The Sun.

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Lawton's Advance.

While AGUINALDO, either to gain time or with a real desire to make terms, has sent another messenger to Gen. OTIS, the troops of LAWTON are quietly pushing forward toward the insurgent line of retreat. From Balinag LAWTON'S column was moved upon Maasin, from Maasin to San Ildefonso, and from San Ildefonso to San Miguel, while yesterday it started from San Miguel toward San Isidro, so that it is many miles northeast of the insurgent force confronting MACARTHUR around San Fernando.

Accordingly, should it now turn westward, it would come in upon the insurgent line of retreat at Mount Arayat, near the junction of the Rio Grande and the Calco, and indeed could easily put itself in the rear of Mount Arayat, which AGUINALDO may have intrenched. But LAWTON may keep on to San Isidro, which is above Mount Arayat on the same river, and so still more effectually plant himself across the insurgent line of retreat. Such a move might well spread dismay among AGUINALDO'S followers, since San Isidro is understood to be their present seat of government, adopted since the retreat from Malolos. Should AGUINALDO swing back to the railroad line of retreat, LAWTON could also continue westward from San Isidro, and in any case the situation of MASCARDO and the Bacolor garrison on the railroad is already compromised. It is noteworthy that MACARTHUR, at last accounts, remained in San Fernando, apparently satisfied not to push the enemy there until LAWTON'S flanking move should be completed.

The march of LAWTON in the interior is bold, but he is used to such marches. He places great reliance on scouts, remembering his old campaigns against GERONIMO in the Sierra Madre. In fact, it has been said that his chief scout saw service in Gen. HOWARD'S campaign against the Indians over twenty years ago. The West has been a drill ground and training school for the kind of work our officers are called on to perform in the Philippines.

Ex-President Waters's Sunday Game of Pinochle.

On Sunday there was a baseless rumor of Mr. CLEVELAND'S sudden death at Middle Bass Island, in Lake Erie, whither he had gone on a fishing expedition with a few personal friends. The story was too quickly contradicted to cause prolonged anxiety in any quarter. Visitors returning from the island to Sandusky in the evening reported that at five o'clock that afternoon Mr. CLEVELAND was in perfect health, and was then engaged in a game of pinochle with his companions. A similarly reassuring account of Mr. CLEVELAND'S condition was rendered later that night by excursionists who had remained on the island until after nine o'clock.

There is likely to be more or less surprise at Princeton, and perhaps elsewhere, over this accidental disclosure of Mr. CLEVELAND'S choice of occupation on that particular day. For although the ex-President is not officially connected with the great Presbyterian university, and although he is in the fullest sense the master of his own recreations and the formulator of his own views of Sunday observance, it is nevertheless true that he has come to be regarded, perhaps in spite of himself, as in some degree a preceptor of youth, or at least as a pattern of decorum and dignity, and to that extent an adjunct of the institution. The ex-President's usefulness in this respect is recognized both by the faculty and the students. The fact is creditable to him. Pinochle, under many circumstances, is an innocent if not an intellectually exacting diversion, but it is not believed that Mr. CLEVELAND would practice it on the front steps of his Princeton house at five o'clock on a Sunday afternoon.

The senior class in psychology, as well as the students in the Princeton School of Theology, will find profit in examining an extraordinary poem written much earlier in this century by the Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND'S grandfather, the Rev. AARON CLEVELAND of Norwich, Conn. In this poem Mr. CLEVELAND'S grandfather sets forth with great clearness the influence of diverse heredity as explaining apparent inconsistencies of character in the same individual. It is remarkable, indeed, to find an old fashioned New England minister boldly avowing ideas which belong rather to later science than to the ideas of will and personal responsibility held by most of the theologians and metaphysicians who were his contemporaries. Mr. CLEVELAND'S grandfather did not merely advance that theory of the duality of character which appears in STEVENSON'S story of Dr. JEKYLL and Mr. HYDE; he went further and declared that he, the Rev. AARON CLEVELAND, was a multiplex and variable character in whom one or another of the four most forceful ancestral types in turn predominated:

"Four kinds of blood flow in my veins
And govern each in turn my brains.
From CLEVELAND, PORTER, SEWELL, WATERS,
I had my blood distinct in quarters."

After some general philosophical reflections, which show that the Rev. AARON CLEVELAND was a person with a mind of uncommon acuteness and humor, much ahead of his times, he proceeds to analyze the four principal strains of ancestral blood that contended incessantly for the control of his own actions:

"The name of CLEVELAND I most wear
Which some poor foundling first must bear.
PORTER, I'm told, from Scotland came,
A bonny bard of ancient fame.
SEWELL, an English derivation,
Perhaps some outcast from the nation.
WATERS, an Irishman, I ween,
Straight roundabout from Aberdeen.
Such is my heterogeneous blood
A motley mixture, bad and good.
Each blood aspires to rule alone,
And each in turn ascends the throne,
And rules till others tear him down."

The Cleveland strain he rather liked, but had greater respect for the Porter. PORTER was the sage. SEWELL the commonplace and pretentious politician:

"When PORTER next may wear the crown,
Now all is calm, discreet and wise.
Whate'er I do, whate'er advise,
SEWELL, perhaps, may next bear rule;
I'm then a philosophic fool.
With JEFFERSON I correspond
And soar with him the stars beyond,
While very fibre of the brain
To sense profound I nicely strain
And then arise beyond the ken
Of common sense and common men."

But as for the WATERS that was in him, the Rev. AARON heartily disapproved and deplored it. WATERS was the source of all his mistakes, improprieties and foolish actions, and he earnestly implored PORTER to take charge and expel WATERS:

"Who comes next? Alas, 'tis WATERS,
Rushing fearless to headquarters.
He knows no manners nor decorum,
But elbows headlong to the forum,
Untaught, unteachable and uncontrolled,
Devoid of wisdom, sense or wit,
Not one thing right he ever hit,
Unless by accident, not skill,
He blundered right against his will.
Such am I now—no transmigration
Can sink me to a lower station.
Come, PORTER, come, depose this clown,
And once for all assume the crown!
If aught in SEWELL'S blood you find
Will make your own still more refined;
If found in CLEVELAND'S blood a trait
To aid you in affairs of State,
Select such parts, but spurn the rest,
Never rule my brain or breast.
Of WATERS'S blood expel the whole,
Let not one drop pollute my soul."

This will not only explain to the young psychologists and metaphysicians at Princeton much that has been mysterious in the ex-President's character, but, correctly apprehended, it will also enable them to understand themselves better than ever before. The Rev. AARON CLEVELAND'S poetical text book on Heredity ought to be made an elective study for senior year as long as the Rev. AARON'S distinguished grandson holds his present relation to the Princeton system.

It is ex-President PORTER that is occasionally exhibited to the undergraduates from the platform of Alexander Hall as a model of calmness, wisdom, decorum and discretion; an historic exemplar of statesmanship in repose. It is ex-President SEWELL that laboriously indites letters and political addresses beyond the ken of common sense and common men. It is ex-President WATERS that goes off and plays pinochle on Sunday afternoons.

President Patton on Divorce.

President PATTON, addressing the Princeton students on Sunday, referred in the severest terms to the recent remarriage in Connecticut of a woman of the fashionable society of New York immediately after her original husband had obtained a divorce from her in New York for adultery. He described it as indicative of "degradation," and said that "it is time Christians turned their attention to questions of fundamental morals." He also instanced it as a flagrant example of the evils due to the facility with which divorces are granted in the various States of the Union, saying that they are "a disgrace to civilization."

With the two exceptions of South Carolina, in which there is no divorce, and New York, where full divorce is obtainable for adultery only, such facility prevails in all the States of the Union, or at least various grounds for dissolving the marriage contract are allowed. Accordingly, liberality as to this matter may be said to distinguish American law. It is no greater, however, than prevails in Germany, where wilful desertion, cruel treatment, incompatibility, disorderly conduct and other offences are made grounds for divorce. Nor does there seem to be any probability that the causes for dissolution of marriage will be reduced here, for in spite of the example of New York in confining divorce to one cause only, new States, as they have been formed, have followed invariably the example of the States which have the most liberal divorce laws, and in no such State is there exhibited any disposition to harmonize its treatment of the subject with that of New York. Attempts have long been made to bring about uniformity of State legislation touching divorce, but apparently they can never be successful unless New York yields, in some measure at least, to the prevalent sentiment of the Union in favor of more latitude.

Moreover, in New York itself the social sentiment, more particularly of the circle of fashion, has been proved by multitudes of examples to be in favor of what is called free divorce, except in the Roman Catholic community. The dissolution of marriages by the laws of other States, no matter how great the facility they afford for it, is recognized socially as sufficient, and subsequent marriages to other mates receive countenance and approval. The opinion and practice of the society in New York, which is an exemplar for the fashion of the whole Union, are therefore in favor of free divorce and against the restriction by New York law to adultery only. According to President PATTON, then, that society is "a disgrace to civilization" and it is time for it to turn its attention to "fundamental morals."

The specific guardian of morals, however, is the Church, but how has it proceeded in this matter of divorce, with the single exception of the Church of Rome? The recent marriage of a woman just divorced for adultery, which furnished the text for President PATTON'S remarks, was solemnized by a Congregational minister. If it shall receive the sanction of the fashionable society in which she and her new husband have moved hitherto the approval will come from a social circle chiefly made up of Episcopalians, with a considerable minority of Presbyterians. But even if its flagrant violation of sheer decency shall cause the condemnation of the pair, that society, so composed, has already welcomed back to its embrace many men and women who have had their marriages dissolved by free divorce laws, though they returned to it with new husbands or wives. Moreover, it is countenanced in the laxity of its practice in this regard by Bishops and clergymen, for they share in its pleasures and give the approval of their presence to its functions. They have it in their power to visit with their condemnation the social toleration of free divorce by refusing to associate or countenance association with those who exhibit it, but do we find such consistency even among conspicuous clergymen whose canon law forbids these divorces and makes remarriage after them distinctly adulterous? Is not, then, the Church making itself substantially a partner, an abettor, of iniquity through the neglect of its ministers to denounce all such marriages as wicked and spurious and anathematizing as immoral and corrupt the society which recognizes them?

The evil, if evil there be, is not in the legal facility for divorce, but in the social sentiment which justifies it and thus inferentially demands it even in New York, where it is not allowed by statute law. It is the sentiment of a society, too, which professes obligation to Christian principles, or, at least, patronizes the Church, as requisite to conventional respectability. The time was when divorce here and throughout the Union cast a social cloud on all those who took advantage of it, more especially women. A divorced woman, no matter how innocent otherwise of offence against the marriage relation, suffered in reputation; but social opinion has changed so completely in the last generation that divorces are now taken as a matter of course and treated as entirely justifiable.

So long, therefore, as that new sentiment exists, and it shows a tendency to grow more and more liberal, how is it possible to prevent facility of divorce by law? Law is the expression of public sentiment, and such sentiment in even the most exclusive society of fashion is indisputably in favor of the freest divorce possible. Meanwhile a Congregational minister marries a woman legally declared adulterous to another husband, on the very day the decree was obtained. The Church itself thus lends its assistance in propelling the movement for the destruction of the sanctity of marriage now going on so notably in fashionable society. Men and women divorced in States where there is the greatest facility of divorce allowed by law have no difficulty in finding ministers to marry them to new mates.

If, as President PATTON says, this is a question of fundamental Christian morals, the Protestant Churches, still so powerful in moulding social sentiment, seem to be lax in the performance of their duty as the specially constituted guardians of morals. As things are going on now, with their toleration, if not actual assistance, marriage will lose its sanctity entirely in a few generations, if religion does not at once rise up and put a stop to the declining tendency.

The Troubles in Cuba.

Once more there is serious discontent among some officers of the Cuban Army over the policy of our Government, the question involved being the conditions of the payment of the $3,000,000 to the Cuban soldiers. Our Havana despatches show an effort to set aside the stipulation that those who receive the allotment of $75 per man shall then and there turn in their arms and equipment as part of the transaction. It appears that when this condition was made known through the island some Cuban soldiers resented it as "dishonorable," and that all the Cuban officers appointed to aid ours in the distribution have, on one ground or another, refused to serve.

The agreement drawn up by Gens. BROOKE and GOMEZ expressly provided for turning in the arms and equipments. That, in fact, was for us one of the main considerations on which it was founded. Our Government saw that the first requisite to the restoration of peace and order under its authority was the disbandment of the Cuban Army, and that the turning in of its arms and equipments would be a token of good faith in disbandment. To find anything "dishonorable" in this is absurd. When our own troops are mustered out, they do not find their rifles and equipments treated as their individual possessions. All we ask of the Cubans is what we require of our own troops, and what accords with the usage of military nations.

It can be understood that some soldiers might like their arms as keepsakes; that others might want them for their commercial value, as additions to the $75 of pay; but to find anything humiliating in the condition is preposterous. Our Government properly assumed that since in a genuine disbandment the arms would no longer be needed, it was only just to exact their delivery when it furnished the pay for which otherwise the soldier would have to wait a long time; and this, too, might help to remove temptation to lawlessness from the more reckless.

Evidently some of the Cubans would like both to eat their cake and have it. They want the pay, but apparently don't like to disarm and disband; indeed, the project attributed to Gen. GOMEZ to form a Cuban militia under him might be a partial continuation of the army. But all that is for later consideration. When the will of all the people of Cuba can be made known, the question of a Cuban militia or an armed rural police for all the provinces can come up. But just now, while the island is under military authority, that authority must be ours, and the very first step is the disbandment and disarming of the Cuban troops.

However, the present case seems no worse than when the Cuban Assembly made trouble a few months ago, and a union of tact, frankness and firmness should again, as at that time, solve all difficulties.

The Colored Ministers of Newnan.

At a meeting of ministers of the African Methodist Church in Newnan, Ga., the scene of the lynching of SAM HOSE, some resolutions were passed which may be commended to the consideration of colored ministers and men in all parts of the South. Especially noteworthy among those resolutions are these:

"We condone no crime—neither do we wish to shield criminals from any crime for which they deserve punishment;

"We have no toleration for criminals who commit crime and heap disaster upon our race;

"We denounce in the very strongest terms those creatures of our race who are so depraved in their nature and become so reckless as to invade the sanctity of the home and destroy the priceless virtue of woman;

"We believe the Gospel of the Son of God and the teachings of the sacred Scriptures by His servants will do more to check lawlessness and crime than any other agency."

Finally, the Newnan colored ministers "call upon their teachers and ministry to lay aside their petty jealousies of Church and race and link their efforts with those of the white race to hold up the majesty of the law, to increase the industry and commerce of their country, that peace and prosperity may abound in its borders."

It is charged and believed by the white people of the South that almost in no case whatever is any help given to them by the colored people to bring to justice a colored man guilty of the crime which is so frequently the cause of lynching. Practically the criminal is abetted by members of his own race. He finds at least a temporary concealment among them. Either from fear or from sympathy they do not inform the officers of the law of his whereabouts. Apparently he is not regarded by his fellows as a criminal owed to justice, but as a negro entitled to be hidden and sheltered.

This seemingly inveterate reluctance of the majority of the Southern negroes to assist in the punishment of the crime which is most hideous and horrible in the eyes of the whites and the fear of which hangs perpetually over the white women in the thinly settled districts, embitters the whites against the negroes as a class. It is as if the whole race made itself an accomplice after the fact.

It will be noticed that in the North the negro apologists of the negro ravishers usually seek to deny or minify the crime. Thus in the case of SAM HOSE, who ravished a white woman after murdering her husband before her eyes, several colored correspondents of THE SUN, men of education, too, have doubted the facts and assumed that the crime was improbable. Unfortunately the weight of evidence is that SAM HOSE was guilty; and, whatever brutality of punishment was inflicted upon him, his defenders do not do a service to their race by cavilling at facts which may seem too terrible to believe but are not too terrible to be true.

No matter how many acts of injustice, how many causeless outrages, how many political crimes against the negroes have been done by the whites, there is one dreadful crime to which the Southern negro of the savage type is prone. Unless the testimony of the Southern whites is to be flatly set aside, the crime is not regarded by the Southern negroes with abhorrence enough to induce them to be active in bringing the criminal to justice. Thus the Northern apologist denies the crime; the Southern negroes, as a class, show no reprobation of it. Whatever be the faults of the Southern whites and to whatever excesses of savagery they may have been led in the panic of a terror which haunts their homes, they are not to be blamed for being dissatisfied with the general apathy of the Southern negro, with the general denial and denunciation which are the answer of the Northern negro when some negro ravisher is lynched.

It is for the Southern negroes and the Northern negroes to admit incontrovertible facts, to try to civilize and Christianize the desperadoes who dishonor the race, to show no sympathy, active or passive, with the crime. It may be said, indeed, that this is sometimes only a pretence and that innocent men have been hanged for it. Granted; but at least the colored citizens can strive to diminish the number of the guilty.

Stern condemnation of the crime, refusal to shield the criminals, the inculcation not of mere emotional sentimentalism miscalled religion, but of the pure morality of the Gospel, and coöperation with the whites, to maintain the laws and to promote the good of the community; these things the colored citizens everywhere ought to encourage and strive for. The Newnan colored ministers speak as good citizens, good friends of their race and of the country. Their example should be followed.

Finland.

In a letter of recent date from Finland it is stated that although numbers of the younger men are leaving the country to escape service in the Russian Army, the loyalty of the Finnish people to the Czar remains as yet unabated. They recognize that the trouble brought upon the country is the work of what they call the "mischievous" party in Russia, of which Gen. BOBRIKOFF, their Governor-General, is a prominent member. He was well known to the Finlanders before he came to the country through the reputation he had made for himself in the Baltic provinces, particularly in Esthonia, and when they found him adopting in Finland immediately on his arrival the methods he had pursued in the Baltic provinces, they felt instinctively that trouble was at hand. They have, however, not yet lost faith in the Czar, and are, it is stated, endeavoring to bring the case of Finland before him through influential persons in the imperial administration and at court.

What degree of success has attended their efforts is not known, but it was freely rumored that there was a serious conflict going on between those round the Czar who are in favor of maintaining the constitutional *status quo* in Finland less the military provisions, and the "mischievous" party which would carry out the policy of Russification at any cost.

The Finnish people are not wholly without hope that though the new army regulations may stand, the Czar will not allow the scheme of Russification to be pressed any further, nor their religion to be interfered with. What gives most anxiety is to what extent the Russian Government will restrict their control of their finances, or whether it will allow them any control at all. They fear that in the event of Russia assuming the right of disposal of the Finnish State revenues, she will absorb all the surplus and find it to her interest to increase the taxation. With a Russian administration managing their finances, the final crisis would have arrived. Meanwhile they maintain a waiting attitude, loyally protesting, and avoiding the traps laid for them by agents of the Governor-General.

Some of these are described. One night at Helsingfors toward the middle of April an individual, apparently a Finn by his dress, was caught in the act of breaking the windows of the palace of the Governor-General. He was arrested by the police, and upon examination was found to be a Russian policeman. Another case that happened about the same time was the obliteration of the Russian part of a public announcement which, as is customary, was published in Finnish, Swedish and Russian. It was discovered on inquiry that this was the work of some Russian boys who had been put up to it, in order to produce the impression that the Finns had taken this means of showing their discontent.

With these things passing so close to its own doors, and the uncertainty as to what may happen in Finland, the Swedish Government is naturally much concerned. It is therefore pushing on as fast as it can the trunk line of rail to the north, and is organizing its ambulance and hospital trains on a war footing, and putting its military forces in a condition to take the field.

What the Country Thinks.

The first of the five resolutions adopted by the meeting at Minneapolis day before yesterday to consider the Philippine question was sufficient by itself to express the national sentiment fully:

"*Resolved*, That we, as loyal citizens of our country, do hereby express unqualified approval of the course of the national Executive in exerting all the necessary force for the repression of disorder, the protection of the lives and property of well-disposed citizens and the securing of obedience to the authority of the United States in every part of the Philippine Islands."

The poor wretched cranks like ATKINSON, who has tried to stir up sedition in our Philippine army, or Prof. STARR of Chicago, whose only criticism of President MCKINLEY is insult, or the man STEVENS in Boston who, at a single-tax dinner, prayed that the "God of battles will smite our soldiers in the Philippines with a fearful and overwhelming defeat," or the more circumspect but not less venomous member of this gang of associate traitors, GODKIN of the *Evening Post*, are made smaller and more contemptible at every utterance that, like the one quoted above, comes from the national heart.

The Minneapolis resolution presents faithfully American sentiment. That has not been found wanting.

The fact that Dr. JOHN H. GIRDNER of the Society for the Suppression of Unnecessary Noises should be Col. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN'S most intimate friend in this town has often amused the frivolous. The New York correspondent of the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* writes that after the Jeffersonian Dollar Dinner "BRYAN confided to GIRDNER his conviction that WILLIAMS and no other man ought to be nominated for the Vice-Presidency." The authenticity of this anecdote has been denied, but intrinsically it is and ought to be true. Considering Col. BRYAN and the Hon. GEORGE FRED WILLIAMS as unavoidable and insuppressible noises, they blend excellently.

The *St. Paul Pioneer Press* rebukes the New York plutocrats on account of the $100-a-plate dinner to DEWEY which some of them are said to have proposed. Perhaps the $100-a-plate yarn is an effort of the romantic imagination. At any rate, our esteemed Gopher contemporary should not forget that banquets varying in price from one cent upward can be had in this town at all hours. And will our esteemed Gopher contemporary tell us who "the Roman Emperor LUCULLUS" was who "has heretofore held the record in history for the extravagance of his banquets"? We welcome LUCULLUS heartily, for he is a little more of a stranger than BELSHAZZAR, and if he was imperial as well as convivial, let the fact be known.

Some of the Harrisonian Democrats of Illinois are said to be "demanding the head" of JOHN P. ALTGELD. They need it, having none of their own.

The Missouri Democrats seem to think that the Anti-Trust dinner, which is to be eaten at the St. Louis Coliseum May 25, will reverse the motion of the world and palsy all the feet of the Octopus. It may be bad for the crockery. Among the speakers are to be Col. BRYAN, CHAMP CLARK, WILLIAM JOEL STONE, JOE BLACKBURN, DAVE DE ARMOND and Col. MOSE WETMORE, who is said to be the MOSES whom Col. BRYAN is always calling upon to awake. If the St. Louis Coliseum doesn't fall before these mighty shouters it is as solid as its Roman elder brother.

The State Executive Committee of the People's party of Texas is not thankful for the Anti-Trust bill passed by the Legislature of that State. The committee describes such legislation as "purely tentative and often injurious," and declares that "the remedy for relief from the oppressive power of trusts is Government ownership and operation, in the interest of the whole people, of all public utilities that are or may be monopolized for speculative purposes." These Populists believe in being thorough, and they are not impressed by the diversions of Legislatures.

AN AFRICAN ON AFRICA.

The American Negro Cannot Rebuild That Continent—The African Can and Will.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* For some time past I have read with considerable interest sometimes not unmixed with a little curiosity as to the sincerity of some of the writers in the columns of THE SUN on the status of the negro in the United States and the feasibility and practicability of his deportation into Africa.

The supporters of the movement have urged that Africa is the land of the negro, and that there, undeterred by contending forces and unimpeded by the action of racial prejudice, he will be able to work out his destiny; in other words, he would metaphorically "sit under his own vine and figtree," none daring to make him afraid. Now, let us make a brief retrospection of history, and see if anything in the past would justify the hope, and warrant such a prediction. African slavery was the result of internecine contentions and tribal wars. It became possible to deport some millions of a hardy race only because the hand of every tribe was lifted against the other tribe, and "the house being divided against itself," the enemy entered.

And what guarantee have the friends of such a movement to offer that the American negro, between whom and the native African there is nothing in common save the accidental matter of color, would be received with open arms by the latter?

Would not the past justify the fear that his presence in large numbers, Caucasianized in dress, language, manners and customs, would excite in the minds of the native African a feeling of resentment, suspicion and alarm? And, in view of his frequent maltreatment at the hands of his white brother, might he not regard the American negro as the *avant courier* in the inauguration of an era of repression and oppression?

Then again, who can deny that the American negro has inherited to a degree incompatible with the acquisition of real strength and the inspiration of respect the tribal contentions and small jealousies of his African ancestors? See it in the hatred evinced toward one of his own who may happen to possess ability or worth. See it in the eagerness of the many to lend and rule and in the disposition of the few to be led and governed. And since he has not, after three centuries of contact with his white brother and with all his imitative propensities, emulated his white brother in the acquisition of this most essential qualification in the formation of republics and in the up-building of a people, it were in vain and illusive to indulge the hope that a sudden metamorphosis would be effected on his translation into Africa.

The advocates of this scheme have displayed the possession of high scholastic attainments, and they have each discovered a perfect intimacy with and a complete mastery of the English language, and could they but apply those great talents to the advocacy of a possible and a practicable scheme, looking to the amelioration of the American negro's condition, taking as a preliminary lesson the ethics of self-government, a much valuable service would be rendered their kind and a priceless benefit conferred on posterity.

As a native African, in touch with the sentiment obtaining among the intelligent classes of our section, the west coast, and corresponding with some of the most influential natives on the gold coast, the writer is enabled to state that the consensus of opinion among this class is that the native African contains within himself all the elements for the up-building of that country, and that they have not asked their American cousins "To deliver their land from error's chain."

The trouble is that most of the people in this country in speaking of Africa have in mind Liberia and the few rather unimportant tribes of that section. They forget, or rather are ignorant of the fact, that alone in Western Africa, Sierra Leone, Accra, Cape Coast, Winnebah, and numerous other places known to the writer, there are large numbers of talented and highly cultured natives, graduates of Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Heidelberg, and others of Europe's famous seats of learning, erudite scholars, writers and orators, men who have shone in the salons of continental Europe, and to whose numbers there are being added daily. I am hopeful of a great future, crowned with success for my native land. Her own natural sons, and none others, will form a garland of brilliant stars, around an ancient crown which, cast aside for a time, will assume its pristine greatness, challenge the admiration of a wondering world, and fulfil the most dearly cherished dreams of her friends.

ALBANY, April 7. F. Z. S. PEREGRINO.

The Tammany Commissioners of Appraisement.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I heartily approve of the methods employed in exposing the vast amount of corruption in this city. Let me state a little instance which might be of some interest to your readers who are in favor of honest principles in city government.

The Commissioners of Appraisement appointed by Judge Gildersleeve this week were supposed to be men who were competent to appraise the land and values of land in New York city. They were also supposed to be the selection of the Judge who appointed them. While seated in the Sagamore Club some little time ago I was informed by a member who now draws a large salary from the city for doing nothing more than to draw his pay, that Judge Welde, the leader of the Thirty-fourth district, was to pick out several men from his district whose names he would give to Judge Gildersleeve, and that Judge Gildersleeve would have to appoint them. Judge Welde promised the members that he would give the names of men who were the most serviceable to the "organization" in his district, without regard to competency. After the dust of the conflict cleared away we find that the men named by Judge Welde were ex-Sheriff James A. Flack, whose name was mentioned in unsavory divorce proceedings some years ago, and his sons—that is, the sons of Judge Welde. This makes three members of Judge Welde's own family that are drawing pay from the city, besides a score or more of relatives.

I would like to have the methods of Judge Welde aired before the Mazet Committee when it meets again, and I am sure that it would prove very interesting to the public and very warm for Judge Welde.

Why is it that a district leader of Tammany Hall can dictate to a Supreme Court Judge as to whom the Judge should appoint?

NEW YORK, May 12. JOHN F. COFFOCK.

"THE MYSTERY OF WARTS."

If You Buy the Warts, They Will Leave the Victim Soon.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have been interested for some years in the "mystery of warts." Nearly forty years ago, when a very small boy, I dispelled warts that were upon my own hands by rubbing them with a piece of common school crayon. I am a graduate of a New York city medical college and am legally qualified to practice medicine in New York and New Jersey, and I frankly admit that my usual method of removing warts from my patients has in recent years been by the method of buying them. To explain my modus operandi I usually give the patient a bright penny or nickel and assure him positively that the warts will soon disappear; that they are mine by purchase, and so must leave him. Usually they disappear in from four to ten weeks. Among my wart patients have been the son and daughter of a well-known doctor of divinity, and girls and boys of intelligence, members of our High School, who are preparing for entrance into our best universities and colleges. I mention this class of patients to show that the plan works upon the intelligent and cultured as well as upon the ignorant and the superstitious. By way of illustration I will narrate two instances of cure. A mother consulted me about an enormous seed wart upon the left elbow of her son. The wart was fully as large as a silver half dollar, and when the boy bent his arm the wart would crack and bleed. I offered the boy a new bright penny for the wart and at first he could not grasp the idea that I was serious in my proposal to buy the wart. In a few weeks I was interested to find upon examination that exactly one-half of the wart had disappeared. It seemed as though the wart had been divided through the middle and one-half of it had been shaved or scraped away. I assured the boy that the remaining portion would soon disappear, and so it did.

A young woman behind the counter of one of our local stores had her hands dotted all over with warts. I judge she had not less than thirty on each hand. When I inquired why she did not get rid of them, she replied that she had tried many remedies, but they had all failed and she was discouraged in her efforts. I then offered to buy them of her for a penny. The method being so easy and pleasant, she agreed to sell them to me, and after a number of weeks they all disappeared.

I can offer no thoroughly scientific explanation for these facts beyond the statement that they come under the head of mental influence. I assert with such positiveness my ability to dispel warts by purchase that my patient's "subconscious self" or "subjective mind" is impressed by my asseveration, and, although my claim is met by a smile of incredulity, through their belief in me and the force of my asseveration they half expect it will occur as I declare it will. The "subconscious self," or, as Hudson denominates it, "the subjective mind," presides over the activities of our physical functions, i. e., our physical life, independently of our reasoning faculties, our intellect or our "objective mind" (Hudson), controls the organs of the body and admits disease under influences and impressions unfavorable to us and also eliminates disease under favorable, forceful suggestion.

MAY 8. MEDICUS.

Potato Juice Dispersed Them.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You have published several letters mentioning peculiar experiences with "sympathy cure" of warts. Now, I am anything but superstitious, yet I believe that warts are influenced by some such unexplained power.

Once upon a time I found one wart on my forehead, and thereafter a whole colony settled on my scalp. They looked like miniature bunches of carrots, and the more I tied off or burned off, the greater their number became.

I was advised to take a potato, cut it in half, and, after rubbing each part three times over my scalp, pin them together with a match or toothpick and throw them into a sewer or closet to hasten their decay. Within a week from that day every wart had disappeared and I could again use the comb or brush; nor have I ever after had a slight of a wart on any part of my body. J. N.

Told to Go, and Went.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I had four warts on the index finger of my right hand. I was then a typesetter. The warts greatly hindered me in picking up type. One spring morning I was out with other boys for a walk. We crossed a piece of land that had been cleared, with stumps of trees in plenty. Out of one of these, an oak, a white, round-topped fungus had grown. In passing I pushed my finger through this substance in a careless way and passed on. The next stump was hollow and was filled with water. I washed my hand in this water. The warts disappeared soon after. I never thought of warts in the operation, but I did think since that the fungus or stump water had something to do with their removal. Another wart formed on the knuckle of the same finger many years after. Last year I met Squire Lewis Blakeslee of Verplanck's Point on the steamer Chrystenah. Several of us were talking about warts. He said, "I cure them." We asked, "How?" He said, "I just tell them to go away." I said, "Invoke the powers against this one." He replied, "It will go." It went shortly, even before I noticed it, clean and clear. J. A. I.

TARRYTOWN, N. Y.

Frogs Make Warts Come, of Course.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I was brought up in the country, and every country boy knows what frogs are. Well, I had warts for keeps every place on my hands, and in getting rid of them my cure was exactly the same as Marvin R. Clark's. I was told to steal a piece of meat and bury it. I did so, and in three weeks my warts had gone. I say, will some one explain how the warts disappeared?

ABE WHITE, reader of THE SUN.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

The Panic in Stocks It Caused and the Experience with Other Inventions.

From the London Engineering.

Mr. Marconi's brilliant success in telegraphing across the English Channel without wires was, of course, taken advantage of by operators on the Stock Exchange to depress prices and to endeavor to create a panic among holders of submarine cable shares. Fortunately, the plan fell flat, for although there was a sharp depression it soon passed away.

Most of us can remember the panic which occurred among shareholders in gas undertakings when, soon after the electric light was introduced, it was announced that Edison had invented a lamp suitable for indoor illumination. Holders threw their scrip on to the market and prices fell enormously. Those who were capable of forming a correct judgment, and had the courage of their opinions, reaped a rich harvest.

It was in 1878—more than twenty years ago—that the world was startled by the brilliant Jablochkoff lighting of the Avenue de l'Opera, in Paris, and jumped to the conclusion that a new era of illumination had arrived. Yet to-day what an insignificant part does electricity play in the lighting of this country! At the end of 1898 the capital employed in electric lighting was about fourteen millions sterling, while the capital employed in gas manufacture and distribution was seventy-six millions, and fourteen and a half millions were spent annually upon making gas. It is not that electricity had rendered £14,000,000 worth of gas works idle, but that it has succeeded in obtaining a small share of the twenty years' growth of demand.

It was in 1876, if we remember rightly, that the first telephone was brought to this country, and a year or two later the microphone transmitter was invented, the two being then practically perfect. The Government, as owners of the telegraph system, took fright and endeavored to safeguard themselves by laying a tax of 10 per cent. on the receipts of the telephone company. Yet during the twenty years the telegraph business has increased by bounds, while the telephone service is still a long way from even reasonable efficiency.

Mr. Marconi erected his apparatus on the South Foreland, and showed in a day that the problem of communicating with lightships had been completely solved. The daily papers reported the proceedings, and their writers, giving the rein to their imaginations, saw messages flying through the ether over all the oceans of the world. Next came the fall in shares, which threatened for a moment to develop into a disastrous panic. Fortunately sounder counsels prevailed, and holders remembered that an industry which employs thirty millions of capital is not to be overturned in a day.

Quis Crudus.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* We linguists up Harlem way are noting with absorbed interest the discussion in your columns as to the proper rendering in Latin of the patriotic toesin "Hurrah for the red, white and blue!" But we scornfully reject both "*Quis crudus enim lectus, albus et spiravit*" and "*Quis crudus enim te rubor, alba et spiravit*;" for what's the matter with "*Quis crudus tibi legit, albaque spiravit*"? This may not be strictly Ciceronian, but it "goes" in Goatville-on-the-Hudson. J. H. S.

NEW YORK, May 15.

THE GEODETIC SURVEY.

Great Work Completed That Was Begun Half a Century Ago.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—There will soon be published by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey an important contribution to the history of geodesy in this country. For half a century or more material has been accumulating, and with the close of the field operations in 1898 the last observations were made. This work—the great triangulation from the Atlantic to the Pacific on the thirty-ninth parallel of latitude, on which an accurate survey of the whole country mainly rests—will be described in seven parts, and will be printed in one large quarto volume. The treatment of the subject will be exhaustive. From the measure of the initial base lines to the final determinations of position by astronomical observations, the account will be given with a completeness of detail commensurate with the importance of the results. No other nation has ever attempted geodetic operations of such magnitude; none save England and Russia possess the necessary territory for expansion of a continuous longitudinal arc of 48° within its own border.

The accuracy of the measurements just completed is such that the total distance across the continent, about 2,625 miles, is known with an uncertainty of less than 100 feet, which implies an error of less than half an inch per mile of measure. Many of the stations were at altitudes varying from 10,000 to 14,000 feet. Such abnormal conditions required an application of new formulæ, and certain corrections have been found necessary. The great length of the individual lines, the work in the Rocky Mountains giving many examples over 100 miles long, makes the scheme unique of its kind. One of the curious facts brought to light is the influence of the earth's configuration and density on the vertical line as defined by a plumb bob. This is so pronounced in some cases that the true latitude may be in error a considerable fraction of a mile where the disturbing effect of mountains is neglected. Another is that the earth's surface on the parallel named is corrugated, the swells being a hundred miles in width. For general purposes the present accepted form of the earth will be retained, but it will be subject to important modifications in scientific work.

FISCHER SWORN IN.

The Displaced General Appraiser Thinks of Going to Law with Secretary Gage.

Former Congressman Israel F. Fischer of Brooklyn was sworn into office yesterday as United States General Appraiser to succeed F. M. Shurtleff, removed by President McKinley. He assumed the duties of his office at once. Mr. Shurtleff, who was at the United States stores prior to the arrival of Mr. Fischer, said that he was still in the dark regarding the reason for his removal, but that it might have grown out of his having cut down on many occasions the appraisements of Appraiser Wakeman's examiners. He stated further that he intended to consult counsel, with a view to compelling the Secretary of the Treasury to tell why he had been removed.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Jefferson dinners at variously scheduled prices a plate have had their inevitable effect upon the Municipal Assembly, one member of which has offered and has caused to be adopted a resolution to the effect that the City Clerk be directed to make requisition forthwith to the proper bureaus for a sufficient number of copies of "Jefferson's Manual" to supply one to each member of the Council.

The last of the cities of New York to be incorporated as such was the city of New Rochelle, and the first election in it resulted in the choice of a Democratic Mayor, the partiality of cities in the vicinity of New York for Democratic Mayors being now as strongly marked as was a contrary disposition some years ago, when the Mayors of New York, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Newark and Yonkers were all of them Republican. At present New York, Jersey City, Newark, Hoboken and New Rochelle have Democratic Mayors