The Sun.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 1897.

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.

PARIS—Kiosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and Kiosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines.

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.

The Virginia Democrats.

The Virginia Democratic platform is a buffet in the face for trimmers of the Maryland variety. It turns squarely away from the "local issues" futility, and says that "the conditions that now surround us cannot be removed by State legislation; they can only be removed by the restoration of the national Democracy to power." The Virginia Democrats "especially indorse the doctrines of the national Democratic party upon the four great issues which are before the people of this country, viz.: the tariff, the income tax, and regulating of trusts and the currency." They reiterate their belief in the Chicago platform and Mr. BRYAN in these enthusiastic words:

"We reaffirm the platform of the National Democratic Convention adopted at Chicago in July, 1896, and upon which WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN was nominated for the Presidency of the United States, and we extend our congratulations to our noble champion upon the able and brilliant manner in which he discharged the trust reposed in him. The fact that he received more votes than any previous Democratic candidate for the Presidency and more than any candidate of any party, saving alone his successful opponent, is evidence that Democratic principles are still dear to a vast mass of the American people, and that Democracy is living in the hope of an early and complete triumph."

There is no doubt in the minds of the Virginia Democrats. They know what they believe and they are not foolish enough to make any effort to conceal their convictions. They are Democrats and they say so. They do not content themselves even with the general reaffirmation of the Chicago platform. Their platform dwells in detail upon the parts of the Chicago platform which they regard as most important. Thus they talk about the currency as follows:

"We declare ourselves unalterably opposed to the British system of monometallism, which has aggrandized that empire at the expense of the nations producing food supplies and raw material, and its adoption has only aggravated our financial servitude to London. It is not only un-American, but anti-American. And it can be fastened on the United States by the stifling of that spirit and love of liberty which proclaimed our political independence in 1776 and caused the war of the rebellion.

"We demand the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any nation."

In regard to the income tax and the trusts they are equally positive:

"We favor an income tax for the support of the Federal Government that industry may be the less burdened, and that wealth may bear its proper share of the general public burden, and, if necessary, we favor a constitutional amendment that such taxes may be levied; the power of taxation and the power of regulating the interest of foreign commerce furnished to a Federal Congress to employ means of restraining the great trusts that break up small industries and aggrandize themselves by illicit combinations, and we favor the exercises of such powers to their full extent, to the end that these monopolies may be curbed."

"We make no apology," said Major J. HOGE TYLER, the candidate for Governor, in his speech before the convention, "for our adherence to the truths and principles to which we are sacredly pledged." The apologetic Democrats are not the kind that get respect or votes. And they don't seem to be found in Democratic States.

Has Judaism a Future?

What is to be the future of Judaism is an interesting question which, however, is rather mooted than answered in the August number of the *North American Review* by Mr. ABRAM S. ISAACS, formerly professor of Hebrew in the University of New York, and now widely known as the editor of the *Jewish Messenger*. It is principally the superficial and mistaken views of the present and past of Judaism held among Christians which is discussed in his article, but eventually he indicates the two theories of their destiny which are most in vogue among his co-religionists.

It is true enough, as Prof. ISAACS says, that the great majority, even of highly educated Christians, talk and write as if the history of Judaism had closed with the destruction of Jerusalem by TITUS. To them the Jew is still the Jew of the Gospel record, if he is not the Jew of the Old Testament. He is still a Palestinian, wearing broad phylacteries and uttering ghastly imprecations on his enemies in a language intelligible only by the sacred few. Judaism is not studied as a living organism, but is relegated to the lumber room of antiquity, amid the fossils and relics of primitive religions; it is dissected and analyzed for the benefit of students of comparative philology and made to furnish curious data in the fields of ethnography and anthropology. To it a remote past is conceded, but its recent past and present receive but scant attention from non-Jews. To the astonishing ignorance of the post-Flavian history of the Israelites is ascribed the prejudice and misconception which exaggerate and distort the truth, either in one direction or another, making the Jew either a *Daniel Deronda* or a *Fagin*, either a *Shylock* or a *Nathan the Wise*. What the Jew desires, says Prof. ISAACS, is neither vilification nor justification, but justice. He would like the critics of his co-religionists to stop eying them through a telescope as if they were occupants of another sphere, and also to renounce the use of the microscope which is applied to Jews on the assumption that their defects are deep seated, multitudinous, and intricate. If educated Christians would make up their minds to judge the Jew as he is, and to study Judaism in its actual operation, they would find that both are very much alive. Prof. ISAACS submits that the time is past for labelling Judaism as prehistoric, and for bracketing the Jews with the Phœnicians, the Hittites, and other representatives of extinct civilizations. To call him an arrested development, a survival, an anachronism, does not warrant us in overlooking the eighteen centuries that have elapsed since the fall of the second temple and the establishment of a Roman colony on the site where Jerusalem had stood. The Jew no doubt is a survival in the sense that he has survived, and this he has done because, although numerically weak, he has been spiritually strong. In spite of his limitations he has resisted his environment; he has withstood opposing forces, and he withstands them still. To term him an "arrested development" is to beg the question; a development he unquestionably is, and the very thing he complains of is that Christians will not take the trouble to note the process and its outcome. They do not recognize that he was denationalized to become international and cosmopolitan; that in losing Palestine he gained the earth, and that just as the Babylonian captivity cured him of idolatry, so his world-wandering is teaching him the catholicity and breadth of sympathy which lay at the basis of Jewish prophetism. There is, in truth, as Prof. ISAACS says, no blunder more egregious than to consider Jewish history synonymous with biblical history. The Old Testament tells simply of Jewish beginnings. The Jewish exodus did not end with the departure of the Israelites from Egypt. From the downfall of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah the deportation and migration of the Jews have gone on until this day. The same flux and progress are discernible in their inward as in their outward history. No one is competent to discuss Judaism who is capable of such an anachronism as to speak of the prophetism of the patriarchs, or of the rabbinism of MOSES, or of the Judaism of the Judges. One should not attempt to handle the subject who is not familiar with the distinct stages or phases in the evolution of the Jewish religion; not only from ABRAHAM to MOSES, and from MOSES to EZRA, as stages with which Christian theologians are supposed to be conversant, but also from EZRA to JOCHANAN BEN ZACCAI, who founded the school from which Talmudism sprang; from the sages of the Talmud to the mediæval rabbis with whom the rabbinical era began; and finally from MAIMONIDES and his successors, with the development of local codes and customs which became the orthodoxy of their age, to MENDELSSOHN, the forerunner of a new epoch contemporary with the French revolution, on the one hand, and the birth of the American republic on the other. By him who has thus studied it, modern Judaism is perceived to be the product of continuous growth.

What, then, of Judaism's future? Prof. ISAACS submits that the Jew's persistence on the stage of human effort is not likely to weaken as the ages advance. The odds are very far from being as much against him as they were; there are those who think that in certain countries the odds are in his favor. It is certain that the world is ceasing to be a battle ground of creeds, and that in the struggle for existence the Jew has more auxiliaries than ever before. Nevertheless, it is acknowledged that the ultimate phase of Judaism baffles inquiry no less than the ultimate phase of human progress. Prof. ISAACS cites two opinions, both of which he describes as purely speculative, and to neither of which does he avowedly subscribe. The one prevision sees the future of Judaism in a rehabilitated Jewish State, having Jerusalem for its capital. This State will prove, it is hoped, a court of arbitration for the nations, diffusing peace and happiness throughout the universe. The other forecast finds Judaism's future not, indeed, in the absorption of the Jews by the environing nations, but rather in the spiritual absorption of the nations by the Jews, the thorough permeating of mankind by the spirit of Judaism already manifested successively in Christianity, Mohammedanism, and the deism of those who recognize God, virtue, and immortality. In the view of these enthusiasts the resultant religion will not be different in spirit from the declaration of the Pentateuch, which is reasserted by the Christian Gospel and finds its echo in the bibles of many creeds: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." When, in a word, the nations shall have reached the heights of perfect brotherhood Judaism's future will have dawned.

A Curious and Malicious Movement.

We publish elsewhere a letter from a supporter of Mr. SETH LOW at East Orange, in New Jersey, who accuses THE SUN of drawing an unjustifiable inference from the eagerness of the yellow journals to get Mr. LOW nominated in short order as an independent candidate. He concedes the vileness of those papers, but he contends that even a disposition to assume an appearance of decency should be encouraged among the depraved more especially.

There is not even hypocrisy in their joint efforts to inflate the Low boom. Neither of them has any notion of supporting Mr. LOW for election. They are only supporting the childish and mischievous scheme to get him nominated as an independent candidate whose running will help along their rivalry in attempting to foment social and political discord. They are working to humiliate Mr. LOW by using him to prevent the unity of the opposition to Tammany Hall. Any man with half an eye can see that.

"What right," asks our East Orange friend "has THE SUN to charge that their [the Mugwump papers] motives are only inspired by hatred for the Republican organization?" We have made no charge, but simply announced a fact. Neither of those two papers makes any concealment of that hatred. They are frank enough to express it openly and constantly, and to proclaim loudly that their motives are inspired by the bitterest hostility to the Republican organization. If Mr. LOW himself had been brought out as a candidate by Mr. PLATT and Mr. QUIGG, they would have denounced him. "Cannot THE SUN credit a Mugwump with a single honest motive?" Oh, yes, we can and do credit these Mugwumps with the honestly acknowledged motive of a consuming desire to humiliate and beat the Republican party in the Greater New York election. That is obvious to everybody who reads them.

It is true that these Mugwump papers supported Mr. MCKINLEY last autumn. They could not do anything else. It was no merit in them that for self-preservation they supported the only candidate for President who stood between them and inevitable ruin. A man cannot expect praise for disinterested heroism simply because he pours water on a fire which threatens to consume his own house. This talk about the gratitude due to the Mugwump supporters of Mr. MCKINLEY is sheer nonsense. The gratitude should rather be extended by them to the Republican party, which had the courage to make an honest platform at a time when apparently powerful influences within its own ranks were exerted so strenuously to induce it to make a platform of cowardly evasion. THE SUN does not forget the service it rendered last year to the American people of all parties, a service which should be rewarded by the votes of all conservative and patriotic men for the Republican party, until the betrayed and perverted Democratic party purges itself thoroughly of its crime of advocating repudiation and social chaos, by flatly and boldly repudiating the Chicago platform.

THE SUN has never "stated that the municipal campaign this fall is to be fought not on the question of good government for the Greater New York." It has declared from the beginning that that is the sole issue on which the campaign must and will be fought. The contest is to be for fundamental principles without which there can be no good government here or anywhere else in this republic; without which there can be no stable civilization. The issue is both national and municipal, and of overshadowing importance to this great centre of American wealth and enlightenment. Mr. LOW and his backers are making futile efforts to bury that supreme issue under the rubbish of their paltry and artificial issues.

Our East Orange correspondent asks us, finally, to "explain how it is that among the signers of the appeal for Mr. LOW are to be found the names of almost every respectable banker and business man in New York city." We cannot explain it, for we do not know it. We do not believe it. Show us the names, so that we may publish them, and enable the people to identify the bankers and business men of New York who are concerting and conspiring with the political marplots now working in all subterranean ways to turn over the incalculable interests and the vast political power of the Greater New York to the hordes of Bryanism. It would be interesting to scrutinize the list at this time when returning prosperity teaches the whole intelligent community the need of beating down the threatening social and political forces which produced the dismal period through which we have been passing.

Finally, the whole Low movement is purely artificial. It represents nothing except a curious disposition of human nature, which finds gratification in signing petitions, so often illustrated in many amusing ways. Probably the explanation is that it costs nothing to sign, and thus to escape the importunity of the canvasser.

Torpedo Boat Tactics.

In calling a conference of officers of experience to arrange a programme of torpedo boat practice, Acting Secretary ROOSEVELT is not premature. It is true that only a few torpedo boats are yet in commission, but others are coming forward, and there will be a respectable flotilla ready for manœuvres during the autumn and winter.

Hitherto no rules for torpedo boat exercises have been formulated, as our only boat for years was the Cushing, supplemented by the little wooden craft Stiletto. Only of late has the Ericsson, after many mishaps, been added to the number. And even now that fleet operations are in order, the point that presses most on attention is the large measure of importance attached to the work of the individual vessel. The very fact that torpedo craft will rely largely for their success on the cover of darkness shows how much must depend on the boats acting singly, and, in a measure, independently.

Nevertheless, concerted action has its place even with these little vessels. It is obvious that their chances of success are best when their attack is delivered on the same object in pairs, trios, or swarms. The big battleship which discovers and riddles one or two adversaries may fall a prey to still another, darting in simultaneously from another quarter. Hence general systems and methods of combined attack and of signalling to each other must be studied and carefully practised, while in actual history we have the successful sallying out of a torpedo flotilla against the enemy, as shown in Japan's war with China.

The officers in conference, Lieutenant-Commander KIMBALL, who is to have charge of the flotilla; Lieut. USHER, commanding the Ericsson, and Lieut. FREMONT, will therefore find enough work before them. For, of course, their task concerns, as has been said, the best methods of separate action, as well as of combined evolutions, and these last may be undertaken either in connection with a squadron of battleships, as in the British annual manœuvres for several years, or in a programme for torpedo boats exclusively, as in this summer's English exercises. It seems probable that careful individual practice will be first prescribed, the manœuvres as a flotilla coming later, when the handling of the boats has become familiar. A long period of operations may ensue in northern waters till cold weather, and then in southern through the winter.

One of the incidental good features of the new torpedo boat flotilla is the chance it gives for many independent commands. In adding a score of the little craft to the navy, with small crews and at light cost for maintenance, an excellent school of responsibility is furnished to officers whose rank would not otherwise entitle them to such advantages. For this reason as many as possible of the boats should be kept in commission and at sea.

The Advance Up the Nile.

While the capture of Abu Hamed by the Anglo-Egyptian forces has marked another important step in the march to Khartoum, yet it must be remembered that the early stages are the easiest.

From the fourth cataract, which is below Abu Hamed, about half way between that point and Debbeh, up to Berber, now the next great point ahead, the navigation is difficult. Beyond Berber it becomes easier again. As to distance, there still remains to be traversed about 325 miles from Abu Hamed to the objective point of the campaign, Khartoum. And even the occupation of Khartoum, though a crowning triumph for this series of operations, might not break down the enemy, for they could withdraw to El Obeid and other points.

Distance also is not the only element in the problem. The advance of the Anglo-Egyptian forces carries them further from their base, and makes it possible for the enemy to harass their communications with greater success. Thus far, indeed, the resistance offered to their advance has been slight. Dongola was occupied with the greatest ease, and while the attack on Abu Hamed was only effected by some hard fighting, in which Major SIDNEY and Lieut. FITZ CLARENCE were among the killed, yet nothing like the battles of 1884 has yet been seen.

It was far beyond Abu Hamed that the severe engagements of Abu Klea and Gubat were fought, when Gen. STEWART made his gallant advance across the Bahinda Desert to Metemmeh which cost him his life. In the earlier stages of Lord WOLSELEY's campaign of thirteen years ago, the Mahdi did not trouble himself to offer much opposition. But when a point was reached where Khartoum might be seriously threatened the enemy appeared in great force, and rushed to the slaughter inflicted on him by the British machine guns.

It must be said, however, that the conditions are in some respects more favorable to success than in the campaign of 1884. It is true that then Lord WOLSELEY's force was large, the purpose of rescuing GORDON having caused great preparations to be made. But the Egyptian troops have improved of late years, while such officers as KITCHENER have become veterans in Soudanese campaigning, and the experience of thirteen years ago is useful.

Thus far, also, the resistance offered to the advance is very slight. Yet on that point it is well not to give way to illusions. In the Soudan the Arabs can command scores of thousands of physically powerful and fanatical warriors, and it remains to be seen whether these will be concentrated for attack. But just now the indications are that Khartoum can be reached.

Trusts and Prosperity.

The Hon. JOHN P. JONES, Senator in Congress from Nevada, is one of the most intelligent of the partisans of the free coinage of silver, and it is not surprising to find him saying to a reporter of the *New York Times* that he is "not opposed to prosperity through an increase in gold." Prosperity seems to be opposed to the silver men, and Mr. JONES displays remarkable moderation in refusing to object to prosperity.

The most interesting opinion expressed by Senator JONES as to the effects of prosperity relates to its effect upon trusts:

"Another result that will flow from an abundance of money, be it silver or gold, will be the abeyance of this hatred of the trusts. I cherish no enmity toward the combinations of capital. If two or three men want to combine for the purpose of bettering their business by lessening production, they have a right to do so. But the people hate trusts, and only prosperity will drive monopolies out of their minds. Plenty of money will also crush out the trusts. They flourish only in hard times."

This theory of trusts is substantially the same as that published by the *Atlanta Constitution* some weeks ago. According to this theory, capitalists are so poor, on account of the insufficiency of the currency, that they have to combine to cut down expenses. Abundance of money must prevent trusts, if this theory be true. But Senator JONES must be mistaken in believing that prosperity will bring about the "abeyance of the hatred of trusts." The people who think that they hate trusts will keep on hating them. The habit has become inveterate. Even if the trusts would accept Senator JONES's theory and go out of business as a concession to the good times, the trust-hunters would not cease to hunt. What would become of some of the most industrious spouters in this or any other country if trusts were to be abolished? What would they do for a living?

No; terrible as prosperity is for the Democrats and the Populists, it will not go to the extent of destroying the trusts. These will continue, both as a necessity of business and as a necessity of the Populistic and Democratic mind.

Baseball Endangered.

We warn those financially interested in baseball that the public's disgust at the rowdyism which the players have practiced with their permission is finding such widespread expression as to betoken a serious decline in the national game's popularity. Yet this rowdyism can be stopped instantly by a word forbidding players to question an umpire's decision. For example, on Friday WARNER, the New York catcher, began a heated argument with the umpire that a "strike" called upon him was, instead, a "ball." Of course the umpire had no power to reverse his decision, and he imposed a fine upon WARNER.

What common sense was there in a player thus stopping the game to enable him to express his feelings? How necessary is it that this habit should be abolished from every professional ballground? It is the root of all the disorder that threatens the game's prosperity and standing. No talking to the umpire!

A new candidate for the championship of free-silver cranks has appeared in a Mr. HAWTHORNE, who has put his feelings into writing through the medium of a Chicago magazine, entitled the *Gentleman Farmer*. Mr. HAWTHORNE declares that those who hold that the payment of the national obligations in silver would be both dishonest and dishonorable, "are the men who deemed it no dishonor to bear down nigh two billions of greenbacks by the power of gold, until in 1864 they made them worth but little more than one-third of their face value." In Mr. HAWTHORNE's behalf we claim ignorance sufficient to put him at the head of the free-silver movement. Not a quarter of two billions of greenbacks had seen the light of day by 1864, not to mention the question of their being borne down by the weight of gold.

Evidently Prince HENRI of Orleans has a big contract on hand. Gen. ALBERTONE holds himself in reserve and will insist upon fighting the Prince if the latter should be the victor in the duel with the Count of TURIN. According to this proceeding the Prince will be compelled to fight the whole blooming Italian Army, in which case the thing will become very monotonous. But inasmuch as the Prince merely repeated what was told to him by King MENELEK, it seems somewhat strange that King HUMBERT should send a substitute to battle, selecting Prince HENRI as the enemy. HUMBERT should challenge MENELEK. Let us have a rip-roaring royal fight! How splendid it would be to hear the Italian Monarch shouting in Forrestesque accents: "MENELEK, come orth; 'tis HUMBERT calls! HUMBERT is hoarse with daring thee to arms!" But then MENELEK might come, and we should bet on him two to one.

LAMARTINE, on leaving Rome, wrote some verses, very nice indeed as verses go, but very uncomplimentary to the Italians. In these lines he spoke of Italian steel as striking in the dark only, and to prove that he was wrong, an Italian nobleman drove about three inches of it into the poet's arm in a duel in broad daylight. Let us hope that Prince HENRI will be more fortunate than the author of "Jocelyn."

Has anybody heard a farmer complain lately that the dollars he is paid in, good as gold, are too good?—*Buffalo Commercial.*

The feelings of the Democratic and Populist farmers can be imagined. They may be too busy taking in the money to complain, but they must be making a silent, a very silent protest. It is wrong to be prosperous, and their fall platforms will assure them that they are not prosperous; but the money will come pouring in, regardless of the sufferings of silver. If the farmers are not heard complaining, that is no sign that they are not making a mental apology to silver for doing well without it. Still, prosperity tends to give its victims a comfortable sensation. It is likely enough that a good many of them will become perfectly contented and refuse to moan any more.

The heroine of Mr. HALL CAINE's new novel has a mouth "somewhat large for beauty." It is the fashion among heroines. This heroine, who has the eminently Georgian name of *Glory Quayle*, has a large mouth which is "always moving nervously." That must be unpleasant for the spectators. She is "taller than the common." Heroines are. She "had golden red hair," which not all heroines have, and presumably she rode a magnificent white steed, taller than the common by many hands. She had "magnificent dark gray eyes of great size." Presumably two of them, although the number is not given. On the whole gray eyes are the fashion for heroines, gray and magnificent. There is no exact rule for ascertaining the size of the magnificent dark gray eyes of *Glory Quayle*, but we get a general impression that they were about the size of the full moon. One of them had "a brown spot which gave at the first glance the effect of a squint, at the next glance a coquettish expression, and ever after a sense of tremendous power and passion." Surely one of the most accomplished and versatile brown spots in all history. A brown spot that squinted, coquetted, and exhibited tremendous power and passion! Clearly *Glory* is an uncommon heroine, after all. Not that you have to like her voice, which "startled you with its depth, which was a kind of soft hoarseness." Why must even a heroine with a perpetually moving large mouth and a versatile brown spot in one of her eyes have a hoarse voice? Is there anything heroic in hoarseness? Some of the Cockneys have hoarse voices, and it has been observed that gin communicates a raucous tone to the pipes. Mr. CAINE might have made *Glory* appear in better voice.

It must not be true that the Hon. MARY ELIZABETH LEASE, the greatest living stateswoman in Kansas, refuses the likeness of a queenly crown and says that she is so much devoted to the reform business that she has no time to be Queen of the Harvest at Topeka next fall and to wear a glistering diadem worth from $20,000 down. Mrs. LEASE has already done great deeds for reform, and she can well afford to do something in celebration of the crops. Kansas has had a strong dose of reform in the last few years. Now she pines for the beautiful and the splendid, in short, for Mrs. LEASE, radiant in coronal and carcanet. The Hon. ANNA E. DIGGS would not hesitate to wear that golden crown of autumn. Will the greatest living stateswoman allow her to wear it?

Barren Island.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Col. Waring, whose remarks anent the aromas proceeding from Barren Island I read in your paper a day or so ago, must have been afflicted with a very bad cold in the head when he visited the works of the Sanitary Utilization Society, or the wind must have been in another direction.

If he did get within smelling radius I would like to hear from him his definition of the word "stench." He observes that a boiled cabbage dinner is worse in smell. That depends entirely upon the quality or age of the cabbage.

It is all very well for the gallant Colonel to dismiss the subject with a few flippant remarks and a wave of the hand, but I would like to invite him to Cedar avenue, Far Rockaway, one evening to dinner, and if he enjoys his visit it will be because his olfactory organs are not in perfect working order or the Barren Island zephyrs are travelling in another direction, which latter contingency is few and far between.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13, 1897. ARCHIE GUNN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As a sufferer from the Barren Island nuisance, and as to statements made by Col. Waring in your valuable paper of today, I would like to ask Col. Waring a few questions as to his sick-smelling hobby garbage plant.

First—Is it not a fact that a large part of the New York garbage is used to fill in the low ground of Barren Island instead of being destroyed as contracted for by the city of New York?

Second—Is not Mr. Doll the contractor who does the work of filling in with his horses and carts?

Third—Is it not a fact that the sick-smelling garbage in process of utilizing is exposed in an open and unsanitary conveyor?

Fourth—Are not the injurious, sick-smelling gases generated in the process of boiling allowed to escape in the open air without being destroyed?

Fifth—Is it not a fact that the hot, boiled, decomposed garbage is pressed in open pressers and the fumes and gases from same allowed to escape in the atmosphere?

Sixth—Does not the putrid tank water, after it has run from the open presses, run through open gutters into open receiving tanks, and from there by a hidden pipe under a stone pile into Jamaica Bay?

Seventh—Does not this tank water contain from 8 to 12 per cent. of solids; or, in other words, are not eight to twelve tons of solid matter thrown into Jamaica Bay from every hundred tons of garbage?

Eighth—Are not the sick-smelling vapors and gases blown into the atmosphere in process of drying?

NEW YORK, Aug. 14. A SUFFERER.

The Canvass for Mr. Low's Nomination.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As a reader of THE SUN, though often at variance with its political views, I take the liberty of writing in regard to its treatment of the candidacy of Mr. Seth Low for Mayor of the Greater New York.

THE SUN states this morning that the only supporters of Mr. Low's candidacy in the metropolitan press are the *World* and the *Journal* and the Mugwump sheets (presumably the *Times* and the *Post*), and that the support of the two first named papers is a disgrace to any man, while the last named are inspired solely by their hatred to the Republican organization. Is not THE SUN in this matter very unjust to Mr. Low and his supporters? While conceding all that it claims as to the character of the *World* and the *Journal*, is not Mr. Low's character sufficiently established to make the gratuitous support of these papers in no way discreditable to him? Are not their readers educated, just to that extent in a purer political atmosphere? Is not there some gain made in a quarter most needed for political decency?

As to the so-called Mugwump papers, what right has THE SUN to charge that their motives are solely inspired by hatred for the Republican organization? Did not these same papers support Mr. McKinley last fall, backed as he was by the Republican organization, and strenuously oppose Mr. Bryan? Cannot THE SUN credit a Mugwump with a single honest motive?

Finally, as to Mr. Low's candidacy itself, THE SUN states that the municipal campaign this fall is to be fought, not on the question of good government for the Greater New York, but for clean streets, fine parks, good schools, just taxes, but on the issue of free silver. Will THE SUN kindly explain how it is, then, that among the signers of the appeal for Mr. Low's nomination as to be found the name of almost every reputable banker and business man in New York city? Are these gentlemen desirous of cutting their own throats? Or is it that they simply don't know what is aimed for them, and that the only ones capable of judging that point are Messrs. Platt, Quigg, and the Republican organization?

EAST ORANGE, Aug. 12. E. HARLESTON SIMONS.

The Crime of Carelessness.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Referring to the article in last Sunday's issue of your valuable paper entitled, I think, "Bicycling Not Dangerous," it has occurred to me that perhaps some, if not all, of the accidents referred to might be traced to the same source as that of the accident in Philadelphia, utter negligence. I speak advisedly of the accident in this city, as I witnessed it and have since followed the matter up with no little interest.

Totally disregarding all rules made for the safety of herself and others, the young woman in question came west on the south side of Diamond street at a rapid pace, and attempted to turn south on the east side of Broad street. Her wheel entering between the curbstone and the wheel of a heavy dray which was coming north on the east side, the rider was thrown to the pavement and dangerously, if not fatally, injured. Had she obeyed the rule to "keep to the right" she would have been at least twenty-five feet away from the dray when she reached the corner of Broad and Diamond streets, with plenty of opportunity to look down Broad street in order to see that the road was clear.

The accident to the young woman is not the only cause of regret. The driver of the dray, who was immediately released from custody upon a statement of fact from the young woman, had not yet fully recovered from a serious illness, and the shock has totally unfitted him for work; the young woman's family is deprived of her much needed support; and, further, her accident is bemoaned throughout the country, deterring many from riding a wheel who would perhaps enjoy and be benefited by the exercise.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 13. MARY K. MASON.

From a Friend of Chop Houses.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your editorial in to-day's issue on "The Passing of the Chop House" is a most interesting one to those regularly patronizing them, and happening to be one who does, permit me to take issue with you on one point at least. The popularity of "chop houses" has not declined and your argument fails to point such a result.

One of the principal causes for our not seeing more of them in places in the great city of New York is not because they are not popular but because the rent is beyond what they can manage them. The chop house of to-day has as manager some woman, Dutchman or Irishman, who can no doubt work hard enough to be deserving of success but have not circulated among the class they endeavor to cater for. Americans and Englishmen are particular on such points. The "English chop house" properly run is as popular to-day as ever, if not more so, and there is every reason why it should be. A "stag" house is wanted by thousands, and the particular features of a stag chop house are appreciated.

As run to-day chop houses are aimed by so-called managers, but with an affable American or Englishman it is quite the reverse. I think your editorial has a tendency to drive from this great metropolis one of the good, simple and attractive features which we should be ashamed if we did not possess. Let the able editor of THE SUN give chophouse managers some "points" on make them cater to the many who are willing to be treated as of old.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13. A CHOP-HOUSE PATRON.

Concerning Signs of Age.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I read in THE SUN a while ago an article that said middle-aged people didn't wear out their shoes so fast as younger people do. That struck me all in a heap, because my shoes last me twice as long now as they used to. And now I observe that I don't toe out as I used to. I used to turn my toes well out, as one might say. I feathered my feet nicely when I walked. Now I point them straight ahead, and I find that they seem I have settled into that direction; it would require an effort for me now to toe out as I did before. Is this a sign of old age?

BRAYLING.

Against Elevator Boys.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You are always on the right side, so I write to call your attention to, and protest against through your columns, the coming fashion of employing boys as elevator "men." I went up today in an elevator in the Drexel building run by a mere boy, and there are others. Please raise your voice against this abuse before it becomes as bad as the wagon boy nuisance.

RAYMOND PARKER.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.

NOTES OF LEGAL EVENTS.

Bird lovers will be disappointed at the narrow construction which the Attorney-General of Massachusetts has placed upon the new statute of that Commonwealth, which forbids wearing the body or feathers of any bird whose capture or killing is forbidden by law. He has written an opinion to the effect that the statute does not apply to the wearing of the bodies or feathers of birds captured or killed outside the territorial limits of Massachusetts. The difficulty of proving the locality in which a bird was killed whose feathers ornament a lady's hat in Boston or at Beverly Farms will probably render the enactment of little avail toward checking the slaughter of song birds for women to wear. Of course it would not be difficult to draw a statute in such terms as to make its provisions effective for this purpose. A prohibition against wearing the feathers of certain specified birds, wherever the birds might have been killed, would doubtless be a constitutional exercise of the police power of the State, in view of the numerous decisions sustaining legislation on the same principle where it has been enacted for the protection and preservation of game.

A statement in the *Louisville Dispatch*, to the effect that the shanty-boat question is an important one this summer, in consequence of the depredations committed by the dwellers in such craft, calls attention to an interesting peculiarity of river life in Kentucky and some curious legislation by which it is regulated. On the Ohio, Mississippi, Kentucky, and other rivers and navigable streams are numerous house-boats, maintained by their inmates as residences or places of business. They are moved from place to place, as convenience or trade may require. The head of each family living on such craft must obtain a license from the clerk of the County Court of the county in which the shanty boat is to lie. For this he pays a fee of five dollars a year. The name of the licensee, the home of the boat, and the date when the license will expire are required to be printed on each boat in large letters. It is a misdemeanor to land and fasten or beach any family, fish, junk, or shanty boat used as a place of abode upon any portion of the shore except a public landing, without the consent of the owner or occupier of the land; and there is also a special punishment prescribed for the inmates of these boats who take from the banks any stone, timber, fencing, fruit, vegetables, or other articles of value, under circumstances which do not amount to felony or petit larceny. "Of course, there are some nice people living on shanty boats," says another Kentucky paper, the Milton *News*; "but this is the time of the year when some of these river pirates feast on the fat of the land."

An important decision was rendered on Wednesday at Special Term by Judge Leslie W. Russell, sustaining the validity of the legislation relating to the widening of Elm street in this city. In the case of Browning against Collis, the plaintiff sought to restrain the Commissioner of Public Works from proceeding with the work of widening, on the ground that certainty of compensation had not been provided for the landowners whose property had been taken for the improvement, and furthermore that the law left the city at liberty to abandon the project and let the owner have his land back if the public authorities should hereafter conclude that the awards for the property were higher than they wanted to pay. Mr. Justice Russell holds, however, that the statutes on the subject are capable of a different construction, which renders them constitutional; and that the landowners along the line of the improvement whose property appears on the map referred to in the latest act of the Legislature have an absolute right to awards therefor, with interest from the first day of May last.

A bitter attack on the administration of justice in this State is made by the Rochester *Union and Advertiser*, which declares that the criminal law is administered in such a manner that the people rather than the criminals are the real defendants. It gives the following synopsis of events in an actual case as an example of the complexity and delay of our criminal procedure: 1. Indictment, trial, conviction, and sentence to the State prison four years and a half ago. 2. Stay on certificate of reasonable doubt, and new trial granted, the case having been carried to the Court of Appeals. 3. New trial had before a new judge and jury, and new conviction and new sentence to the State prison. 4. New stay granted, on certificate of reasonable doubt, and application for a new trial made one year and ten months ago and the case not yet argued before the Appellate Division or even upon its calendar. We should say that the fault indicated by this record is not so much with the system as with the Judges and the public prosecutor in the locality where the case occurred. If it be in Rochester, why has the District Attorney of Monroe county allowed twenty-two months to elapse without forcing the appeal to argument? It seems incredible that the courts would tolerate such a delay if the matter were brought to the attention of the Judges by the public prosecutor.

An extraordinary story comes from Iron Mountain, Mich., in regard to the murder of a young girl named Pearl Morrison, who was killed there last week by a tramp, as is supposed. One Peter Bons was suspected of the crime, arrested, and put in jail, where he was visited by a detective in the garb of a Roman Catholic priest; and, under the impression that he was confessing to a clergyman, the prisoner is said to have admitted his guilt. Under the statutes of many if not most of the States of the Union, a confession made to a priest or minister of the gospel in his professional character and in the course of discipline of his denomination cannot be given in evidence; but of course no such privilege would attach to a confession made to a person who was not, in fact, a clergyman. Even then, however, the confession must be shown to have been voluntary before it can be proved. Whether inducements to confess, held out by a pretended priest assuring a prisoner of spiritual benefits, would exclude the confession thus obtained, is a question which does not appear ever to have been determined.

The extent of the obligation of a landlord of a tenement house, in respect to keeping the halls and stairways of his tenement house lighted, was recently considered by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in this city in the case of Gorman vs. White, in which a tenant in the defendant's tenement house was injured by stepping on a stick of wood on the common stairway about dusk on an evening in April, before the janitor had lighted the gas in the hall. It was not contended that the landlord was responsible for the presence of the stick upon the stairs, but it was argued, in behalf of the plaintiff, that the gas should have been lighted so that the stick might have been seen and avoided. The Court, however, both on the trial and upon the appeal, held that the danger that the passage of the stairs would be obstructed by a stray stick in this manner was not one which a landlord was reasonably bound to anticipate, and the Appellate Division expressly declared that the law in this State was settled against the proposition that a landlord is negligent under all circumstances who fails to keep the halls and stairways of his tenement houses lighted.

The Countess of Pembroke was recently sued by the Messrs. Duveen, furniture dealers of Bond street, London, for the specific performance of a contract, growing out of a letter in which she wrote to them: "Gertrude, Countess of Pembroke, wishes to inform Mr. Duveen that she is willing to sell her tapestry. She is anxious to turn her room into a library, and cannot find room for her books unless she sells the tapestry. She would sell it for £5,000." In answer to this note, the plaintiffs asked the Countess for her lowest terms, to which she responded: "Gertrude, Countess of Pembroke, does not mean to part with the tapestry under £5,000." The plaintiffs then sent her a check for that amount, saying that they accepted her offer, but she took the ground that there was no concluded contract and refused to let them have the tapestry. Mr. Justice Kekewich held otherwise, and decided against the Countess on the trial, and he has just been sustained on appeal. The tapestry once belonged to Mme. du Barry.

THE INVENTOR OF MATCHES.

The Remarkable Career of Sir Isaac Holden, Whose Yearly Income Was $1,000,000.

From the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph.

Sir Isaac Holden, who died on Friday, at the time of his retirement from political life two years ago was the oldest and probably the richest member of the House of Commons, and he was certainly one of the most remarkable men in the United Kingdom. He was born at Paisley in Scotland, in 1807. His origin was very humble, his father being a working miner, too poor to keep him at school. So he was put at work to earn his own living at the early age of 10, when he was made an apprentice to a shawl weaver. But removal from school only stimulated his ardor for knowledge, and he managed to attend evening classes when working as an operative in a cotton mill some fourteen hours a day. His studies enabled him to accept a position as a teacher, and it was while serving in that capacity that he bestowed upon the world a great benefit, which was, however, slight benefit to him. This was the invention of the lucifer match, which he came upon unexpectedly while making some chemical experiments for the instruction of his pupils. Other men took up the discovery, and he made nothing out of it.

In time he gave up the ferrule and became a bookkeeper with a Yorkshire manufacturing firm. This was the turning point of his life, for, while working at his ledgers and journals his mind went back to his shawl-weaving apprenticeship, and he became interested in the manufacture of woollen cloth, and sought to construct a machine for carding the wool. For years he studied the problem, making many apparently fruitless experiments. All his savings from his salary were given to the enterprise. The friends to whom he confided his scheme looked with little favor upon it. But his perseverance and genius finally triumphed, and he completed and perfected a carding machine which