

The Sun

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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication will send rejected articles returned, they need not send stamps for that purpose.

Admiral and Vice-Admiral.

Thirty-four years have passed since the first Vice-Admiral of the American navy was appointed, the grade being created for the illustrious FARRAGUT. When, after the war, he was made Admiral, PORTER became Vice-Admiral, and on FARRAGUT'S death, Admiral in his turn, ROWAN then becoming Vice-Admiral, while the two grades lapsed with the deaths of these incumbents.

Now we have another great sailor to reward, the hero of Manila, who is in the self-same class with the naval victor of the Mississippi and Mobile Bay. Of the two bills introduced into Congress for this purpose, the one reported by the House Naval Committee seems to us better than that of Senator HAZEN, for while the latter provides for the permanent revival of the grades of Admiral and Vice-Admiral, the House bill restricts them to the lifetime of those who may first be appointed to these grades.

No doubt there is something to be said for making the highest line officer in the navy a full Admiral, as also for making the commander of our enlarged army a full General. We have a far more powerful navy than twenty or thirty years ago, and shall be constantly adding to it, while Secretary LOVELL already asks Congress to make the permanent enlisted maximum 22,500 men and boys, which is more than double what it was a few years ago. But the better view seems to us that no permanent grade of Admiral is required; while in any case the need just now is to emphasize as much as possible the personal tribute paid in reviving the two grades rather than to secure any collateral advantages from them.

What the people of this country want is to place DEWEY on a plane of honor and public gratitude like that which FARRAGUT occupies. It desires to reward him for what he has already done and to give him the highest rank the naval service has ever carried. In FARRAGUT'S case there was no actual need of an Admiral for the navy, especially when peace had been declared, but there was an American sailor who deserved to be an Admiral, just as there is now.

What we want, then, is to make DEWEY an Admiral and SAMPSON a Vice-Admiral for their deeds during the recent war; and, apart from other considerations, in order to make this fact prominent it should be provided that these grades are to lapse with their incumbency, following the precedent of 1870. There will be no difficulty hereafter in reviving these grades or either of them, just as there is no difficulty in reviving them now.

The Leadership of the British Liberals.

Sir WILLIAM VERNON HARCOURT'S resignation of the leadership of his party in the House of Commons is the latest incident in the chapter of intrigue and dissension which has discredited the recent history of the British Liberal party. If we recall the preceding incidents we may be the better able to forecast the effect of his resignation on the fortunes of the Liberal party and on its future relations to the Irish Nationalists.

The general election of 1892 resulted, it will be remembered, in the return of Mr. GLADSTONE to power, backed by a majority of forty in the House of Commons, to which, however, nine votes were contributed by the Parnellites, of whom Mr. JOHN E. REDMOND was and is the leader. So long as this majority of forty could be kept substantially intact, the hold of the Liberal party upon the House of Commons was, of course, unshaken, and Mr. GLADSTONE experienced no great difficulty in carrying the second Home Rule bill through that body. It is now an open secret, however, that after the rejection of that measure by the Upper House, a cabal was organized in the Cabinet for the purpose of ousting the veteran chief and superseding him by Lord ROSEBERRY. The plot succeeded. Mr. GLADSTONE resigned, scarcely, however, had Lord ROSEBERRY assumed the leadership of the Liberal party than in a memorable speech he took ground which cost him the support of the nine Parnellites, discredited also the rank and file of the anti-Parnellite faction, and estranged those British Liberals who were sincerely desirous of giving home rule to Ireland. It was not enough, he said, that at a general election the United Kingdom, considered as a whole, should return to the House of Commons a majority favorable to home rule; a measure to that end would never be enacted until the assent of the "pre-eminant partner," that is to say, of England proper, should also be secured. This assertion was generally recognized as postulating the triumph of home rule to the Greek legends.

The effect of this ominous declaration was that at a critical juncture in 1895 the nine Parnellites deserted and were joined by a sufficient number of Radicals to overthrow the Roseberry Government. The outcome of the general election, which ensued, was the restoration of the Unionists to power by an overwhelming majority. The responsibility for the almost unparalleled rout of the Liberals rested, probably, in some degree, upon Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT, who had insisted upon making local opinion the principal issue of the canvass, so far as he was personally concerned, but it was generally imputed to Lord ROSEBERRY, who accordingly resigned the leadership of the Liberal party. It was thereupon decided at a council of influential Liberals that the official leadership of the party should be put, so to speak, into commission, and that while Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT should conduct the Liberal opposition in the House of Commons, Lord KILGERRIE should be its spokesman in the House of Lords. Such has been the régime under which the Liberals have acted during the last three years. Notably the management has been dual, but practically Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT, through the greater importance of his position, has been the dominant figure. It cannot be denied that Sir WILLIAM has failed to give satisfaction, not only to the faction always friendly to Lord ROSEBERRY, but also to any neutral members of his party who care less for persons than

for ideas. On the one hand, the questions out of which he has striven to make political issues have not laid hold upon the public mind, while, on the other hand, he has failed to avail himself of precious opportunities and allowed them to be seized by opponents or by rivals. He has clung, for instance, to local opinion in spite of conclusive proof that a large section of his own party looked askance upon the project, and he has vehemently assailed the toleration of Romanistic ritualism in the Church of England, although it was soon made evident that the severe measures advocated by him did not commend themselves to the great body of Anglicans. Meanwhile, Sir WILLIAM has permitted Mr. CHAMBERLAIN to take the wind out of the Liberal sails, first, in the matter of the "old age pension" programme, and, secondly, in the promotion of a cordial understanding between England and the United States. So far as imperialism or the tightening of the bonds between the mother country, and her colonies is concerned, Lord ROSEBERRY is the only Liberal who can dispute with Mr. CHAMBERLAIN the title to the championship. As this is a live issue, Lord ROSEBERRY, although ostensibly in retirement, retained his grasp upon a considerable section of the Liberals, and he suddenly acquired great prestige among all Englishmen, who set their country above party, by proclaiming his approval of the treatment of the Fashoda incident by the Salisbury Government, at a time when Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT and Mr. JOHN MORLEY remained mute. Thus has it been brought about that the leadership of the Liberal party will be restored to Lord ROSEBERRY, while the leadership of the opposition in the House of Commons, which has been now resigned by Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT, will be transferred probably to Mr. HERBERT ASQUITH, who was a member of the cabal which substituted Lord ROSEBERRY for Mr. GLADSTONE in the Premiership.

The relevation of Lord ROSEBERRY to the leadership of the British Liberals implies the definite shelving of home rule so far as the retention of a conspicuous place in the Liberal programme is concerned. It also means that the anti-Parnellites will be driven to copy the tactics of the Parnellites, and to take that wholly independent position in the House of Commons, which, as Mr. PARNELL steadily maintained, is indispensable to the fulfillment of Ireland's aspirations for self-government.

The Return of the Five Commissioners.

Mr. MCKINLEY'S Peace Commissioners will sail for home to-morrow. They are due at Washington on Christmas Day, bearing to the President and the nation the valuable parchment written at Paris. The American Commissioners come back triumphant after a victory as notable in its way as DEWEY'S or SAMPSON'S. They have not only shown us what we were for, but they have also broken many of the cherished traditions of conventional European diplomacy. Some of the tools heretofore regarded as indispensable in the dealings of nations over important questions they have flung aside with many contempt as antiquated, useless, and unworthy of employment by serious men who know exactly what they want and are able to express their intentions in language both courteous and veracious. The whole business of international negotiation will be affected considerably by the success of the direct American method. There will be less intrigue and professional lying hereafter on the consciences of amiable gentlemen who have been accustomed to carry unblushingly into the purpurs of delicate diplomacy the spirit and manoeuvres of a low-down horse trade.

The credit for the remarkable diplomatic achievement at Paris belongs to Mr. MCKINLEY and his Commissioners collectively. So far as the public knows the five members of the Commission have worked as a unit when face to face with their Spanish antagonists. Yet they did not approach their joint task with the same ideas of duty and expediency; and it is proper now to refer to individual differences.

Judge DAY went to Paris, as was believed with good reason at the time, personally opposed to the general policy of expansion in the Pacific. It was even feared that his influence in the deliberations might be against the future interests of the United States, with regard to the Philippines in particular. The result shows that the President knew his friend and Cabinet officer better than did any of the critics of the appointment. Judge DAY'S modest, fearless, resourceful intellect has been devoted exclusively and tirelessly to the nation's cause, without thought of self, or attempt to vindicate any personal opinion he may have entertained previously. We shall be very much surprised if he does not come home as ardent an expansionist as Senator DAVIS or Senator FAYE. To the distinguished services which he rendered as Secretary of State before and during the war with Spain, the Hon. WILLIAM B. DAY of Canton has added another first-class claim to the nation's gratitude.

Mr. MCKINLEY put upon the Commission three members of the Senate, Committee on Foreign Relations, namely, CHARLES K. DAVIS of Minnesota, WILLIAM F. FAYE of Maine and GEORGE GRAY of Delaware. About the Americanism of Senator DAVIS and Senator FAYE there has never been any more doubt than about the red, white and blue of the flag. Their views on the subject of the Philippines had been frankly avowed beforehand; and the performance of their respective parts in the duties at Paris has been everything that the President and the people expected of them. With Judge DAY they have constituted the majority of the American Commission, and the efficient and potent factor in its success.

Senator GRAY'S case is a little different. He was not regarded as friendly to the policy contemplated by the Administration, and has figured on the Commission as the Democratic member, chosen because he is a Democrat. Nevertheless, it must be said for Senator GRAY that he has been wise and patriotic enough to avoid even the appearance of being an obstructionist.

The selection of the Hon. WHITELAW REID as the fifth member of the Commission was an afterthought, apparently to be attributed rather to a good-natured willingness on the President's part to gratify Mr. REID'S insatiable desire for non-collective office than to any consideration of special fitness or probable usefulness. It is a somewhat curious circumstance that the only distinctive allusion to Mr. REID in the reports from Paris during the progress of the negotiations connected his name with a mercenary scheme to sell the rights of the United States in the Philippines to a foreign syndicate. It was not Judge DAY or Senator DAVIS or Senator FAYE, or even Senator GRAY, the anti-Parnellite, who was mentioned as having been approached by the promoters of that ridiculous and abortive project. Whether Mr. WHITELAW REID'S presence

on this Commission contributed anything to the results achieved by Judge DAY, Senator DAVIS and Senator FAYE, was merely an embarrassment politely tolerated, is something his colleagues are not likely to tell upon their return.

Presbyterianism and the Episcopal Church.

The ordination of the Rev. Dr. SHIELDS of Princeton University into the diaconate of the Episcopal Church on Wednesday is an interesting event for various reasons. The first of these is that the immediate occasion of his leaving the Presbyterian Church, into whose ministry he was ordained about fifty years ago, was not any change in his belief or conviction as to its creed and doctrine, but to his resentment against a mere matter of discipline. The German, however, of late years have been supplying a considerable portion of the Russian imports of finished ironware, particularly to the great works of Baku on the Caspian.

Insane Convicts and the Innocent Insane.

A woman named HILDA PETERSEN has been on trial this week in Queens county for the murder of her young child. On Wednesday evening the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty on the ground of insanity. Where an accused person is acquitted on this ground, the Code of Criminal Procedure prescribes that the court may, "if the defendant be in custody, and that deem his discharge dangerous to the public peace or safety, order him to be committed to the State lunatic asylum until he becomes sane."

Acting under the authority thus conferred by law, the Judge who presided at her trial has decided that HILDA PETERSEN shall be detained in the State hospital at Matteawan until a commission has passed upon her sanity. It is unfortunate that she cannot be sent to some institution where the very name of the place does not impart the idea of criminality on the part of the inmates. The statutory title of the Matteawan establishment is the State Hospital for Insane Criminals.

Yet this poor woman who is to be taken there, to be held in restraint with prisoners who are not only mad, but criminal, has just been absolved from the charge of crime against her by the verdict of a jury. She stands absolutely innocent in the eyes of the law.

We assume that the court committed her to Matteawan for want of power to send her to an asylum of a different character. The law certainly ought to be changed, however, if it compels the courts to commit to the State Hospital for Insane Criminals persons who have been acquitted of crime, but are still liable to detention because they have not recovered their reason.

A Curious Omission.

When the proposed amendments to the present State Constitution were submitted to the people in 1894, the proposition for the enlargement of New York was voted on here at the same time. But there was a curious omission to provide for one contingency. The State Constitution provides for a Board of Supervisors "in the several counties," except in cities whose boundaries are the same as those of the county, "to be composed of such members, and elected in such manner and for such a period" as is provided by law. In any city whose boundaries are the same as those of a county, the duties and powers of the Board of Supervisors may be exercised upon the Common Council or Board of Aldermen. Since 1870 there has been no separate Board of Supervisors in this county, that board and the Aldermen being the same.

Of course the Charter Commission had no power to alter or suspend an explicit provision of the State Constitution, but they adopted section 1,586 for regulating "the devolution of the power vested in boards of Aldermen." It vested in the Municipal Assembly of New York all powers of local legislation, but the clause, though ingeniously drawn, failed to provide for a Board of Supervisors in each of the four counties making up the city of New York, as the Constitution ordains.

Industrial Progress in Russia.

The transfer of population from the more congested of the agricultural districts of European Russia to the country newly opened up by the Trans-Siberian Railway is going on apace. The migration this year, it is said, will comprise some 200,000 families, who have been carried at exceptionally low rates, about \$1.50 for a thousand versts, or 870 miles, with a large reduction for longer distances. Three to four emigrant trains a day have crossed the Ural Mountains into Siberia, and the same movement is expected to continue during the coming year. The migrants are described as just the class of people to develop the uninhabited wastes of central and southern Siberia, whose climate is about the same as that on either side of the boundary line between this country and Canada. They are a simple, hardy and frugal people, and as their rate among them is said to be phenomenally high, the building up of a purely Russian Slav population among the Tartar and Mongol tribes will go on rapidly; and at the same time the development of the resources of the country will afford the traffic required to prevent the railway becoming a burden on the National Treasury.

While migration to Siberia is relieving the pressure of population in one direction, the rapidly extending industries in Southern Russia are drawing the surplus labor away in another. Ten years ago there were in all South Russia only two ironworks with three blast furnaces in operation. Now there are fifty-seven establishments in the district between Ekaterinoslav on the Dnieper and the Black Sea alone. Of these, twelve new factories and eight new rolling mills with ten coal mines support over thirty thousand people. The output of cast iron this year is estimated at 43,000,000 pounds, or 1,750,000 tons. The population of Ekaterinoslav, which in 1888 numbered only some 50,000, is now about 120,000, and in other parts of the new iron district large towns have sprung up where little more than a decade ago not even a village or human habitation was to be seen. The yield from the iron mines of the Ural Mountains has also been increased within the last two years by about 270,000 tons. These results are attributed largely to the operation of the tariff and to the decision of the Russian Government that all that was required in the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway should be home products. The industries created in this way have afforded the population other means of liv-

ing than was supplied by the cultivation of the land.

A stimulus has also been given to the growing of cotton in the Trans-Caspian territory wherever irrigation was practicable, and the Russian cotton mills are now drawing a large part of their raw material from this source. There are also in the southern Caucasus, in the valley of the Araxes, large tracts of fertile land only waiting irrigation and population to add their quota to the cotton supply of Russia. A limited quantity is already produced in the local home industries. It must, however, be some time yet before Russia can supply all her needs for such staples as iron and cotton from native sources, and until she does, an active market should be found for our American products. She still takes large quantities of pig iron from England, which until recently enjoyed a practical monopoly of the Russian iron market. The German, however, of late years have been supplying a considerable portion of the Russian imports of finished ironware, particularly to the great works of Baku on the Caspian.

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From that initial case down Marshall never made a decision, never rendered an opinion, giving an interpretation to the Constitution where the rights of the States were involved, and of the General Government were in jeopardy that Jefferson wholly approved. He never ceased to contend that Marshall had tortured the organic law into something never intended by its framers, and in his old age, when he began to write his autobiography, denounced the court, unflinchingly, as the "corps of sappers and miners, steadily working to undermine the authority of the Constitution."

Mr. Vest, as we have said, in declaring that "the knowledge of the Constitution was only equalled by his command of the English language" unconsciously Jefferson as the interpreter of the Constitution for his party, and sets up in his place the greatest of all the Federal leaders, Marshall. This sudden metamorphosis of a hide-bound Missouri Democrat into a rank orator is amusing.

PLAIN DUTY AS TO THE TREATY.

The Senate approved the War-It Must Sanction the Results of the Treaty. To the EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Senators of the United States cannot consistently with patriotism and duty repudiate personally what they sanctioned as a body. They must ratify and sanction the results of their action, and should do so without a single dissenting voice.

Their action by their declaration of war with Spain, and their subsequent ratification of the Treaty of Paris, was an act of aggression. It put into action an army of a quarter of a million, and the most majestic fleet that ever thundered guns on the ocean.

Did the Senators suppose that this immense propulsion of force would be barren of results—results that only the God of Battles could give?

The result of victory they knew must result in seizure and possession of the enemy's territory. What shall we do with it after the battle is over? Return it to the conquered, or leave it to be the theatre of pillage and riot?

In assuming war we assumed all the responsibilities that attend it. Our responsibilities have only begun with the close of the war.

which he had been an important factor for many years, Mr. BACON became the target of a great deal of the cutting criticism visited upon rich Senators; but it would not be easy to name a member of that body who obtained Senator BACON'S influence in it in so short a time. And strong was his attachment as a Democrat to the country he had on more than one occasion to thank him for letting it be ruled by the conflicting dictates of what to him was the duty of the patriot.

SENIATOR VEST'S NEW LOPE.

He Repudiates Jefferson and Becomes a Disciple of the Federalist, John Marshall. To the EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Senator Vest, the leader of the old Bourbon Democracy in the Senate, in his frantic effort to defeat the policy of expansion, has abandoned completely the historical position of his party as strict constructionists of the Constitution, thereby holding up to scorn all the doctrines in this respect that Thomas Jefferson ever maintained, and on which the old Republican party was founded. Mr. Vest made this remarkable change of base in these words:

"John Marshall wrote nebulous opinions. His opinions are not his mind, but the turning of his command of the English language. I say now, although I differ with him in many respects politically, that until this country ceases to exist and the English language ceases to be spoken, John Marshall of Virginia will stand without a peer in the judicial annals of this or any other country."

That is undoubtedly the judgment of history, but it is political heresy from the Democratic point of view. It is sound Federalism, and the disavowal, utter and absolute, of what is generally known as Jeffersonian Democracy. From the day that Marshall, appointed by President Adams in the closing hours of his administration, took his seat on the bench of the Supreme Court, there was eternal war between him and Jefferson, a war that did not end until one of the great disputants ceased to exist. As late as 1820, only six years before he died, Jefferson characterized him as the "crafty Chief Justice, who so pliantly bowed to his mind, by the turning of his own reasoning." Three years later Jefferson declared that "the practice of Judge Marshall of travelling out of his case to prescribe what the law would be in a moot case not before the Court is very irregular and very consumable."

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CRUISING WIFE.

Mr. W. D. Fowler's Reply to an Anti-Expansionist of the South—Sir: A correspondent of the Sun who signs himself "Frank Drew" denies the possession of the power of logical reasoning to all those who advocate the annexation of the Philippines. Another correspondent in the Nation of last Thursday declares that every expansionist is a "revolutionist" and a "traitor to his country."

MIDDLE NAMES IN LITERATURE.

To the EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I am afraid that your correspondent who replies to my objection to the use of middle names will have to have a surgical operation performed on his head. He seems to take the thing seriously. Very good. If we were to take the thing seriously, every good man who had a first name, John, would have a second name, John, and a third name, John. It is in all English literature you will find few, very few, who have used the middle name. Mr. Barrett Browning did not still add his middle name by marriage. For all we know his name is Barrett. The others mentioned by F. R. Henry (your correspondent) are not middle names, but are really and absolutely pronounced as such. This is the case with the names of the great English writers, for instance, Charles Dickens; Walter Scott; George Eliot; and so on. The names of the great English writers are not middle names, but are really and absolutely pronounced as such. This is the case with the names of the great English writers, for instance, Charles Dickens; Walter Scott; George Eliot; and so on.

What most concerns the world in all ages is, that men suspend judgment and sentence on the names of men. They know not what and of whom they speak. The ignorance of Christian Science is a sufficient reason for his silence on the subject; but what can atone for the vulgar denunciation of what a man knows absolutely nothing about?

On Nov. 21, 1898, in my class of Christian Science under the many professional men and women of the West, I presented the subject of scholarship and character in this or any other country. What was it that brought this class of people to learn of her who thirty years ago was met with the anathema whereof it is written in Scripture, "Blessed are ye when all men shall revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake?" It was the healing, falsely, for my sake of sinners, the works more than the words of Christ, truth that hath of a verity made the world, and the negative of the divine principle, whose rules are demonstrable, thus proving its faith by its works.

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A DEGREE OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

An Address to the Christian World by Mrs. Eddy, the Founder of Christian Science. To the EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In a New York paper an article was published, dated 1898, in which Christian Scientists were called "pests." That epithet points a moral. Jewish rabbis thought the learned St. Paul, the Master Hillel orator, the canonized saint, was a "pest" to follow, but to-day all sorts of institutions flourish under the name of this "pest" following. Of old Philistines and hypocrites, said of the great master of metaphysics, "He is a sterner up of seditions," and because they could find no fault in him they vented their hatred of him in opprobrious epithets; but what would be thought to-day of a man that should call St. Paul "pestilent," and what will be thought to-morrow of him that shall call Christian Scientists "pests"? Again, what, indeed, shall be said of him who saith the Saviour of men, the leader of men, the Christ, the truth, "is a sterner up of seditions?"

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