember that de gustibus non disputandum is, he will better enjoy the great intellectual blessings of this mortal life.

Eating is a habit.—*Boston Journal.*

And a very excellent habit, like living. It may be confessed, however, that Boston, enamored of the science of the mind and of pugilism, has not strenuously cultivated the art of eating, and a Boston "club" dinner committed about 2 o'clock of a Saturday afternoon, with four hours of talk and ten minutes of supposed food, is thought by many judicious observers to be not the most attractive of more or less human entertainments. Yet Boston thrives on them. May be not half bad for her.

St. Louis is not merely suffocating; she is bursting. The Hon. MARCUS ÆMILIUS HANNA has gone on as quietly and modestly as nobody but an Ohio statesman can; but his presence is necessarily copious. There is no place in the State for anybody to sleep. The sky is frantic with brass bands. Candidates for office come upon Mr. HANNA from the bowels of the earth, as they came upon Mr. LINCOLN, according to the Hon. ARTEMUS WARD, sometime a citizen of Cleveland. And yet Mr. HANNA continues to be happy. He is the happiest man in the world. But Missouri suffers for want of room.

The statistics of last winter's Free Lectures to the People, printed in THE SUN, are convincing proof of the value of this feature of our educational system. These lectures are not for entertainment, but for edification. The lecturers tell the people of things that are worth knowing and incite them to study for themselves; and the fact that nearly 400,000 persons crowded the thirty lecture halls last winter, in fair weather or in foul, shows that a popular need was met when this means of education was provided. HENRY M. LEIPZIGER, Ph. D., under whose assiduous care our free lecture course has grown to its present great proportions, is to be congratulated on the results attained, and the lecturers, many of them leaders in their fields of study, who practically donate their time because the work interests them, deserve the thanks of the public.

A correspondent of our esteemed contemporary, the *Boston Traveller*, reports from Washington that Vice-President STEVENSON is to be the silver candidate for President and Senator CAMERON the candidate for Vice-President, with a tariff plank demanding "protection that will safeguard our welfares and manufacturers from the competition of underpaid foreign labor."

Are the silver Democrats going in for protection, too, with the rest?

The talents of the Hon. CHARLES HENRY GROSVENOR are suitably appreciated by the inhabitants of St. Louis. His marvellous mathematical ability, so loved in the Buckeye Reservation, is duly prized in Missouri, also. He has been invited to take the census of St. Louis; and it is hoped and believed by all the lovers of that admirable city that, if he does consent to enter the enumeration business, St. Louis will be able to boast of a population at least ten times bigger than that of London and almost equal to the Ohio collection which will occupy the town next week.

Uncle HOD BOIES of Iowa seems to be the leading "silver Democrat," whatever that may be, for the present, but the competition is growing keen. The Hon. BABE BAILEY of Texas, the Hon. RICHARD PARKS BLAND of Missouri, the Hon. BUCK HINRICHSEN of Illinois, the Hon. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN of Nebraska, and, more and most of all, the Hon. HEZ LENG of Kentucky, have distinctions and privileges which make them tolerably preëminent; and it will be enormous or impossible to snuff them out.

The Hon. CHARLES WARREN LIPPITT and the Hon. D. RUSSELL BROWN are good men and great, and if Fate is even half decent she will grin upon their ambition to be nominated for Vice-President; but they are not kind to their State. They are gradually extruding it into the Atlantic Ocean. Rhode Island is valuable with many values. It is especially venerated in these parts as the site of Brown University, an institution full of the most thrilling kind of baseball. LIPPITT and BROWN mean well, but they will never be forgiven if they sink their State instead of their differences.

This is a great country, as has been truly remarked by many wise and thoughtful remarkers, but greatness has its discomforts. Where, for instance, is the noble reform movement moved by the Hon. DAN'L SWOGER of Pittsburgh or Tonawanda or somewhere? Somewhere it must be, and in proud and turbulent motion. The country might lose itself, but it cannot and will not afford to lose sight of the Hon. DAN'L SWOGER. Such men are more than priceless. They are distinctly worth the price of admission.

At this impressive and lovely moment it seems especially due to the Hon. WILLIAM MCKINLEY HAHN to say that he is not an extension but an attachment of the Hon. MARCUS ATAVUS HANNA. Mr. HAHN is not merely ornamental; he is as useful as use. He, too, booms with the sound of many oceans and of earthquakes innumerable. He, too, deserves the best there is and much gratitude from the Hon. WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

Safety for Trolley Cars.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Sunday's accident on the Nassau trolley road in Brooklyn fulfils a prophecy many times made by the writer. While the overcrowding of the cars is a serious matter, it only emphasizes the duty of the railroad company to be more cautious in operating and to avail itself of every device that will guard against accident of every kind. In Albany, on the State street hill, every car is equipped with a rod of iron under the rear platform. This rod, by a chain connection, is dropped at the foot of the hill as the car begins the ascent. It acts as a brace or chock in case of the brake giving way, and many of the motormen depend on it to hold the car on the hill in case of a stop being made. It's a simple and cheap affair, and effective as it is simple.

OBSERVER.

16 to 1.

From the Chicago Tribune.

Dentist—That makes eight silver fillings on the lower jaw and eight on the upper jaw.

Man in the Chair (Vice-President of 'Steenth Ward Bimetallic Club)—All right, doctor. That makes sixteen. Fill the next one with gold.

A Revolting Shame.

From the Washington Post.

If this be not the time for humanity and civilization to interfere in Cuba, then humanity and civilization have no mission to Americans.

The New Scheme.

From the Boston Courier.

Away to the beach the maiden hies
With a well-connected plan
To catch the looks of admiring eyes
And dazzle the summer man.
But it isn't with tricks of dress that she
A lower will try to share:
The maid will pose by the sounding sea
In as little as she can wear.

SPECIAL EXCISE AGENTS.

Civil Service Examination on June 24—The Conditions.

ALBANY, June 9.—The State Civil Service Commission met to-day after a conference with Gov. Morton and directed Chief Examiner Fowler to hold an open competitive examination for special agents in the liquor tax department on June 24, in New York, Albany, Syracuse, and Buffalo. The conditions are that all applicants for the $1,200 offices must be between 30 and 60 years old, residents and citizens of the State, free from physical defects, never convicted of felony, and not associated with the liquor business within a year. The examination will cover handwriting, arithmetic (including fractions and percentage), geography of New York State, the provisions of the Raines law and the legal terms used therein, the machinery for beginning criminal proceedings, the preparation of affidavits and reports, and common business affairs. In rating the candidates "experience is to be considered," but what kind of experience is not stated.

A separate eligible list is to be prepared for each of the eight judicial districts, and Commissioner Lyman must select his appointees from the list of the judicial district in which they are to work. This order was made at Commissioner Lyman's suggestion. By another change Commissioner Lyman receives the power to select five instead of three names from the list of those that pass.

Commissioner Lyman wrote a letter to the Civil Service Commission, and it was considered at the meeting to-day. In this letter he made a last effort to save his sixty special agents by declaring that "the classification of special agents of this or any other State department in Class II, or the general competitive schedule, is not desirable, practicable, or economical."

The Civil Service Commission answered this letter and that of May 29 by informing him that a competitive examination had been ordered for June 24, and that he might select his agents by judicial districts and have five to choose from. He was told also that schedule C, or the non-competitive schedule, would not be restored at present, but would be left suspended, as by the order of May 28.

Other resolutions of the Civil Service Board, approved by Gov. Morton to-day, were those putting the $1,620 office of the assistant cashier in Deputy Excise Commissioner Hildreth's office, the assistant secretaryship of the Forest, Fish, and Game Commission, worth $1,800, and the $2,000 place of accountant in the State Treasurer's office all under schedule A, in which no examination is required.

HAVERTY RESTORED TO OFFICE.

City Has Five Assessors Now—Law Says Four—Which One Will Go?

The Consolidation act, which is the only charter New York city has, provides for the appointment of four Assessors. All these places are now filled, but the city has five Assessors and must pay the salary of the fifth. The action of the Court of Appeals, announced yesterday, in the case of Major P. M. Haverty, is responsible for this situation. Major Haverty, who had been an Assessor for ten years, was removed by the Tax Commissioners last November, after a hearing and on testimony tending to prove his physical incapacity for the post. The Major is a war veteran and appealed to the courts for reinstatement. The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court decided in his favor, and the Court of Appeals has affirmed the lower court. The court decides that mere physical defects are not enough to warrant the removal of a war veteran.

When Major Haverty was removed so were Assessors Cahill and Gumbleton, and Assessor Wendt had resigned. There were four vacancies to fill, and in filling them the Tax Commissioners did not specify which of their appointees should succeed Major Haverty. The four Assessors are John W. Jacobus, William H. Bellamy, Thomas J. Rush, and Edward McCue. The conundrum now is, which must get out to make room for Major Haverty. Jacobus feels pretty secure, because he is a war veteran. The salary of the place is $3,000 a year, and Major Haverty is entitled to recover seven months' back pay.

ALDERMEN MEAN FIGHT.

Will Defend Their Ewe Lamb of Patronage Against the Chinese Spoiler.

The Aldermen listened with interest yesterday when the clerk read the letter of the Civil Service Commission putting the clerks and attachés of the Board in the competitive civil service class. Alderman Hull moved that it be referred to the Committee on County Affairs. Alderman Brown moved to amend so that it should go to the Committee on Law.

Alderman Oakley said that any reference would be useless, and that the Board should repudiate the whole thing and censure the Mayor for approving any such proceedings.

"This is a legislative body," he said, "with power to appoint its own clerks and attendants, and this attempt to foist the present attachés of this Board upon succeeding Boards is unjust and an imposition. I think the Mayor should be censured and his action repudiated. A reference will be of no avail, because it is evident that Mayor Strong had consulted with Corporation Counsel Scott and the Civil Service Commissioners, and that the whole thing had been cut and dried."

Alderman Goodman jumped into the breach to prevent a vote of censure by moving that the letter be referred to the Law Committee, with instructions to find out what were the rights of the Aldermen and to take such steps as the situation warranted, even to the extent of engaging special counsel. This motion prevailed, and the matter was dropped.

CASH FOR CITY IMPROVEMENTS.

Park Walk Repairs, 111th Street Park, and Summer Life-saving Crews.

Commissioner Collis of the Department of Public Works asked the Board of Estimate and Apportionment yesterday for $50,000 to build lavatories in the down-town parks, as authorized by act of Legislature. He had no plans—except to nominate McKinley—and the matter was laid over.

The Park Board was authorized to spend $33,000 to repair walks in Tompkins, Stuyvesant, Washington, Bryant, East River, and Mount Morris parks; $12,500 for repairing the Sixty-fifth street transverse road, and $13,994 for laying out a small park at 111th street and East River.

The Board of Health got $1,280 for the establishment of a life-saving crew for the summer. The crew will consist of a captain at $100 a month, and a man each at Hell Gate, at Corlears Hook Park, and at the Cinder Beds, 150th street and North River. An application for $1,300 from the Pennsylvania National Guard as pay for music furnished at the Columbian celebration in 1892 was referred to the Corporation Counsel.

YALE'S SENIOR STATISTICS.

Facts as to the Past and Future of the Graduating Class.

NEW HAVEN, June 9. The annual Yale class book of the academic department was published to-day.

The class represented 100 preparatory schools. Dean H. P. Wright is the favorite professor, and Dr. W. L. Phelps the favorite tutor and pleasantest member of the faculty. Prof. Adams is the broadest-minded member of the faculty. Six members of the class are engaged to be married and whist is the favorite class game.

Beer is the favorite class drink, Joe Jefferson is the favorite actor, and the Rev. Dr. Mackenzie of Harvard the favorite preacher. Of the class 176 are church members, 56 being Congregationalists and 44 Presbyterians.

The class contains 160 Republicans, 51 Democrats, and 23 Mugwumps. Twenty members of the class have paid their own way through college. Of the class, 62 wear glasses. Seventy-seven members of the class will study law, 12 say they are determined to be Presidents of the United States, and 60 will go into business.

The Age of Brook Trout.

From the Lewiston, Me., Evening Journal.

How long will brook trout live is a question one often hears discussed. A Dexter gentleman, now middle aged, says that when he was quite a small boy he caught three brook trout and put them in his father's well. Two of them were probably sacrifices before a very long time to the cannibalistic propensities of their mate, but the latter continued to live and thrive in that well until last summer, when he died, probably of old age. The gentleman is unable to fix the exact length of time, but he thinks the trout must have been "well on" to twenty years old.

The Marine Straddlebug.

From the Lewiston Saturday Journal.

Down Brooksville way the people have been looking at a strange craft which even some of the old sea dogs pronounce a "curious critter." She is the Nellie Bacon, Capt. Edward Lord, and is described as a cross between a Norseman and a Chinese junk. She is schooner rigged, with flush decks, no rails, and her masts go on hinges, so that in "coming to" they are lowered fore and aft the decks by slacking away on the forestays. The politicians would call her a "straddlebug."

Realistic Translating.

From the London Tablet.

A correspondent of the *Isis* who has been coaching during the Vac. sends the following choice translation which his pupil gave of "At pius Æneas ingenti mole sepulchrum deposuit": "But pious Æneas put down the bier with a huge dam." And the pupil never smiled.

THE OREGON ELECTION.

Republicanism Has Been Wrecked by Worshipping the Populists—A Lesson in Politics.

From the Portland Oregonian.

Two years ago the Republican party of Oregon was a united party. It stood for distinct purposes. It won an overwhelming victory in the election. In the Legislature there were but few opposition members. At the session that began in January, 1895, the destructive policy was commenced that has led to the results we now behold.

It was proclaimed that Mr. Dolph should not be reelected to the Senate because he was a representative of the policy of maintaining the gold standard, as against the demand for free coinage of silver. This made a nucleus of desperate and fanatical opposition, abetted by Senator Mitchell and Representatives Hermann and Ellis, through their political supporters and dependents; the defeat of Mr. Dolph was proclaimed as a triumph of the silver faction, to be taken as notice that men who insisted on maintenance of the gold standard were to have no voice in the direction of the Republican party of the State; and the refusal to give the people relief from the burdens of an excessive taxation was pronounced with an insolence and maintained with a shameless display of corruption that challenged indignation and resentment, and made submission impossible.

The questions thus started were carried forward, to be the material of the next campaign.

Beginning with that legislative session, an effort was made, and steadily persisted in, to confuse the lines of distinction between the Republican and Populist parties on the money question and kindred subjects. Senator Mitchell and Representatives Hermann and Ellis were to be supported and protected as silver men, and various vagaries of populism were pushed upon the party in many portions of the State. When the Republican State Convention assembled in April last, it was not allowed to make a platform that should state an unequivocal position on the money question, and the effort to obtain such platform was met and defeated by a dirty bargain that renominated Ellis for Congress. This was followed by an effort to carry the Legislature for reelection of Senator Mitchell, through a series of intrigues with the Populists. The State Republican Committee was organized for this endeavor, and devoted itself sedulously to it; the partisans of Senator Mitchell in Multnomah county entered into every kind of traffic with Populists and Democrats; they corrupted and debauched with their money, and virtually absorbed at the election both these parties; the work of the State Central Committee—its details in the hands of a Populist nominee for the Legislature—was scarcely distinguishable from the work of the Populist campaign, and its purpose as little.

Is it surprising that disaster has overtaken this proceeding? There is not room for two political parties on the same ground. The tribute of admiration paid to the principles of populism, through this imitation of them by the so called Mitchell Republicans, was not lost; but it had, as is usual in like affairs, a very different result from what was intended. The people thought that if Populism was so fine a thing, they would take it from its original proprietors and patentees; and they were right. The consequence is that, for the present, Oregon is a Populist State.

Had the men whom the Republican party of Oregon has advanced to the rank of leadership come out fairly from the beginning on the side of sound money and the gold standard, they would have brought their party into line on the subject and held it there; and, though there doubtless would have been some loss of votes on the issue, such loss would have been made good by accessions of Democrats who uphold the gold standard. But the ignorance of some and the cowardice and demagogy of others have weakened the party by destroying in many minds all true faith in its principles.

The chief of these propagators of false doctrines has been Senator Mitchell. His influence has been very great, and it has tended steadily to demoralization of his party on this question, till now its faith and strength have been so undermined that it virtually goes to pieces, and he is