The Sun.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1896.

Subscriptions by Mail Post-Paid.

DAILY, per Month	$0 50
DAILY, per Year	6 00
SUNDAY, per Year	2 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Year	8 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Month	70

Postage to Foreign Countries added.

THE SUN, New York City.

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

LOCAL NEWS.—The City and Suburban News Bureau of the UNITED PRESS and NEW YORK ASSOCIATED PRESS is at 21 to 29 Ann street. All information and documents for public use instantly disseminated to the press of the whole country.

An Unpatriotic and Foolish Remark.

Mr. FRANK S. BLACK of Troy, who represents the Nineteenth district of this State in Congress, and was yesterday nominated for Governor, did the cause of sound money no good by his speech as temporary Chairman of the Republican State Convention when he indulged in this sarcastic fling at the patriotic Democrats who propose to vote for the McKINLEY electors:

"A man who for the past ten years has voted the Democratic ticket in the State of New York is beyond prayers. If he votes with the Republicans this fall it is not because he has become better, but because he has become alarmed. If he labors for the success of the Republican party now it is because he fears the success of his own."

If Major McKINLEY has no support on election day from any man "who for the past ten years has voted the Democratic ticket in the State of New York," his majority will be neither certain nor large.

Such talk as this of Mr. BLACK'S is untimely and unfortunate. It operates as a rebuff to those who have been outraged by the undemocratic character of the Chicago platform and ticket, and yet who hesitate to vote with the Republicans, even though it be for this occasion only. While most of the Democrats whose patriotism has led them to resolve to support the Republican electoral ticket, will doubtless adhere to their resolution, as the only sure means of defeating the Bryanites, there will be a considerable hesitating contingent who will be driven away and perhaps back into the Bryan camp by foolish partisan speeches of this description.

BLACK'S speech helps the Silverites. He ought to know better.

The Republican Candidate for Governor.

The unexpected happened at Saratoga, and the Republican candidate for Governor of New York is a young lawyer of Troy, who represents the Columbia and Rensselaer district in the present Congress. Mr. FRANK S. BLACK is not yet well known to the people of the State.

We observe that the newspapers have already begun to designate this Republican candidate as "the new Boy Orator."

This is unjust. Although the circumstances attending the nomination of Mr. BLACK were in some respects superficially similar to those which evolved Mr. BRYAN at Chicago, and although Mr. BLACK'S speech as temporary Chairman shows that he, too, possesses the oratorical temperament, there is an essential difference between the two young men.

BRYAN cannot restrain his eloquence, however hard he may try. His output is continuous and irrepressible. He would die if he were physically gagged.

BLACK can say foolish things, as was demonstrated on Tuesday, but he can also keep his mouth shut. The proof of this is found in the fact that during the first and only session of his service in Congress he made but one speech, and that a very short and modest one, in favor of granting a pension to the widow of the late Gen. JOSEPH B. CARR. With this single exception the countless pages of the last volume of the *Congressional Record* contain no specimen of his rhetoric. This young member knew enough to sit still, and listen, and learn.

During the corresponding period of Mr. BRYAN'S first term in the House of Representatives that remarkable youth made not less than two dozen set speeches on all sorts of subjects, amounting in the aggregate, we should say, to considerably more than the entire recorded eloquence of MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO.

Mr. BRYAN and Mr. BLACK are not in the same class. Just what class Mr. BLACK belongs to, will be seen later on.

A Great Campaign in a Great Town.

Nothing demonstrates more strikingly the growth of the population of the Greater New York than the necessity which has arisen, during this campaign more especially, of limiting admission to important meetings to holders of admission tickets.

Campaign managers are naturally embarrassed by such a necessity. The meetings are free, and, of course, the managers are anxious to reach the whole public with their political arguments. It goes against their grain to keep out anybody. They are unwilling to make any discrimination even between their partisan followers and those who have been their partisan foes; and in this campaign of all others they want to give everybody a chance, and an equal chance, to hear and gain the education their speakers are engaged in imparting. The issue and the requirement of tickets of admission afford occasion for popular discontent, provoked by a mistaken notion that there is partiality and inequality in the distribution of the tickets. One of our correspondents complained, for instance, of his inability to get into Madison Square Garden to hear the speech of Mr. BOURKE COCKRAN, and suspiciously attributed it to his lack of a "pull," though the only reason for his exclusion was obviously that there were not enough tickets of admission to go around. Twice as many people as received them were anxious to get them, but, vast as the space is, it was not great enough to hold a half of the people who wanted to hear Mr. COCKRAN. The law also limits the crowd which may be admitted to a building, with wise reference to guarding their safety.

Admission to Carnegie Hall, where ex-President HARRISON is to speak to-night, will also be confined to ticket holders, and for the same reasons. Not one-tenth part of the people of the Greater New York, with its population of 3,000,000 and over, who desire to hear Mr. HARRISON could be packed into that noble audience room. Their number is so great that no hall in town would hold them. Hence if anybody is to hear him and the general safety is protected, tickets of admission are made absolutely necessary. Otherwise the crush at the doors would be dangerous, and the struggle to pass them might be calamitous in its consequences to those engaged in it.

This is the price we pay for the greatness of this town. Nowhere within it is there or can there be a hall vast enough to contain all the people who are eager to hear a speaker of distinction and oratorical power in a campaign like this, when the honor of the nation and its very existence are at stake. Even at the time of the popular uprising provoked by the secessionist assault on Fort Sumter, there was no building capacious enough to contain the people whose patriotism had been so outrageously aroused, yet then New York was small as compared with what it is now. The population of the Greater New York was then only about one-third of its present number. If at that time, thirty-five years ago, it was necessary to hold the meeting in the open air of Union square, how much more imperative is the necessity now. But now, even more than at that day, the popular desire is to see and hear individual orators of distinction, whose voices, no matter how strong, are not equal to extending to the ears of such a throng as would be brought out in the vain hope of listening to them. Suppose, for instance, that Mr. REED should come to New York to speak in this canvass, is there a hall big enough to hold more than a small part of the people who would want to hear him? There is not a public square large enough to contain them, and there is no human voice that could reach to the limits of the crowd which would be packed into the open space; and he could not be heard by more than a comparatively small part of the number. The minority only can hear; the majority must content themselves with reading.

Sounding boards, scientifically constructed, carry the voice of an orator through a hall of a magnitude which it could not otherwise fill, and perhaps we shall yet get a device which will render for us a like service in the relatively boundless expanse of the open air.

But, after all, everybody can enjoy the satisfaction of voting for his country's honor on the 3d of next November. No tickets will be required for admission to the polls. Entrance there is the inalienable privilege and glorious opportunity of American citizenship.

The Money Owning Class.

Candidate BRYAN keeps on making speeches, but he also keeps on carefully avoiding the discussion of the one point of vital importance in this political campaign. He is full of lamentations over the wretched condition of working people, under the gold standard, but he has no argument to offer showing how those same wretched working people would be helped by getting 53 cents, as they would under the silver standard, where they now get a dollar in gold.

In his speech at Albany, day before yesterday, Mr. BRYAN, however, inadvertently blurted out a truth very damaging to his cause. He said that "without the aid of the money owning class, the gold standard would not stand for one day in any nation under the sun." This is a confession that the enemies of the gold standard are the class who do not own money. They are the lazy, the incompetent, the shiftless, the dissipated and the bankrupt, who, having nothing of their own, would rob of their savings the industrious and the thrifty.

The money owning class comprises, not alone the few millionaires, against whom Mr. BRYAN is fond of declaiming, but the 4,875,000 savings bank depositors, and the 15,000,000 and more of men, women, and children in the country who earn their living by their labor. Every one of these owns a little money, and would like to own more; and every one of them wants that money to be gold or as good as gold. Every one, too, who has a dollar in his pocket, or a dollar due him, is a money owner, and as Mr. BRYAN justly says, he supports the gold standard.

This vast money owning class do not mean to allow themselves to be robbed by the few worthless rascals who do not own money.

The Politicians and the Judiciary.

There is much that is suggestive in the following extract from a despatch to the *Brooklyn Eagle* from its correspondent at the Saratoga Convention:

"Four Judges are to be elected in the Second Judicial district, which takes in the counties of Kings, Queens, Suffolk, Richmond, Orange, Dutchess, Westchester, and Putnam. There are thirteen candidates for the nominations and the returns are not in from all the counties. Several of the candidates are here. Among the aspirants for judicial honors are W. W. GOODRICH, JESSE JOHNSON, ALBERT E. LAMB, E. H. ROBBS, JOSEPH A. BURR, W. D. THORNTON, HUGO HIRSH, ABEL C. BLACKMAR, United States Commissioner ALLEN, SAMUEL T. MADDOX, and FREDERICK A. WARD. Mr. WARD has the backing of so able and upright a jurist as ex-Judge REYNOLDS of Brooklyn.

"A Judge is to be elected in the place of C. E. PRATT, deceased. Judge DYKMAN is retired because of the age limitation, and Judges BROWN and CLEMENT will retire because of the expiration of their term of office. Some of the candidates who are on the ground are buttonholing delegates and conducting their campaigns somewhat after the methods of the Baxter street pullers in."

No doubt there was much discussion among the Republicans at Saratoga concerning the four Supreme Court vacancies in the Second or Brooklyn Judicial district. There are some Republicans in Brooklyn who believe that they could elect a yellow dog to office this fall, and who are disposed to make nominations accordingly. These people, however, do not represent the prevalent sentiment in the Republican party or among the Republican members of the bar. There is a strong feeling, which will find expression before the Judiciary Conventions are held, in favor of taking the bench out of politics in this election by uniting upon a ticket of two Republicans and the two Democratic Judges who are eligible to reélection, CHARLES F. BROWN of Newburgh, now the Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division in the Second Department, and NATHANIEL H. CLEMENT of Brooklyn, who became a Supreme Court Justice at the beginning of the present year, being transferred from the City Court by the operation of the new Constitution.

These Judges have shown themselves to be worthy in the highest degree. In a time like this, when the Republicans are seeking Democratic support for their electoral ticket on the ground of putting patriotism above party—as they may rightfully do—it is meet that they should adhere to the principle of keeping good Judges in office, to whichever party organization the Judges belong.

We may add that the voters of the Second Judicial district have shown great capacity for discrimination in the past, and it will therefore be wise to abandon the "yellow dog" notion so far as judicial nominations are concerned.

Our Southwest Boundary.

The joint Commission on the frontier between the United States and Mexico has completed its important labors in fixing the boundary line. It turns out that, in a few particulars, the Commissioners appointed by our neighbor do not agree with our own, and accordingly both sides have submitted their views upon the points in dispute, and their views will go before the respective Governments. We think it safe, however, to assume that this difference of opinion does not contain the germ of any perilous boundary dispute, and that the same amicable spirit which prompted the appointment of the Commission will preside over its final results.

Meanwhile the Commission is proceeding with a supplementary task imposed upon it by the two Governments as recently as last May, namely, that of making surveys for a dam on the Rio Grande a few miles above El Paso. The river at that place has been at times a source of trouble, it being charged that jetties erected on one side to stop the encroachment of the stream have caused the river to wear away the opposite bank. It has also been desired to construct a reservoir in which the surplus waters during freshets might be impounded, so as both to avoid injuries from floods and to have a supply when needed for irrigation or other purposes, for increasing the flow of water in the channel of the river at times, and so on.

It can easily be seen that this might be no easy task, even with different communities in the same country to provide for. But in the present case two different countries must agree on the arrangement for distributing the water, and opposite the American town of El Paso is the Mexican town of Juarez. This, however, is a task which the engineers of the two countries are now jointly prosecuting, and it suggests once more the friendly and neighborly spirit in which these boundary surveys have been carried on.

Years ago we had serious disputes with Mexico over alleged violations of the frontier on the one side or the other. Sometimes they arose out of the raids of Indians or other outlaws, and their pursuit by the troops; sometimes out of the chasing of deserters across the line. Occasionally the shifting of the course of the Rio Grande made trouble. But by compacts of various sorts most causes of frontier trouble between the two countries have been removed, and it may fairly be hoped that the work of the present Commission will lead to the disposal of all the rest.

Bryan's Cannibal Tree.

In Mr. BRYAN'S first speech in Congress, delivered on March 16, 1892, he drew a picture of the condition of the Western farmer quite as dismal as any that he is producing now for campaign effect. He is not using any deeper indigo in his present professional tour than that with which he painted the distress of the oppressed and mortgaged agriculturist then. But then for the distress, the oppression, and the mortgage, he had only one simple, comprehensive explanation: The Western farmer was the victim of *the protective tariff*.

Not one word do we find in Mr. BRYAN'S original plea for "justice" to the Western farmer, of the gold standard or the one-hundred-cent dollar as the cause of all the woe. Protection was a good enough octopus for that occasion.

Mr. BRYAN told the following story about a man-killing tree in Australia, and compared it to the protective tariff:

"There is in Australia what is known as the cannibal tree. It grows not very high and spreads out its leaves like great arms until they touch the ground. In the top is a little cup, and in that cup a mysterious kind of honey. Some of the natives worship the tree, and on their festive days they gather around it, singing and dancing, and then as a part of their ceremony they select one from their number and, at the point of spears, drive him over the leaves onto the tree; he drinks of the honey, he becomes intoxicated as it were, and then those arms, as if instinct with life, rise up; they encircle him in their folds, and, as they crush him to death, his companions stand around shouting and singing for joy.

"*Protection has been our cannibal tree, and as one after another of our farmers has been driven by the force of circumstances upon that tree and has been crushed within its folds*, his companions have stood around and shouted, 'Great is Protection!'"

Then this glib débutant from Nebraska proceeded to show by statistics that in Kansas between 1880 and 1890 the percentage of farmers merely renting their farms instead of owning them had increased from 13.13 to 33.25, while more than 64 per cent. of the farms were mortgaged; that in Ohio the proportion of renters had increased in the ten years from 24.96 to 37.10 per cent.; in Virginia from 15.20 to 20.20 per cent., and so on, all on account of protection. "Your system," he shouted to the protectionists, amid the applause of the free traders, "has driven the farm owner from his land and substituted the farm tenant."

Not one word about the gold standard or the one-hundred-cent dollar as an agent of oppression and suffering. Protection was the devil for that emergency.

How four years and a nomination for the Presidency have changed Mr. BRYAN'S ideas of the source of all evil! Now his cannibal tree is the one-hundred-cent dollar, the honest dollar, worth its face value in purchasing power. It is the gold standard that is ruining the agriculturist. The same rhetoric, the same illustrations, the same figures of speech, the same mouthings of phrase and gestures of denunciation which at the outset of his career he used in ascribing the nation's ills to the protective tariff—"an attack," he announced in that first speech of his, "which will be continued as long as there is anything to remedy"—are now made to do service in proving that the cannibal tree is not protection, but the gold standard. And concerning protection, the cannibal tree of 1892, Mr. BRYAN is as dumb in this campaign as the brown and shrivelled mummy of RAMESES.

The Population of France.

In France the censuses are not decennial but quinquennial, and one was taken in March of the present year. The results of it have now been published, and, when compared with those of preceding censuses, they justify somewhat dismal conclusions with regard to the growth and the future of the French people.

According to the census of 1886 there had been an increase within the five previous years of 565,380; that of 1891, on the other hand, revealed an increase of but 208,584, while the census that has just been taken demonstrates that the increase has fallen to 133,819. It appears that the decline became noticeably rapid in 1890, and has since gone on at an alarming rate. The inference is that the census of 1901 will prove the population to have become nearly stationary, if it does not disclose an actual decrease. In France, as a whole, the birth rate has fallen to about 22 in 1,000, and in some of the departments it is as low as 14 or 15. In Paris, to be sure, and other great cities, an expansion of population is recorded, but this has been obtained at the expense of the rural communes. Within the memory of men still living there prevailed in France a very different state of things from that exhibited by this census. In the first decade of this century the birth rate was about 32 in 1,000, and the population was almost as large as it is now. It was then, moreover, nearly double that of the United Kingdom, whereas to-day the population of Great Britain and Ireland is the greater. Again, in 1788 France was computed to have a population of more than twenty-four millions; whereas the whole of Germany was credited with only about fifteen million inhabitants, or fewer than she is believed to have possessed at the beginning of the Thirty Years' War. Now the population of Germany is more than fifty millions, that of Prussia alone being over thirty millions. It is needless to point out the sinister bearing of such figures upon the relative military strength of countries in which the system of conscription obtains. It is probable, moreover, that from this point of view the consequences are even more serious than the statistics would indicate upon their face. In the course of some remarkable articles Abbé FORTIN has demonstrated that the effect of the differences of the birth rate in France and Germany is not merely to create a growing disparity in population, but also to alter its nature, and in some respects its efficiency. With a small birth rate and few children, France tends to become preëminently a country of old or mature men. Of 1,000 persons taken at random in Germany and France, there will presumably be more Germans than there are Frenchmen within the ages at which military service is tolerable. Obvious also is the effect of the stagnation of the population of France upon her colonizing projects. There is no surplus for emigration. On the other hand, the growing disproportion of wealth to population in France invites immigration thither from neighboring countries; many statisticians have directed attention to the recent prodigious influx of Germans, Italians, and Belgians into the French territory.

The grave phenomenon brought out by the census cannot be ascribed to any inherent want of fertility in the French race. The French-speaking inhabitants of Canada are among the most prolific of human beings. Undoubtedly we must attribute to the gradual influence of institutions the enormous difference between the birth rate in France and the birth rate in French Canada. As regards the laws of inheritance and testamentary disposition French Canada has retained substantially the regulations of the *ancien régime*, under which the French population increased with exceptional rapidity. France was even able, as we have seen, to bear triumphantly the prolonged and tremendous drain of the Napoleonic laws; but at that time the Code Napoleon, with its new and revolutionary provisions regarding inheritance and testamentary disposition, had not had time to influence the habits of the people. Those provisions, it is well known, set, practically, a premium upon small families in the eyes of those who desire to avert the subdivision and disappearance of the family property. That these laws, and the determination engendered to evade them, lie at the root of the stagnation of population in France is plain from the fact that not only is the birth rate lowest among the rich or well-to-do, but it is exceedingly low among the whole body of the peasant proprietors so far as the richer provinces are concerned. The French peasant and the French tradesman have become willing to sacrifice even the craving for children in order to add to the family acres or the family hoards.

The cause of the low birth rate in France being thus clearly distinguished, the remedy should be equally discernible. It has been suggested that an increase in the number of children might be encouraged by adjusting taxation to the size of families, or that, with a view of compassing the same end, the State should offer a premium on each child born in wedlock. It is well known that such an experiment was tried under the Roman empire, but without success. A more promising proposal is that the law of testamentary disposition should be so modified as to give the father full liberty of bequeathing. Under such a régime most of the land or personal property belonging to the father would undoubtedly be kept in the family by being left to one of the children, the rest being trained and stimulated to look out for themselves. Such a change of the testamentary law might in the end prove effective, and restore the birth rate in France to the point at which it stood at the beginning of this century; but the habits of the French peasantry, which now seem fixed, might prove as slow to alter as they were to form.

The Hon. HAMILTON FISH will not this year be Governor of the State of New York, as his father was before him. But Mr. FISH is young, and he may yet have his laudable ambition gratified. He deserves honor for disdaining frivolous pursuits and expending his energies in the noble field of politics.

The *Cleveland Citizen* refuses to give the name of that "Presbyterian minister, who was a delegate from the State of Washington" to the Populist Convention at St. Louis, to whom it recently attributed a number of belligerent remarks, one of them being this: "We will back our bullets with our bayonets;" and another: "The great West may soon be a huge military camp." That we might know with certainty whether these statements were made by the minister of whom the weekly paper spoke, we asked for his name. After refusing to furnish the name for our information, and for that of the Presbyterians who would like to know it, the *Citizen* says:

"The name of the minister will not alter the facts. The gold bugs would pull the wires, and have the reverend gentleman kicked out of the General Assembly, which they seem to control. The *Richmond Star* is also suspicious of THE SUN. Our Virginia contemporary wants to know if THE SUN would have the minister turned out of the church, arrested, and hanged."

We conclude that the Presbyterian minister of the State of Washington was an invention of the *Cleveland Citizen*, and that no minister ever spoke in the way it represented one as speaking. We do not know of any Presbyterian minister anywhere who is a blusterer and a coward, saying terrible things behind a screen, and afraid to make public avowal of his private utterances.

I am not going to violate the propriety of the occasion by attempting a political speech except to say this, that all those who are interested in their country's welfare are anxious to have the Government so administered that a larger proportion of our people will be able to spend some time each year at summer resorts to obtain strength for the duties of life.—*W. J. Bryan in Ulster county.*

The Boy Orator ought to have explained how it would become easier for people to spend some time each year at summer resorts if they received their salaries or earnings in 53-cent dollars.

From a Patriotic German.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The time has come in the history of our country when all right-minded American citizens who have hitherto refrained from taking an active part in their nation's politics must advance resolutely against the ranks of their political enemy.

When a great party has been split in twain by one single issue, the time indeed has come to cry "Halt!" to those who are threatening to disrupt our Government and imperil the interests and welfare of the people of our country. Such a halt is to be called, not only by self-styled politicians, but by every man who has a wife, child, or parent to defend and support, and who lays claim to the proud and distinctive title of American citizen.

When our currency, one of the main bulwarks of American liberty, is to be debased; when just debts contracted by our Government and our citizens are to be repudiated; when dishonesty is to stain the present untarnished name of Columbia, we repeat the time has come for the people of this republic to rise in their majesty and cry out against this most outrageous project.

Let those who would besmear the fair banner of Washington and Lincoln know that "Boy Orators" who may hypnotize ten or twelve thousand Populists, Socialists, and Anarchists at a single political Convention cannot delude 70,000,000 of intelligent and honest American citizens. JOSEPH BEGNIN.

160 EAST 111TH STREET, Aug. 25.

RE FEARS NO FORCE BILL.

The Patriotic Sentiments of a Southern Democrat Who Will Vote for McKinley.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Such statements as those contained in the letter of ex-Minister Phelps, published in THE SUN to-day, and in the remarks attributed to ex-Senator McPherson, greatly encourage those already in favor of sound money, and must surely assist in convincing those still doubtful. There can be no longer any doubt that a very large number of the leading Northern Democrats of the country place its welfare above "party regularity."

A portion of your readers will doubtless appreciate the fact that there are many men just as patriotic in the South, but each new illustration of this fact, or each bit of evidence which proves this, must encourage those working to sustain the honor of the country to renewed effort. For this reason I should be glad to have you publish the following extract from a business letter, written in the extreme southern part of Mississippi, Aug. 6, 1896:

"You have my sincere thanks for the promptness and candor of your favor of July 30. Our views on the present lamentable state of affairs accord fully. While I wear the Confederate button, and regard it as a badge of honor, my earnest wishes and hopes are that McKinley shall be elected. I have held this position from and before his nomination, having asserted, prior to the Convention, my determination to support that platform which should the more emphatically declare for sound money and honest. I do not fear a revival of the Force bill, but I see already that we need a stronger central Government. As I write these words my upward glance rests on 'Old Glory,' which, from the day of my parole in '65, has been my only flag of supreme allegiance; and it is my daily prayer that the God of nations will carry our land safely through her present perils by the complete discomfiture of the hosts of ignorance now rasping the air with their laudations of the Man of One Speech, who answered the confused inquiry, 'Who the dickens shall we vote for?'

Let us all do our utmost to see that the "complete discomfiture of the hosts of ignorance" shall be thoroughly accomplished. J. G. W.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.

TO EXPEDITE SILVER COINAGE.

Will the Private Silver Factories Join in the Job of Producing 53-Cent Dollars?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is evident from reports received from the commercial travellers representing Boston firms in the Western States that thousands of farmers and mechanics who have followed the tinkling cymbals of the free-coinage movement are beginning to understand that all the nations on earth by united action cannot possibly boost silver up to a ratio of 16 to 1 while water runs and grass grows. This being so, these farmers and mechanics are asking the silver ring acrobats puzzling questions about the capacities of our mints for turning out silver dollars.

The answer sent out by the silver ring's literary bureau is that "the total output of all our mints, working full time during one year, will be but $90,000,000, a sum which the United State can maintain at a ratio of 16 to 1." If this is so, what a mere drop in the bucket the annual output under free coinage will be.

But the truth is that so long ago as 1893 the silver ring made a prospective contract with a silverware manufacturer under which, on the passage of free-coinage measures, the machinery of that factory will be set at work turning out milled silver-dollar blanks at the rate of 2,000,000 blanks a day, all finished and ready to receive the stamp of the Mint.

Observe in the curious and devilishly contrived reading of the favorite free-coinage bill that the Mint will be compelled to stamp the silver presented for coinage. Under that bill the work of taking the refined and properly alloyed metal and manufacturing it into milled blanks may be done at any private silverware factory, and the product taken to the Mint for Government stamp only.

The silverites know that the wholesale demoralization and disruption of every interest in this country will result from coinage of silver at 16 to 1, and it is their game to make short work of their scheme by calling in the aid of private silver stamping works, reap a harvest of millions, and then escape the wrath of the deluded people by flight abroad, there to riot in their ill-gotten gains like absconding cashiers.

The free-coinage swindle, like other film-flam games, must be worked quickly. Something for nothing is their offer, but the people will, ere long, get on to their game, and then the bottom will be knocked out of Bryan's bucket.

G. WILFRED PEARCE.

SOMERSET CLUB, Boston, Aug. 25.

The Only Article of Faith Requisite.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* What folly for any honest-money Democrat to complain of the Republicans for asserting their belief in protection! Before this vile issue of repudiation was raised at Chicago it was a foregone conclusion that the Republicans would win against the Democrats on the tariff issue. They would have carried every Northern State on that issue, and with a whoop. Every Democrat expected them to win hand over until the despicable repudiation scheme was launched at Chicago.

If there is any risk for the Republicans now it is due to their repudiation of Repudiation. They have staked the doctrine of protection, in which they believe so earnestly, on the maintenance of a sound currency; and all honor to them for it! The protection sentiment of the country is thus held together in support of the national integrity, and the stronger it is the more general it is; the more it is advised to vote for McKinley the better for us all. Whatever any citizen may believe about anything else, and so long as he believes in the preservation of American credit he is the political ally and comrade in this campaign of

A KINGS COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

BROOKLYN, Aug. 25.

The Monroe Doctrine.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In these days, when so much is said about the "Monroe doctrine," it is worth while to see whether Jefferson may not fairly be regarded as its real author. In a letter to Mr. Short, of date Aug. 4, 1820, Mr. Jefferson said:

From many conversations with him [M. Correa, appointed Minister to Brazil by the Government of Portugal] I hope he sees, and will promote in his new situation, the advantages of a cordial fraternization among all the American nations, and the importance of their coalescing in an American system of policy, totally independent of and unconnected with that of Europe. The day is not distant when we may formally require a meridian of partition through the ocean which separates the two hemispheres, on the hither side of which no European gun shall ever be heard, nor an American on the other; and when, during the rage of the eternal wars of Europe, the lion and the lamb, within our regions, shall lie down together in peace. * * * The principles of society there [England] and here, then, are radically different, and I hope no American patriot will ever lose sight of the essential policy of interdicting in the seas and territories of both Americas the ferocious and sanguinary contests of Europe. I wish to see this coalition begun.—*Jefferson's Writings, xii, 114.*

Again, in 1823, when there was talk of the Holy Alliance, which had meddled in the affairs of Spain, interfering between her and her revolted colonies on this side of the ocean, Mr. Canning invoked the intervention of the United States and promised the full support of England. President Monroe conferred with Jefferson upon the subject. Mr. Jefferson, in his letter to Monroe of Oct. 24, 1823, said:

The question presented by the letters you have sent me is the most momentous which has ever been offered to my contemplation since that of independence. That made us a nation, this sets our compass and points the course which we are to steer through the ocean of time opening on us. And never could we embark on it under circumstances more auspicious. Our first and fundamental maxim should be never to entangle ourselves in the broils of Europe. Our second, never to suffer Europe to intermeddle with this Atlantic affairs. America, North and South, has a set of interests distinct from those of Europe, and peculiarly her own. She should therefore have a system of her own, separate and apart from that of Europe. While the last is laboring to become the domicile of despotism our endeavor should surely be to make our hemisphere that of freedom. One nation, most of all, could disturb us in this pursuit; she now offers to lead, aid, and comfort us in it. By acceding to her proposition we detach her from the band of despots, bring her mighty weight into the scale of free government, and emancipate a continent at one stroke, which might otherwise linger long in doubt and difficulty.—*Jefferson's Writings, xii.*

It is well to recall these words of a great patriot and President. X.

A New York Dog Bicyclist.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In to-day's SUN appears a cat bicycle story from Danville, Ky., via the Philadelphia *Record*. The Riverside Drive of New York shows occasionally a more remarkable feat in animal bicycling. A small dog, a fox terrier, I think, takes his ride, not like the Danville cat on some other rider's back, but mounted with hind feet upon the top bar of the frame in front of his human companion and his front feet upon the handle bar. He's evidently as old bicyclist, for he seems as much at home as any rider upon the Drive and is solemn enough to amuse any one.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. W.

TARGET PRACTICE BY BATTERY L.

A Solid Shot Thrown Three Miles Down the Bay from a 15-inch Gun.

The annual target practice by the batteries of the First Artillery, which are stationed at Fort Wadsworth, was begun yesterday afternoon by Battery L, under the command of Lieut. Harmon. The target practice will be continued at the fort for several days. Battery L will continue its practice to-day, and will be followed in turn by Battery C, commanded by Capt. Rusturn by Battery C, commanded by Capt. Russell, and Battery D, commanded by Lieut. Holwell.

Capt. E. K. Russell, the post commander, supervised the work of Battery L yesterday and expressed himself as well satisfied with the showing made. The firing began with a shot from the new 15-inch gun, smooth bore, which has recently been set up in one of the lower batteries near the water's edge. A solid shot weighing 350 pounds and 175 pounds of powder were used. It was expected to begin the firing at 1 o'clock, but so many vessels and excursion steamers were in the lower bay that it was nearly an hour later before the lanyard was pulled and the ponderous mass of iron was thrown at an imaginary target in the lower bay, nearly three miles from the fort. The place where the shot struck could plainly be seen from the fort, and a great mass of water and foam was thrown high in the air.

The other guns used were an 8-inch converted rifle and a rifled mortar. For the smaller guns a canvas target is anchored in the bay. It is a three-sided affair, with a black bull's-eye thirty-six inches in diameter on each of its sides. For the 15-inch gun a chart of the lower bay is marked out in squares containing about 3,200 square yards. By means of these imaginary lines the marksmanship is determined. The shots are all fired to the eastward of Swinburne Island, and great care is exercised to prevent an accident. The position of any craft in the lower bay is taken into consideration, and a patrol boat is stationed near the Quarantine islands to warn vessels and to replace the targets should they be shot away.

The new battery of rifles mounted on disappearing carriages was not used yesterday, and may not be used at all on this occasion.

NEELY MUST SHOW HIS BOOKS.

Justice Pryor's Order in Col. Savage's Suit Against His Publisher.

A motion on behalf of Col. Richard Henry Savage that Publisher F. Tennyson Neely be punished for contempt of court, on the ground of trifling with the court instead of obeying its order to produce all his books and memoranda that bore on the action brought against him by Col. Savage, was made before Justice Pryor of the Supreme Court yesterday by C. Bainbridge Smith, and was opposed by William H. Stayton for Mr. Neely. Mr. Smith read parts of the previous examination to the Court and said the contempt was clear, as there was evidently no intention of producing sufficient books and memoranda to get at the accounts.

Mr. Stayton said that his client had begun to move from Chicago to this city about a month ago. His books and other papers of his publishing business would take twenty car loads. They had been coming a car load at a time. His account books and memoranda had been put in different boxes and they had not all arrived when the previous examination was held.

"You should have sent those books and papers by themselves and by express," said the Judge.

"But we had begun to pack up the boxes before the order was made," returned Lawyer Stayton.

Then he said that six men had been working up to midnight getting the things unpacked and in shape.

"What do you want me to do?" asked Justice Pryor of Mr. Smith.

"Well," said Mr. Smith, beside whom sat Col. Savage making copious notes of the argument, "the Code provides that he may be fined, imprisoned, or his answer may be stricken out in the action—section 803."

"There is no intentional contempt," said Mr. Stayton, "and I promise to have all the books and other memoranda on hand on the day set for the examination."

Justice Pryor said that in view of the statement of Mr. Stayton he would make an order that unless all the books and papers are produced at the examination the answer of Publisher Neely in the action be stricken out. If the answer is stricken out Col. Savage will get judgment by default.

GEN. GORDON OUT OF POLITICS.

He Will Hereafter Give More Time and Thought to His Personal Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—Senator J. B. Gordon of Georgia was in the city this morning from 9 until 12 o'clock, being on his way to Saratoga to lecture before the summer schools at that resort. The General declined to be interviewed on politics or the financial question now before the people, and said that he was practically out of politics and would absolutely retire from political life at the end of his present term in the Senate. The General evinced a good deal of indignation at the wrong which he said had been done him already by a publication in a Baltimore paper some weeks ago which purported to be an interview with him. In reference to his future, he said:

"While I hope for a good many years yet of active work, it is absolutely necessary for me to give more thought and time to my personal affairs than I have been able to do for the last twenty-five or thirty years. Of course I shall not lose interest in public affairs, but I feel that I can do more good in another field. We all have our spheres of labor, and if I have any mission it is an effort to unite the people of the different sections, irrespective of parties, in closer and more cordial relations. I trust that I have done some service to the country by such efforts in the past and propose to continue in that line to the end."

CANADA THANKED.

England Is Grateful for Her Expressions of Loyalty.

OTTAWA, Aug. 25.—The Government has received the following despatch from Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, acknowledging the receipt of loyalty resolutions passed at the last session of the Dominion Parliament:

"It has been a source of great satisfaction to Her Majesty to receive this assurance of Canadian loyalty, and to know that in its effort to maintain the legitimate interests of the British empire she surely can always rely upon the support and approval of the Canadian people."

Another despatch from the Home Government acknowledges the receipt of resolutions passed by Parliament favoring the principle of international arbitration. It says:

"Her Majesty's Government believes the resolutions express the sentiment generally entertained on the subject, both in Great Britain and in the United States."

What Is the Matter with This Man?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Will you please explain to me how a dollar will be worth only fifty-three cents under "free coinage"?

I should think if such a thing were possible, then your claim that the silver mine owners will be the only ones benefited by it must be all wrong, as Bryan, in his speech of last Saturday, claimed, when he said if a dollar is worth only fifty-three cents (or fifty), the silver miner will have to take that much worth of bullion to the mint to have it stamped one dollar. Now, if he takes fifty-three cents worth of silver to the mint and the dollar is worth only fifty-three cents, where does his profit come in? If he does make forty-seven cents, where are the fifty-three-cent dollars?

If you can solve that question, I will vote for McKinley. A. DE ROR.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.

There is no such question. A silver dollar will be worth under free coinage only fifty-three cents because that is all the silver in it is worth. If a cent was stamped a dollar, would that make it worth 100 cents? We never made any claim that the silver mine owners would be the only ones benefited by the free coinage of silver, but have said repeatedly, and now say again for this fatuous correspondent's benefit, that the silver miners would be cheated along with the rest of the people. The only possible profit they could make out of the swindle would be obtained from paying the mine workers the same wages in silver they now are obliged to pay in gold or in money whose standard of value is gold. Vote as you choose; but if you are wary you will not undertake to defend your vote for Bryan on grounds so utterly false, and silly also, as those you are so impertinent as to offer to THE SUN.

Ten Lashes for a Wife Beater.

From the Philadelphia Times.

ELKTON, Aug. 24.—John Boots, the wife beater, stood handcuffed to the whipping-post in the jail yard here this afternoon and received ten lashes on his bare back applied by the brawny arm of the stalwart Sheriff Harvey H. Mackey, who measures seven feet in height. Boots received the cat-o'-nine-tails without a murmur and never flinched. Sheriff Mackey did not apply the lash severely, yet each swing of the whip plainly left its mark. The whipping is the first to occur in this county, and was public. A good-sized crowd was present, but the yard would probably not have held the throng of people had it been known that Boots was to be whipped to-day. Boots thanked the Sheriff at the conclusion of the whipping.

GREATER NEW YORK'S FIREMEN.

How They Will Be Governed Under the Proposed New Charter.

Four more chapters of the preliminary draft of the Greater New York charter were made public yesterday. They relate to the Fire, Building, Correction, and Public Charities departments, each of which is to have a single Commissioner. Any of the Commissioners may be removed by the Mayor at will, and his term shall expire with the Mayor's.

The Fire Commissioner is to appoint a deputy for the boroughs of Brooklyn and Williamsburgh, whose office shall be in Brooklyn. The officers and members of the uniformed force, legally appointed firemen in Brooklyn and Long Island City, are to become members of the Fire Department and to retain the rank and grade now held by them respectively as nearly as may be practicable. The paid Fire Department system is to be extended over the borough of Richmond and the present volunteer Fire Department disbanded, the existing plant to be purchased at a reasonable valuation. Until the present department is disbanded the volunteer companies are to be subject to the control of the Fire Commissioner, who may detail a competent officer to command them. The Treasurer of the Department is to be appointed or removed by the Commissioner at pleasure. Firemen are to be appointed by the Commissioner and may be removed by him for cause, upon written charges. The candidacy of any member of the uniformed force for an elective office is to be considered a resignation from the department. Every fireman must be a citizen of the United States and must have resided in the State for one year. Members of the clerical force may be removed without charge, in order to reduce expenses or consolidate offices.

The Fire Commissioner is authorized to appoint and to remove at pleasure two F