The Sun.

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The Army.

A correspondent asks THE SUN whether our countrymen may hope that when the moment comes for the army to play its part in the war with Spain it can be expected to sustain the credit of the flag after the manner of Admiral DEWEY. We feel ourselves justified in saying that, admirable as the navy has shown itself to be in its men and organization, the standard of the army, that is the regular army, is as high.

Ship for ship, our navy is inferior to no navy on the globe, and, with numbers equal, our army is inferior to none, in men, discipline and all the vital characteristics of the soldier.

Of late years the army has been very little in the public eye, and the common knowledge of it has been extremely small. But Americans may be assured that from top to bottom it is, in slang's transient lingo, what should be called "hot stuff."

Our Claim Against Hayti.

The expressed willingness of President SAM's Government to pay BERNARD CAMPBELL an indemnity, reported to be fixed at $10,000, for the ill treatment which this American citizen suffered at Cape Haytien over nine years ago, closes that incident.

Mr. CAMPBELL agreed to go to Hayti to serve as an engineer on a Haytian steamer, presuming that a merchant steamer was meant. Arriving there, he was informed that he was expected to serve on a war vessel, and refused to do so. Thereupon he was assaulted by Haytian soldiers, and in the scuffle was thrown into the sea. However, he managed to get back to New York, and filed a claim for damages with our Department of State, putting the amount at $100,000.

The result has been an award of $10,000. The patience of our Government in dealing with the little island republic is, perhaps, the most noticeable feature of the case, contrasting sharply, as it does, with Germany's peremptory policy in the Lüders affair. Hayti will not think the less of us for obtaining satisfaction without threatening, as an alternative, the bombardment of Port au Prince.

The Prospect of a General War.

Whether a great war, such as was foreshadowed in recent news from Europe, is at hand or not, the amount of warlike preparation that is going on in every part of the world is unprecedented. The present indications are that the war, if one should break out under actual diplomatic conditions in Europe, will begin between England and France. The pretext for it will not be difficult to find, whichever decides upon beginning.

There are several ready to hand in Africa, Asia, or Newfoundland to choose from. The fishery question on the shores of Newfoundland; the territorial dispute on the Niger; the sphere of influence on the Upper Nile, and the questions of railway and trade in the southern provinces of China, can be invoked as a cause of conflict when the inevitable moment is reached. For England, the great object naturally is to bring about, if possible, the separation of Russia from France, so that if war is decided on it may be a single-handed encounter. It would also be mainly a naval war, in which the undoubted superiority of the British Navy indicates victory for England, the fruits of which would, in all probability, be the whole of the French possessions in Indo-China, the islands in the Pacific, Madagascar, and the abrogation of the French claims on the Newfoundland coast. There would also be some limitation of the West African settlements of France, and, perhaps, the loss of the West Indian possessions and French Guiana. Following the course adopted by Europe after the Congress of Berlin, it is possible that there might be a general intervention of the European powers in such a case. Events during the last few years have begun to produce a visible solidarity among the Governments of Europe, which a great and overwhelming catastrophe to one of them might easily ripen into an effective continental union for common support and protection.

The separation of Russia and France may not be accomplished by England, and in that case she might well hesitate to begin a war against the two combined, and herself without an ally in Europe; for it is certain that at the outset of such a war Germany and the other European powers would maintain strict neutrality, reserving to themselves the right to intervene when it could be done with advantage. The theatre of operations would be not only on the sea, but also along the borders of India and Afghanistan. That this has been provided against by Russia is proved by the haste with which the railway from Merv to Kushk on the Afghan frontier near Herat has been completed, a year in advance of the date originally contemplated; and by the collection of sufficient railway material at Kushk to carry the line to Herat at very short notice. The British Government, on its side, has taken the same measures with regard to Kandahar, there being in store at Chaman, at the end of the Bolun-Quetta-Pisheen Railway toward Kandahar, all that is required for the 120 miles of rail to the last-named place. Sir WILLIAM LOCKART, the British Commander-in-Chief in India, and Sir SALTER PYNE, the manager of the Ameer's arms factory at Cabul, are both in England at this moment, whither they have been called to confer on the subject of a possible war with Russia, and the part the Ameer of Afghanistan might be expected to take in it. Moreover, mention may be made of the mission of DJEVAD Pasha to St. Petersburg, sent by the Sultan of Turkey to the Czar, as it is said, to study the situation; but, according to the belief at Constantinople, to treat for a friendly understanding with Russia in certain eventualities.

That war is expected in England appears evident. The latest information shows that what may be called almost the last preparations have been ordered and are being made both to carry on a vigorous aggressive war by sea, and to resist a possible invasion. The naval preparations on the French side indicate the belief there that war is at hand, while the political conditions of the country show the Government to be strongly supported by the people. The desire of the British Government to find an ally in this country is the logical and inevitable outcome of the isolation of England in Europe, and the decision of peace or war in the Old World may be said now to rest with the statesmen of America.

The Minority's Eight Reasons.

Only four of the fifteen members of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs signed the minority report against the annexation of Hawaii. These are HUGH A. DINSMORE of Arkansas, CHAMP CLARK of Missouri, JOHN S. WILLIAMS of Mississippi, and WILLIAM M. HOWARD of Georgia, all four being Democrats.

The eight reasons given by the minority for opposing the annexation of Hawaii probably comprise all of the arguments that will be heard in the House next week against the Newlands joint resolution. Briefly stated they are these:

1. Hawaiians have not been consulted. If this means that there has been no plebiscite, neither was there a plebiscite in the case of any former acquisition of territory by the United States.

2. People of the United States have not been consulted. We think that they are consulted when the Newlands resolution goes before the chosen representatives of the people. A great many important things with far-reaching consequences are done without a popular vote. There was no popular vote, for example, about the present war with Spain.

3. Annexation by joint resolution is unconstitutional. Then the annexation of Texas was unconstitutional, for Texas was annexed by joint resolution.

4. Hawaii is too remote. It is more than four thousand miles less remote than Manila, where DEWEY is waiting for reinforcements *via* Hawaii.

5. Population not homogeneous with our own. But it will be.

6. Political dominion over Hawaii not commercially necessary. But it will be.

7. Hawaii not necessary to our defence; we are not ready for a new departure from an historical course, that is, to become a colonial power; we shall not be ready for that for at least fifty years. But Hawaii *is* necessary to our naval operations, Mr. DINSMORE, Mr. CHAMP CLARK, Mr. WILLIAMS and Mr. HOWARD to the contrary notwithstanding; and the time for a nation's departure is never of the nation's own choosing. That time, as events are moving, is at hand now, not fifty years away in the future.

8. If any other nation attempts to take possession of Hawaii, we can attend to the case when the occasion arises. This eighth reason is nonsense and is merely intended as a preface to the substitute which the minority offers in place of the Newlands resolution. The minority substitute declares that the United States will view as a hostile act any attempt on the part of any Government to occupy or hold Hawaii, and at the same time guarantees the independence of the islands and pledges the United States to maintain it.

There could be nothing weaker than the document as an intellectual product; nothing narrower, more provincial and less patriotic than the philosophy which inspires it.

The Men Who Will Lead in Battle.

The latest device of the *Evening Post* for fomenting dissatisfaction with the conduct of the war is that of abusing the President for his appointments in the volunteer service. "There has not been set on foot since the Middle Ages," it says, "an army more in need of trained commanders, of men to lead it who know the ins and outs of the dreadful game of war. The country, too, is full of them." But while the importance, in the hour of battle, "of officers whom the men feel they can trust, because they know their business," is everywhere recognized, "such officers are not employed, though they stand ready, waiting to be called upon." It is safe to say, adds the *Evening Post*, that "no army officered as ours is to be, and containing such a large proportion of absolutely raw troops, has ever taken the field since war became an art."

The plain fact is that out of the thirty-seven officers nominated by the President as Major-Generals and Brigadier-Generals of Volunteers, thirty-six were soldiers of the civil war and in command of troops. The single exception is Gen. BATES, who did not graduate from West Point until the summer of 1865, just as the war had closed, but has since served nearly thirty-three years in the regular army, reaching the grade of Lieutenant-Colonel. We further find, on examining the records, that thirty-three out of these thirty-seven volunteer Generals are regular army officers to-day, only seven of them having as low a rank as Lieutenant-Colonel in the regular establishment. The four appointees not in the regular army were men of note in the civil war, Gens. JAMES H. WILSON, LEE, WHEELER, and SEWELL. The truth is that, as the *Army and Navy Journal* expresses it, the four civilian appointees are "experienced soldiers," that among the thirty-three selections from the regular army "we cannot see one who has not shown a special aptitude in his military vocation," and that "our soldiers will be led into action by men familiar with war and of proved courage and distinguished professional acquirements."

When we turn to the President's staff appointments, these deal with officers whose duties are primarily not that of commanding troops in the field. For such staff officers as quartermasters, commissaries of subsistence, and paymasters energy, business judgment, and great capacity for hard work are required, and these qualities may be found in civil life, while the activity of youth is not to be expected in the veterans of 60 years, who filled such staff offices between 1861 and 1865. And yet a great number of staff appointments have already been made from the regular army. For example, in the list of Senate confirmations of May 10, including Assistant Adjutants-General, Inspectors-General, Chief Quartermasters, Chief Engineers, Chief Commissaries of Subsistence, Judge Advocates, and Chief Surgeons, we observe the names of thirty-seven army officers, against nineteen from civil life.

A despatch from Washington in the same number of the *Evening Post* that contained the attack upon the President's appointments recorded his nominations to the command of six volunteer "immune" regiments, and four out of the six Colonels were regular army officers, while the other two were West Point graduates who formerly served in the regular army. This last is also true of Col. GRIFFIN, appointed to command the volunteer engineer regiment. In short, while in some staff departments of the volunteer army, notably in business departments like those of payment and subsistence, and necessarily in the lower grades of the medical corps, appointments from civil life have been freely made, the leaders of troops in battle under the President's appointments will be found suited to their tasks. The line officers even of the lowest grade thus far appointed from civil life have been exceedingly few.

The *Evening Post's* suggestion that some officers chosen by the President to lead men in the field are incompetent is malicious, but it must be obvious how little foundation it has in fact.

"Waning of Evangelicanism."

This is the title of a very serious, though not over profound, paper in the last number of the *Contemporary Review* of London by Mr. RICHARD HEATH, an English writer fond of discussing religious questions of the sort.

The "Evangelical revival" which swept over England and America in the last century may be said to have started with WESLEY and the founding of Methodism. The English Church was then low in its spiritual life, its clergy performing their duties perfunctorily and without any enthusiasm of religious feeling. The new movement was impelled by absolute faith in the Scriptures and in the conditions of salvation as interpreted by the extreme Protestant school.

It treated men as lost sinners who must abandon all hopes of raising themselves from the consequences of the fall of man and throw themselves humbly upon the grace and mercy of GOD. It warned them of the awful fate which awaited the unredeemed sinner in hell; and as its doctrines were preached the more widely and with the more terrible earnestness, men and women in great numbers were seized with an hysterical fear, and with tortured spirit sought succor through conversion to a new spiritual life. WHITEFIELD went about England, Wales, and Scotland preaching in the open air to great throngs and warning them with impassioned eloquence of their need of eternal salvation. In this country also he carried on his mission and started the great revivalist movements which have since swept over it so frequently. Many Evangelical revivalists of his general school followed him, and the movement extended and gathered force until it became one of the most powerful in religious history, building up all the Protestant denominations known as Evangelical throughout the English-speaking world. The two most numerous of these in this country, the Baptists and Methodists, received their whole impetus from frequent and passionate revivals. A school of preachers remarkable for special ability in arousing the religious sentiment which generated these movements was established, and with their aid carefully planned revivals were stimulated.

This Evangelical movement continued with undiminishing force until long after the middle of this century, though it may be said to have culminated in the Great Awakening, as it was called, in 1857, when in New York, for instance, daily prayer and exhortation meetings were held in the business districts, and theatres were crowded with people who listened breathlessly to impassioned evangelists, while throughout the Protestant community the deepest and most anxious religious interest prevailed. Since that time the Moody and Sankey meetings have aroused the same feeling to a less extent, and the Salvation Army and the American Volunteers have preached the same general doctrines and sought to awaken a like religious sentiment by novel methods; but the sweeping revivals of the time when this ardent Evangelical spirit continued as one of the greatest of religious forces have not been repeated.

The movement to spread Christianity by missions to the heathen received from it a powerful impulse. The ardor for the conversion of the heathen was kindled by absolute faith in the Bible as the Word of GOD. The Scriptures were translated into almost every tongue spoken by man, and their tremendous task did not appall the faithful missionaries, for they gladly spent years upon it as a duty commanded by GOD Himself, in order that the light of salvation might be carried to all men, and those in darkness saved by the power of the Gospel from eternal damnation. No doubts of the Bible's absolute infallibility as a complete and all-sufficient revelation from GOD existed in their minds. "Shall we whose souls are lighted with wisdom from on high," they sang, "shall we to men benighted the lamp of life deny?"

This Evangelical enthusiasm, however, has now become cold, perceptibly, ominously cold, according to the *Contemporary Review* writer. After having "developed a form of religion which may with truth be called *the* English religion of the nineteenth century, permeating the English-speaking world with its ideas, doctrines, customs, and character," he finds that "now, before the century is out, it is waning and becoming a thing that was." In the English Church the Evangelical party distinctively has almost ceased to exist, and the same is true of the Episcopal Church in this country, though at one time it included a great part of the pulpit eloquence of both. The Low Church school, once powerful, if not dominant, has passed away, and there remains only the two parties, the Broad Church, or liberal, and the "Catholic," or ritualistic, closely approaching the Roman Church in its devotion to Church authority and sacerdotalism. The Congregational churches departed long ago from earnest sympathy with the Evangelical movement, and consequently the Unitarian rebellion, once active, is now quiescent. It is a receding movement, for Unitarians are finding that Evangelical orthodoxy itself has thrown down most of the barriers separating it from them. They are no longer fighting against it, for there is nothing of importance left to fight against. Presbyterianism, a very citadel of Evangelicalism, is surrendering the stronghold to its skeptical enemies. Some of its most prominent theologians are rejecting the infallibility of the Bible, and thus leaving it no ground on which to stand. A critical instead of a believing spirit prevails, and the latitude of Broad Church Episcopalians is attracting many of the laity. Defence of the Bible as the only rule of faith and opposition to the Pope as the Antichrist and to the Church of Rome as the sum of all abominations have been succeeded by Presbyterian laudation of a Roman Catholic Archbishop at a recent celebration, and sympathetic treatment of the Church of Rome as one of the greatest and most valuable of Christian agencies.

The *Contemporary Review* writer undertakes to discover various remote causes of the "waning of Evangelicalism," but there is no need of going further or deeper than this waning of earnest religious belief. The vital warmth of faith is passing out of it. It has become skeptical; or at least a spirit of skepticism has entered into its theological seminaries and thence spread widely through its pulpits. The Baptists and Methodists, especially bred or stimulated by the Evangelical movement, are less affected, perhaps are little affected as yet by this destructive spirit of criticism; but it is devitalizing the Presbyterian Church. How could it be otherwise when this new movement, now so powerful in Presbyterianism, is directed against the very foundation of its faith and whole system of theology?

That is enough to account for the "waning" of which the *Contemporary Review* treats. What can remain of Evangelicalism if the source from which alone it draws its inspiration is degraded by its own appointed defenders into a polluted stream of superstition, delusion, fraud, and ignorance, having its springs in the groping of mere human intelligence incapable of penetrating the mystery of life?

Without an infallible Bible, sent as a revelation direct from GOD, Evangelicalism must necessarily wane and die.

First Troubles.

Hunger recently moved some members of the Seventy-first Regiment of New York to complain to THE SUN of the discomfort brought to the regiment just prior to their leaving this city, through the imperfect arrangements made for feeding by the authorities clothed with that responsibility. The deficiency of food, against which they rebelled, was as inexcusable as it is likely to be invariable when masses of volunteers are called suddenly into the field. It occurred, for instance, when the National Guard was sent in haste to subdue the Buffalo riots. Commissary and Quartermaster facilities are not readily adapted to the emergency.

These, however, are hardships inseparable from such a time as this and from our system requiring the extemporizing of an army when the occasion for it arises. Under the German military system, for instance, every department of the army is kept in continual readiness for such an emergency, but with us, with our small military establishment, it is not surprising, it is inevitable, that the Commissary and Quartermaster's departments should not be prepared to meet the sudden and multifarious demands upon them. The wonder, rather, is that the shortcomings should be so few and comparatively trifling as they have been during the last two or three weeks.

The troubles of which our correspondents complain so naturally are trifling, comparatively, as we have said. They have lived through them, and, however grave they might have been, they would have been of no weight as measured by the side of the patriotic duty which impelled them and so many other young men to submit to the possibility of them and the far more serious hardships and the actual dangers to life and health which are always in the path of service on which they have entered. But we doubt not that if the volunteers come to face these in the stress of campaigning they will bear them unflinchingly.

We print in another column of THE SUN this morning a startling utterance of Senator FORAKER's regarding the propriety of giving back the Confederate battle flags. The impulse to do this has been for a long time growing in force. The act proposed will be objected to, doubtless, by many as the obliteration of memorials of hard-won victories, but after the flags have disappeared forever there will remain indestructible the grandest monument of American heroism possible to conceive, namely, a united, patriotic and invincible country.

It is becoming a matter of notoriety that a certain influence has prevented the General-in-Chief of the Army from making a sudden descent upon Havana and taking it.—*Washington Times.*

And it ought to be known also to our esteemed contemporary that the chief influence that has held back our General-in-Chief, as able and bellicose a soldier as any army need wish for a leader, is Gen. MILES himself.

Our poor Mayor's method of removing the Chief of Police emphasizes the principle that the bi-partisan law for the Police Department requires that the Democratic and Republican Commissioners must be named by their respective organizations. Otherwise, members of the Police Commission will all be Administration men, two labelled Democrats and two labelled Republicans. Certainly by the appointment of Mr. JACOB HESS the Republican party has been relieved of all responsibility for the management of the police. Mayor VAN WYCK had a precedent for his action in the policy of the Hon. WILLIAM LYSONG STRONG; but the declarations put forward by Mayor VAN WYCK's party regarding the municipal administration to be expected of him promised better things.

Lieut. NEWCOMB, commanding the revenue cutter Hudson, who did such gallant work in towing the disabled torpedo boat Winslow from under fire in Cardenas harbor, belongs to a service wherein the pay is small, promotion slow, and the pension list conspicuous by its absence. It would seem a proper reward of his gallantry to appoint him at least an Acting Lieutenant-Commander in the navy. As such he would be entitled to a considerable increase of pay. Money may not be an ideal reward for heroism; but as the regulations of the Revenue Cutter Service do not allow of his promotion for gallantry, such an appointment, at all events, would show an appreciation for his services.

The practice by which our naval captains remain on the bridge during action is to be deprecated, and we therefore order them all below into the conning tower, which was built for such occasions. The spectacle of the battle will not be so interesting from that spot, and the ship may be fought with greater difficulty, but it will be well for the rule to be established that the armored bulwark of the conning tower is the Captain's place.

Savings Banks.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In the published resolution offered by Mr. Townsend and adopted yesterday by the Savings Banks Association, I find the following:

"We call attention to the fact that of the savings banks of the United States, those holding over fifteen hundred millions out of a total sum of two thousand million dollars so deposited, are purely eleemosynary in their character, have no capital, and the profits all accrue to the benefit of the depositors, who are largely made up of the thrifty working classes."

I would like to call Mr. Townsend's attention to the proper meaning of the word "eleemosynary"; Webster defines it, "Relating to charity, alms or almsgiving; intended for the distribution of charity; as: an eleemosynary corporation."

The savings banks of the State of New York are by no means charitable corporations or associations; the purpose of a savings bank is to furnish a safe depository for the money of those members of the community disposed to intrust their property to its keeping; these persons have more than their necessities compel them to expend for the support of themselves or their families, and have a remainder to loan or save, be it but trifling in amount; they are in no sense whatever objects of charity and should not be designated as such by calling the savings banks they patronize eleemosynary, *i. e.*, charitable institutions. A SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITOR.

NEW YORK, May 20, 1898.

Drinking Fountains for the Boulevard.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Last year I called your attention to the absence of drinking fountains on the Boulevard and Riverside Drive. The Boulevard and Riverside Drive are still unprovided with drinking fountains. The summer is here, and during the hot weather there will be thousands of women. Don't you think it is time to attend to this matter?

MAY 20. M.

READING FOR A CHILD.

Suggestions in Answer to the Father Who Asked for Proper Reading for a Girl of 10 Years.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Because the young daughter of "J. C." shows a disposition to read "every sort of book that she can lay her hands on" doesn't warrant those who are to guide her to womanhood in indulging that propensity.

Let them rather train her mind. In our day too many women, and a far greater number of girls, are incompletely educated. Such women grow tiresome soon, but their sisters who have been well trained usually remain charming to their dying day. The learned young women of Queen Elizabeth's time were to my taste admirable. There is no reason why "J. C.'s" daughter should not grow up to be like them, beautiful in character, because possessing a richly stored mind. It will be time enough when she is 15 to give her a list of books. She is an American girl, and for such, as for all other Americans, there are a-plenty of supremely good books written by Americans.

Assuming that at 15 her father desires such a list, let him give her Prescott and Motley to begin with. Each is a master of an easy, fluent, copious style. Style is formed through the perusal of the best prose. After Prescott and Motley she may read Bancroft, Parkman, and McMaster. For lighter reading there is Washington Irving. If she digests these authors with profit, she will need no further guidance; her taste will have been formed and she may be trusted to select her own further reading.

NEW YORK, May 20. CIVIS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Here is a list of some of my old favorites, ten in number. It may possibly be said that one or two are too old, but any child who can read with interest Irving's "Alhambra," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," &c., can surely read with equal pleasure "Lorna Doone" and the "Cloister and the Hearth." "Amyas Leigh" I'm a little doubtful of, but as it tells the story of an earlier Spanish Armada, some 400 years back, I think it may be included, especially as it is hardly any "deeper" than Dickens's "Child History":

Tales from Shakespeare; Charles Lamb.
Tanglewood Tales; Nathaniel Hawthorne.
Thaddeus of Warsaw; Miss Porter.
Children of the Abbey; Miss Porter.
Lorna Doone; Blackmore.
Cloister and the Hearth; Charles Reade.
Ivanhoe; Scott.
Story of a Bad Boy; Thomas Bailey Aldrich.
Amyas Leigh, or Westward Ho! Charles Kingsley.
Water Babies; Charles Kingsley.

There is a condensed edition of this last which has all the sweetness and beauty of the original, unmarred by what would be defects to a child in the unabridged edition. J. S. S.

BROOKLYN, May 20.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I also have a daughter 10 years old who is a great reader, and here is a list of her most valued books:

Through the Looking Glass; Lewis Carroll.
Water Babies; Charles Kingsley.
First and Second Jungle Book; Rudyard Kipling.
Story of Babette; Mrs. Ruth McEnery Stuart.
Tanglewood Tales, Grandfather's Chair, Wonder Book; } Nathaniel Hawthorne.
A Little Book of Profitable Tales, Love Songs of Childhood; } Eugene Field.
Plants and Their Children; Mrs. Wm. Starr Dana.
Tales from Shakespeare; Charles and Mary Lamb.
Little Lame Prince; Miss Mulock.
Swiss Family Robinson.
Peterkin Papers; Lucretia Hale.
Arabian Nights.
Boy of the First Empire, American Revolution, Famous Americans; } Elbridge S. Brooks.
Christopher Columbus; Josephine Pollard.
Hiawatha; Longfellow.
Hans Brinker; Mary Mapes Dodge.
Pilgrim's Progress; Bunyan.
The Bow of Orange Ribbon; Amelia E. Barr.
St. Nicholas Magazine.

In these exciting times I find that the war articles and maps from THE SUN and the *Brooklyn Eagle* are of paramount importance.

ANTOINETTE W. BUTLER.

BROOKLYN, May 20.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "J. C." who asks for proper reading for children, may find it among the list below:

In Story Land; Elizabeth Harrison.
Four Wind's Farm, The Cuckoo Clock; Mrs. Molesworth.
In the Child's World; Emily Poulson.
The Proud Little Grain of Wheat; Mrs. Burnett.
The Silver Skates; Mary Mapes Dodge.
Bodley Family Telling Stories; Edward E. Hale.
Morning Talks; Wiltes.
Stories from Fairy Land.
Water Babies, Greek Heroes; Charles Kingsley.
Jungle Books, Man and Beast in India; Kipling.
Tanglewood Tales, Grandfather's Chair; Hawthorne.
Seven Little Sisters, Each and All; Andrews.
Ten Boys on the Road from Long Ago to Now; Andrews.
Old Greek Stories, The Story of Siegfried, Stories of the Golden Age; Baldwin.
Plutarch for Boys and Girls; White.
A Little Book of Profitable Tales, A Second Book of Tales, Love Songs of Childhood; Eugene Field.
Tales from Shakespeare; Lamb.
Stories from Homer, Herodotus, Virgil; Church.
King of the Golden River; Ruskin.
Letters from My Mill; Daudet.
Young Folks' Histories, The Little Duke, Dove in the Eagle's Nest; Yonge.
About Old Story Tellers; Donald Mitchell.
Norse Stories; Hamilton Mabie.
Any by Kate Douglas Wiggin, Mrs. Ewing, Scott, Dickens, Cooper.
Age of Fable, Tales of Chivalry; Bullfinch.
The Nine Worlds; M. E. Litchfield.
Stories of Asgard; Keary.
Sketch Book; Irving.
The Boy King Arthur; Lamar.
Essays, Signs and Seasons; John Burroughs.
Zig-Zag Stories; Hale.
Nature Stories for Young Readers (Plant and Animal Life); F. Bass.
Fairy Land of Science; Arabella Buckley.
Rambles of a Naturalist, Travels in the Treetops; Charles Abbott.
Feathers and Fur; Johonot.
Little Brothers of the Air; Olive Thorne Miller.
Stories of Life and Nature in the Woods; Morris Thompson.
Seaside and Wayside; Julia McNair Wright.
Tenants of an Old Farm, Old Farm Fairies; McCook.
The Excursion; Thoreau.
Poems of Longfellow, Whittier, Lowell, Bryant, Holmes, Lucy Larcom, Celia Thaxter, Alice and Phœbe Cary, Tennyson, Jean Ingelow, Margaret Preston.
Child Life; Whittier.
Eliot's Poetry for Children.
A Child's Garden of Verse; Stevenson.

NEW YORK, May 20. JANETTE BARNETT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If your correspondent of Boston will select some of the many beautiful stories of the Bible and Homer, he will have a literature really suitable for children. These exquisite stories develop a taste at once simple and grand. They fire the imagination and inspire the mind with noble thoughts and high aspirations.

Mr. Charles Dudley Warner said in a lecture that it is a mistake to believe that children need books especially written for them. They are capable of appreciating the best.

Ernest Renan says: "Homer and the Bible are the two children's books which surpass all others. They are the only two written for a public resembling children, an inquisitive, simple-natured public, easy to please, having no theological afterthought, either in the way of affirmation or negation. The interest which children take in these narratives is their highest praise." P. I. ROSKA.

NEW YORK, May 20.

The Sentiment of the Day.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In view of the news report regarding the election of officers of the Daughters of the Revolution at their national meeting in February last, in which it was stated that "it became necessary to call in two policemen to prevent disturbance," &c., the following little episode regarding our local branch of this order may be of interest to some of your readers:

At a recent meeting the "Senior Daughter" (we don't know just the proper title of the presiding officer) requested the members each to prepare for the next meeting some little patriotic sentiment. Imbued with patriotic zeal and in order to carry out this request, one of the ladies of the order besought her husband to help her out in her selection. This wretch of a husband replied as follows:

My Dear: You know that the events of the past week have filled our country with a delirious paroxysm of patriotism. The success of our arms in Manila and the unparalleled energy shown by Dewey in his attack have rendered him and his men famous. I know of nothing better that could be given as a patriotic sentiment than the remark of one of his "old salts," who, when the fight was stopped and the fleet piped to breakfast, remarked: "To h—l with breakfast. Let's fight."

Fight is the word from the country's one end to the other. C. B.

BINGHAMTON, May 20.

Gen. McLeer at Bull Run.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* An article printed in THE SUN of March 6 under the heading "Gen. McLeer at Bull Run," said that the ambulance in which he was carried off the field was deserted by the driver. Now it was my privilege as well as duty to bring Gen. James McLeer from the Old Stone House on the Bull Run field after the second Bull Run fight. Some persons may think that the article printed in THE SUN throws discredit on my claims, never considering that it refers to the first Bull Run, and that my experience was of the second Bull Run. I had the article shown to me a few days ago with the remark that "That does not tally with your experience as told to us." I should not like to have the impression made that I ran away from my ambulance and deserted my wounded. GEORGE READ.

One who did not run away.

HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, N. J., May 14.

A CHANGE WROUGHT BY THE WAR.

Buoyant Confidence Succeeds the Depression of the Last Five Years.

From the United States Investor.

That a change of a radical character has passed over the American people in the last few weeks must be obvious to every one. We suspect, however, that the real nature of this change has not been fully appreciated. The signs of general business activity are not more marked to-day than they have been a number of times in the last five years, and yet, as regards the feelings of practically everybody, there is a great gulf between to-day and a few weeks ago. There have been times when business in certain lines was unusually active, but there has never been an occasion when the improvement has not been attended by more than a lurking fear that the existing conditions were merely temporary.

The distinguishing feature of the situation to-day is the removal in very large part of this apprehensiveness regarding the future. The change in the situation is strikingly illustrated by the indifference of the public at this time to the wild declarations of our Congressmen. Not many weeks ago such propositions as those to "coin the seigniorage" and to emit $150,000,000 of greenbacks would have thrown the business interests of the country into the profoundest gloom. As a matter of fact, these suggestions have been absolutely without effect, so confident has been the feeling lately that conditions are going to be such from now on as to preclude the necessity or the possibility of such legislation. So expectant is every one of a great future for this country and for its various industries, that such measures as we just referred to are regarded by the people as a whole as absurd anachronisms.

Economic conditions have unquestionably been at work ever since the panic of 1893 to put the country in better financial condition than it was in for many years previous. The precipitating cause of the present optimism was, however, our naval victories. The high price of wheat, and factors of a similar nature, would no doubt have produced a marked effect upon our fortunes had there been not a shadow of war; but there is every reason to believe that the old apprehensiveness would still have remained to detract from our peace of mind. The war has accomplished great things for the country, in removing that depression of spirits that has hung like a pall over the entire American people for the last five years. Our naval victories have given us new visions of national greatness. Our feelings have been so elated that it is impossible for us to view even dry economic facts any longer with apprehension.

When the present situation, therefore, is studied in its broader aspects, there is every indication that the financial and commercial interests of the United States are about to enter upon an era of prosperity such as, perhaps, we have seldom witnessed. Lagging energy will be stirred to new activity, the American intellect will be a keener instrument for some years to come, broader views regarding markets and methods will prevail. In short, the pent-up energies of the people of this country are bound to assert themselves with force.

Victor Hugo on the Spanish in America.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The following note of Victor Hugo is interesting at the present moment:

AU COMITÉ RÉVOLUTIONNAIRE DE PUERTO RICO, HAUTEVILLE HOUSE, 24 Novembre, 1867.

La République de Puerto Rico a vaillamment défender sa liberté. Le Comité révolutionnaire m'en fait part et je l'en remercie. L'Espagne hors de l'Amérique! c'est là le grand but; c'est le grand devoir pour les Américains.

Cuba libre comme Saint-Domingue. J'applaudis à tous ces grands efforts.

La liberté du monde se compose de la liberté de chaque peuple.

The English of this may be given thus:

The republic of Puerto Rico has bravely defended its liberty, and I thank the revolutionary committee for sending me the news. Spain out of America! that is the objective point, and the great duty of Americans.

Cuba as free as Saint Domingo! I hail all these grand efforts.

The liberty of the world consists in the liberty of every people.

This is from page 312 of Hugo's recently published correspondence.

BOSTON, May 20. HARVARD.

Two Women's Experience in a Restaurant.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Will you kindly publish this criticism and inquiry in your valuable paper?

Wednesday evening a young woman and I, having just entered the city as strangers at 10 o'clock and desiring refreshments, entered a so-called respectable restaurant on 125th street. We were unaccompanied by a gentleman.

Having seated ourselves, a waiter politely informed us that "ladies were not served alone." Were they afraid of degrading the high standard of the restaurant?

Allow me to say we are not fast women. Is that why we were refused?

The position was most embarrassing, for all eyes were upon us, and not those of "good" people, although accompanied by gentlemen.

In fact, never in my life had I been in such a questionable fashionable crowd.

May I ask why we were refused, and also state that if more of our class patronized that place the moral standard would indeed be higher.

NEW YORK, May 20. A TRAINED NURSE.

We sympathize with our correspondent in her dislike of her experience, but she must assume that this restaurant and all others that have adopted similar regulations have done so with good intent. The affair suggests that strangers had better inquire beforehand what restaurants it is well to visit.

Cry for a Telectroscope.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Did you ever think, when your ear was glued to the receiver of a telephone and you were peering wistfully at the disk in front of you, that some sort of an instrument might be perfected which should do for the *eye* what the telephone does for the ear?

Am I behind the current news of the day in believing that Edison, Tesla, and Jan Szczepanik, et id omnes, have promised us something which will give a full view of the person to whom we are telephoning and his environment?

Is it preposterous to believe in the possibility of being able to see a person at a distance by means of a telephone wire?

I suppose so, but did we not all at first doubt the possibility of the telephone wire carrying sound, and are we not skeptical to-day in believing that telegraphy without wires is quite well within the limits of future possibilities, if not a fait accompli?

Where is the man who shall invent what for want of a better name might be called a telectroscope?

How very desirable it would be under present conditions if such a telectroscope were in operation between Manila and the Board of Naval Strategy in Washington. WILLIAM GEORGE OPPENHEIM.

Notes About Dewey.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* At a time when the name of Rear Admiral Dewey is so prominently before the people, and his great victory at Manila is so universally admired, it may be of interest to relate several incidents of the early life of the naval hero. The following were told me by an uncle, who was a gunner under Dewey when the latter was a young officer during the civil war, and I can vouch for their authenticity.

During an engagement Sampson and Dewey were standing together. When the latter saw one of the enemy's guns pointing in their direction, turning to Sampson he said: "Sampson, the shot from that gun will strike right here. There's no use of both of us being killed, so you step aside." The shot fell ten feet short of the spot where they stood.

On another occasion, when Dewey noted the position of one of the enemy's guns, he remarked to a comrade: "That shot will take off our bowsprit." And it did.

At another time, when a body of men were being transferred from a disabled ship to the flagship, the men failed, in their excitement, to salute Dewey as they filed by. After they had all passed he compelled them to return and give the usual salute.

NEW YORK, May 20. A. C.

The Louisiana Naval Militia.

From the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

The naval militia of Louisiana passed examination and inspection last August with flying colors, the report of the inspecting board, as embodied in the annual report of the Secretary of the Navy, saying:

Discipline excellent, far better than that of any similar organization that has previously come under the observation of the members of the board.

The commander of the reserve is Mr. Bostick, associate editor of the *Picayune*; and to Mr. Bostick, as well as to Lieut. Walters, U. S. N., now retired from the service, is due in large measure the credit of raising Louisiana's naval reserve and maintaining it in a condition of such high efficiency.

WHEN MARTIAL LAW CAME.

Experience of Amateur Conspirators in a Western Town in the Civil War.

"Martial law has not yet been declared in this country, and I reckon there will be no occasion for it," said a man who had all sorts of experiences in the civil war. "Next to being shot at, there is nothing that annoys an American more than martial law. It was that which caused me to go into the conspiracy to smash the Government.

"In the town where I lived in the West during the civil war was a man who had been my lawyer many years. He had won his spurs in the Mexican war. He was a Colonel. For a long time we did not know where he stood on the proposition to separate the country. But as he was noted for his reticence, we did not think it strange and concluded that he was with us. His office was on the shady side of the street, and the first summer of the war found a row of tilted chairs, filled with whittlers cussin' the Government, in front of his office. Occasionally we would spring a constitutional point, and if we disagreed we left it to Col. Bassett, who sat at a window. After extracting the juice from a select article of natural leaf he would give his decision, to wit, 'It depends,' and when he got through we dropped the point and returned to conspiring.

"One day a squad officered by a Dutch barber of the place marched six men across the town to headquarters, which was about two miles from the business section. We did not sprinkle the streets of that town during the war, and when the dry spell was on the dust was ankle deep. I was one of the prisoners. When we reached our destination we huddled together and exchanged views. We had been taken from our business. We had been removed from our homes. Our rights had been outraged. We were kept in a condition of uncertainty until late in the day, when we were told that we were held on the charge of giving aid and comfort to the enemies of the Government. We demanded a lawyer and named Col. Bassett.

"'He is not likely to help you out,' replied the officer. 'He has just been appointed provost marshal.'

"We retired for consultation. We concluded to continue our bluff and demanded that we be taken before the provost marshal. This was conceded, and when we were before our old-time friend and lawyer, who was still at work with his jaws, he said:

"'I don't see what I can do for you fellows. I am the witness against you. For six months you have worn out my office chairs, whittled the rounds and arms, and damned the Government, and frequently borrowed my chewing tobacco.'

"'But we demand our rights,' said the man whom we had chosen to speak. 'We demand to be released on habeas corpus, that bulwark of——'

"'Don't make fools of yourselves, gentlemen,' said Col. Bassett. 'The writ of habeas corpus has been suspended, and we are now under martial law.'

"'But you can't suspend the writ of habeas corpus,' said our speaker, 'without invalidating the Constitution.'

"The Colonel took a fresh cut on his natural leaf, and was silent while he was getting it at the proper angle, after which he said, 'It depends.' And he said it so naturally and in his old time knowing way that we gave in. Just how he got the confidence of the Government to secure his appointment as provost marshal we never knew. But he did practice martial law in that country for a long time, in a way which will never be forgot."

SLEEPING IN A HAMMOCK.

A Civil War Veteran's Reminiscences of Life in the Army.

"I see they say that soldiers in Cuba ought to sleep in hammocks for their health's sake," said a veteran of the civil war. "I never slept in a hammock but once, and that was when I was in the army at the time of the civil war. But my purpose in sleeping in a hammock was not to guard against malaria or dampness or anything of that sort, because we were at that time in a settled camp that was tolerably salubrious, and where we had beds raised off the ground, made of barrel staves, cracker box covers, and one thing and another; my hammock was solely for comfort. It was very hot in the tent, and I thought I might be a little cooler in a hammock, and made one myself out of a blanket.

"There was plenty of wood around where we were then, and we, that is, the folks in our tent, had set up a couple of tall, stout posts about six feet apart alongside of our tent and strung a line between them to hang our washing on. I used these two posts for hammock posts. I took down the clothesline and tied a piece of good, stout cord around each end of my blanket, leaving plenty of end on each, and then I made these ropes fast securely around the posts, pretty well up, and then I was all right; all I had to do was to get in and go to sleep.

"But I had the greatest time getting into that hammock you ever heard of, and I thought before I got in that I should kick in the side of the tent and wake up everybody; but I didn't, and finally I managed to get over into it. I had no spreaders and no pillow to spread it out, and I found it crowded me very hard head and foot, and it sagged down in the middle like a bag. It was the first time I'd ever been in a hammock, and it was about as uncomfortable as could be. I suppose that was due largely to the hammock itself, or the way it was slung, for there must be such a thing as a comfortable hammock, because there's plenty of men that sleep in hammocks every night and like 'em, and find it hard work to get used to beds again at first when they go ashore, but I found it hard work to get used to my hammock, and there was one thing I hadn't counted on at all, and that was the mosquitoes. They were bad enough in the tent, but out here they had free approach from all directions, and the blanket was just no impediment to them at all; it didn't even bend their beaks; nothing short of a sheet-iron or wooden blanket could have kept them out.

"But I sort of felt, as a matter of pride, that I ought to stick it out and I did. I covered up my head and pretty soon I went to sleep, hanging there between the two posts. But I didn't stay there all night. Along some time in the morning, when it was still pitch dark and the whole camp was very still, I dreamed I heard a dull thud and woke up and found my feet still up in the air, but my shoulders on the ground. The rope at the head end of the hammock had parted and let my head drop to the ground.

"I didn't put the hammock back. I took down the other end and put the clothesline back on the posts and crept into the tent quietly and lay down on my barrel staves. After trying the hammock I found the bed more comfortable."

OUR DIFFERENCES WITH CANADA.

A Conference to Be Held This Week to Dispose of All Questions in Dispute.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—An important conference will be held at the State Department on Wednesday between Secretary Day, Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador, and Sir Louis Davies of Canada. An effort will be made to arrange a basis of settlement of the various questions in dispute between the United States and Canada, including the fisheries and sealing questions, the subject of the bonding privileges of Canadian railroads, rights of way of railroads in Alaska, and other matters. Congress has heretofore stood in the way of an agreement, but it is thought that the time is now opportune for disposing of all these questions that have been held in abeyance. Advantage will be taken of the friendly attitude of England toward the United States, and important results are expected from the deliberations of the conference.

Gladstone and Bismarck.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Kindly state which, in your opinion, will stand highest in the judgment of the future as a statesman, Gladstone or Bismarck?

The term "statesman" is used here as distinct from politician. CHAS. WILLIAMS.

BOSTON, May 20.

We remind our correspondent that Bismarck is not dead. But whoever eventually will undertake to compare those two distinguished and dissimilar men will find the same difficulty about arriving at a satisfactory conclusion that he would in comparing the architectural beauties of the Cathedral of Milan and the Taj Mahal. The only practical way of decision would be to put it to a vote.

Cervera to Seek Dewey?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Doesn't it sometimes occur to you that the Spanish fleet which seems to be playing "Will o' the wisp," has not come over here for the purpose of rushing into Admiral Sampson's arms, or even relieving Cuba? And from the points at which they have been "sighted" is it not quite possible that their route may be "via Magellan" to our Pacific coast, and after paying their respects along that line to take our brave Dewey in the rear? What does our "Stragetic Board" say to this? With the enemy's swifter ships it would be a "stern chase" for us, besides proving a stern and serious reality in many other ways. JOHN FARREL.

Women at Public Dinners.

From the Mount Vernon Daily Argus.

The innovation of associating women with men at a public dinner, introduced last Tuesday evening by the National Sculpture Society, may be the first step toward the establishment of a custom which will become general on such occasions.—THE SUN.

Usually right, but this time in error. The Mount Vernon Board of Trade, Dr. Thomas A. Fletcher, President, and Edward B. Maynard, Secretary, in 1885, Feb. 12, Lincoln's birthday, introduced the custom in this city, on which occasion the annual banquet of the board was held. The event was voted the most popular function of the season.