The Sun.

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Troops and Strikes.

While the idea quoted below is repeated either from delusion or as a means of humbug, the minds of labor men will be deceived and misguided, to their hurt. At a meeting held on Tuesday night in the University Settlement Building on Rivington street, a member offering resolutions denouncing Governor ROOSEVELT for ordering the militia to Croton Dam, used this extreme language:

"The militia has no business going against the poor strikers, and I hope to GOD that the whole lot of them will be blown up by dynamite."

We will assume that one who can utter this inhuman wish is actually incapable of understanding the senselessness of his complaint. In strike times the militia come out to make war on nobody, to hurt nobody, but to protect men from violence at the hands of rioters. They come to take nobody's side, but to see that the law, which means justice for all, is preserved.

So coldly impartial are the State troops on such occasions, and so absorbed in their duty to keep order, that the settlement of strikers at the Croton Dam is at this moment safe from injury at the hands of the State troops, though it is morally certain that among them is the assassin who, three nights ago, killed Sergeant DOUGLASS.

The incendiary talk of the Rivington street speaker is common among sympathizers with riot, and does much to keep alive the false notions upon which strikers so often try to take away the rights of others. It behooves the members of the University Settlement Society, in whose building such sentiments have been expressed with such emphasis, to do their full share in spreading the truth.

Canadian Political Parties and the Imperialistic Question.

In the speech which he lately delivered at Quebec, Sir CHARLES TUPPER defined the position of the Conservative party with regard to the future relations of Canada to the mother country. He repudiated the notion of political union, or of any approach thereto which should involve the representation of the Dominion in the British Parliament. The only concession that Canada needs or could accept, he said, was a preference for her products in the market of the United Kingdom, a preference which, of course, could be assured by the imposition of duties on similar commodities imported from foreign countries.

The Parliamentary supporters of the existing Liberal Government are inclined to avoid a discussion of the subject, on the plea that it is premature, no definite plan of imperial federation having been put forward on either side of the Atlantic. The Liberal newspapers, however, find it impossible to keep silence in presence of the demand for an Imperial Zollverein which is being pressed by all the Conservative journals in the Dominion. They insist that the proposal to secure for Canadian products a preference in the market of the United Kingdom does not come within the range of practical politics. They point out that British manufacturers and the workmen employed by them now constitute a much more important element of the British population than they did sixty years ago, when the agitation for free trade led Sir ROBERT PEEL to renounce his protectionist principles and to repeal the Corn Laws. The section of the British people which lives off the land is relatively much less numerous and less influential at the present time than it was in the '40s, and it is this weakened section alone which could be relied upon to support the Canadian request for a preference in the British market.

The Canadian Liberals also perceive that not only would British workmen object to any increase in the price of bread but also would rather buy food from a good customer like the United States than from a poor customer like Canada. England's trade with the United States is of incomparably more importance than is her trade with the Dominion, nor could the latter, under any stimulus, be expanded so as to rival the former in volume and value.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER, in his speech at Quebec, reminded his hearers that Canada could not be taunted with a huckstering spirit, inasmuch as she had not only volunteered to send soldiers to South Africa, but had also given British goods a preference in the colonial market over similar commodities imported from foreign countries. Is it unreasonable, he asked, for Canada to expect a corresponding concession? The Liberals answer that Canada has been already paid for the preference given to British manufactures in her markets, because Sir WILFRID LAURIER has prevailed upon England to denounce the treaties with Belgium and Germany, a concession which his predecessors in power at Ottawa had striven vainly to secure. The denunciation of those treaties has enabled Canada to impose on German and Belgian products higher duties than those levied on corresponding commodities imported from Great Britain. That was a gain for Canada, and it was obtained at the expense of British manufacturers to whom the market presented in Germany and Belgium is of much more value than that accessible in the Dominion. The British manufacturer will not suffer himself to be sacrificed any further for the sake of promoting the growth of imperialist sentiment.

That the question of political union, or, in other words, imperial federation, is not so inopportune and academic as Sir WILFRID LAURIER's friends assert, may be inferred from the inquiries recently addressed by the London *Daily Chronicle* to a number of distinguished Canadians. These inquiries are reproduced in the *Courrier du Canada;* they include the following: "What, in your opinion, is the surest means of realizing imperial federation? If it is by representation in an Imperial Council, kindly say whether you believe that an adaptation of the Privy Council or of the Imperial Parliament would be sufficient, or would you be in favor of the creation of a new Council of the Empire?" And again: "Do you believe that the concession to the Colonies of direct representation in a Council of the kind named would lead them to contribute their quota to the naval and military expenses of the Empire?" The *Courrier* undertakes to show how these questions would be answered by Sir WILFRID LAURIER, by recalling what he said in London in 1897, when, according to the report cabled at the time, he demanded the direct representation of the Colonies in the Imperial Parliament, which, he said, ought to be a great National Council. Some of the Liberal newspapers deny that the words used by Sir WILFRID at that time really bore the interpretation put upon them by the author of the cabled despatch. But there seems to be abundant evidence that the present Premier has more than once indicated a willingness to see the Dominion represented at St. Stephen's. Sir CHARLES TUPPER, on his part, rejects the idea of such representation, because he foresees that it would compel Canada eventually to bear her quota of the annual outlay required for military and naval purposes.

City Bills and the Veto Power.

The provision contained in section 2 of Article XII. of the State Constitution, as amended in 1894, requires every legislative bill relating specially to a city, after passage to be transmitted to the Mayor of the city and within fifteen days thereafter he must return it, stating whether or no he has approved it. The intention of this provision, of which many salutary results were expected, was designed to prevent reckless legislation, to enable the citizens of a city to be heard in opposition to an objectionable local law affecting them exclusively, the Mayor to exercise a power of conditional veto. Theoretically there could be no valid objection to this Constitutional provision, but in practical operation during the last six years it has revealed a defect, the correction of which may be secured without amendment of the State Constitution.

A New York Legislature is usually in session ninety days, its first meeting being in January and its adjournment in April. In the case of "city bills," which usually do not reach the Mayor of the city affected until the month of March or April, it is within a Mayor's power to hold a bill until the expiration of fifteen days, and when rejected by him it may be too late for repassage. The practical effect of this procedure, as pointed out by Senator MARSHALL of Kings, one of the Republican majority, is imperfectly understood or disregarded by representatives of the rural districts. The defeat of "city bills" duly passed by the Legislature might, it is believed, be avoided by the adoption of a preferred calendar for all legislative measures requiring a municipal hearing. They could thus be disposed of early in the session.

As it is, and this consideration applies to all measures without partisan considerations, the power of the Governor of the State as to final action on city bills is virtually taken from him.

Poor Spofford.

The sternest mind that contemplates AINSWORTH R. SPOFFORD's name in indigo ink on the pseudo-official stationery of the Committee on Distribution will be stirred less to indignation than to pity.

It is quite certain that even GROSVENOR of Ohio, whatever defects he might find in SPOFFORD's character, would never accuse *him* of being a hypocrite, or suspect him of cold-blooded mercenary impudence.

We will state our theory of Mr. AINSWORTH R. SPOFFORD's share in the great literary enterprise of RICHARDSON and BARCUS, and then dismiss him to his own reflections in the twilight solitude of the Library of Congress.

It is right to say that this theory is based upon certain unerring principles of psychology rather than upon direct information or record evidence as in the case of the other members of the Committee on Distribution.

In the preface to the tenth volume of "Messages and Papers of the Presidents [Copyright, 1897, by JAMES D. RICHARDSON]," that eminent historian speaks casually of aid received from the Assistant Librarian of Congress in the preparation of the index:

"I have sought only to furnish reliable historical data and well-authenticated definitions, and to avoid even the appearance of an expression of my own opinion. It is proper to add that these articles have all been read and approved by Mr. A. R. SPOFFORD, Chief Assistant Librarian of Congress, to whom I now make acknowledgement of my indebtedness."

When the fraudulent operations of the agents of the Committee on Distribution were brought to the attention of the House last January by Congressman EDDY and Congressman TAWNEY, Mr. RICHARDSON briefly described poor SPOFFORD's connection with the business:

"Mr. TAWNEY.—I would also state that Mr. SPOFFORD's name is printed on the letterhead as Secretary of the Committee.

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—Mr. SPOFFORD has been employed to assist, in an honorable way, in the sale of the work."

Now, it is extremely probable that in these two references to SPOFFORD's participation, RICHARDSON rendered less than justice to the Assistant Librarian's services in the actual compilation of the ten volumes, and much more than justice to the value of his coöperation in the strictly business department of the concern. Mr. SPOFFORD is a scholar and student whose unsurpassed knowledge of the bibliography of American politics, and of the exact whereabouts of historical material, has been employed freely and gratuitously by several generations of Congressmen. He has not always got full credit for his preponderant share in the production of speeches, reports, documents, essays and books whereon are inscribed other names than his across the title page or in the notice of copyright. We have no doubt of RICHARDSON's extensive indebtedness to SPOFFORD on the literary and historical and editorial side of the undertaking.

But the idea that after the work of compilation was finished, and RICHARDSON had secured unto himself the set of duplicate plates, and BARCUS and his intrepid battalion of sleek talkers had come to the front, SPOFFORD's services could be of any value in promoting sales in an honorable way, is enough to split the sides of the musty tomes among which the Assistant Librarian has spent his life. Perhaps no other man in the United States is less qualified by natural gifts and experience to conduct a bookselling campaign of continental dimensions organized upon Barcusian principles. The poor old gentleman has not always even been able to keep straight his own small official accounts and affairs; and everybody who understands him knows it, and knows why.

The usefulness of AINSWORTH R. SPOFFORD to the Committee on Distribution was measured by the eighteen letters of his name. That name meant much to the hesitating subscriber, doubtful whether this was in fact a genuine Government publication. That name was exactly what RICHARDSON and BARCUS needed for their pseudo-official letterheads. It was exactly what they needed for their advertisements. It was exactly what they needed for their "application blanks." It was exactly what BARCUS's invincible talkers required for oral display when they approached their marked victims. And they got the eighteen letters, probably without any consciousness of self-degradation on SPOFFORD's part, or any accurate perception by him of his personal relations to his new environment.

It is quite conceivable that the poor old gentleman and scholar was flattered by the unexpected tribute to his business capacity which the invitation seemed to him to imply. Let nobody be hasty in judging him because he consented to accept pay for assisting, "in an honorable way," in the widespread public distribution of a public document which he knew to possess real historical value.

Thus it happens that the well-known name of AINSWORTH R. SPOFFORD, Assistant Librarian of Congress, and formerly for many years the Librarian, appears conspicuously along with the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON's on all the pseudo-official stationery of the "Committee on Distribution;" while the name of BARCUS, author of the "Science of Selling," is conspicuously absent from the same.

And this brings us down to BARCUS.

Mr. Hoar's Nine Points.

The Constitutional points made by Senator HOAR in his speech in the Senate Tuesday have been sufficiently answered already. Passing over his remarkable enthusiasm for AGUINALDO, an enthusiasm more creditable to the generosity of his nature than to his apprehension of facts, we come to the nine points in which he formulates the policy which he wishes the United States to pursue in regard to the Philippines. Let us take them up one by one and see how sound they are:

"1. I would declare now that we will not take those islands to govern them against their will."

What would be the use of such a declaration? Upon what facts would it rest? Does Senator HOAR think that AGUINALDO and the Tagalog tagrag are the Philippines?

"2. I would reject a cession of sovereignty which implies that sovereignty may be bought and sold and delivered without the consent of the people * * *"

As sovereignty has been bought, sold and delivered without the consent of the people from 1803 to 1867, Senator HOAR here rejects American history.

"3. I would require all foreign Governments to keep out of these islands."

A dog-in-the-manger policy. The United States are neither to have the Philippines nor let any other country have them or any part of them. If we don't keep them, somebody else will take them. No doubt about that. The hunger for territory is so great in Europe that the Philippines would be gobbled up by some Power or several Powers; and if Europe were slow about it, Japan would step in. Mr. HOAR would have the United States warn all the Powers off. A large contract, sure to involve the country in continuous and exhausting war; and war for nothing.

"4. I would offer to the people of the Philippines our help in maintaining order until they have a reasonable opportunity to establish a government of their own."

The people of the Philippines! Mr. HOAR seems to think that there is only one people there and that it is as homogeneous as the population of Concord or Oakham. Earlier in his speech he talks of the natives as "at present undisciplined to control of any kind." How long would it take such people to "establish" a government? How much of a job does Mr. HOAR think it would be to maintain order? Too big a job, apparently, for the United States to undertake on its own hook, but not too big to undertake out of pure benevolence.

"5. I would aid them by advice, if they desire it, to set up a free and independent government."

"They" are able to set up any number of independent governments, although the notion of freedom among dictators of the Aguinaldo type may not agree entirely with Mr. HOAR's.

"6. I would invite all the great Powers of Europe to unite in an agreement that that independence shall not be interfered with by us, by themselves, or by any one of them with the consent of the others."

Which would highly amuse the great Powers.

"7. I would declare that the United States will enforce the same doctrine as applicable to the Philippines that we declared as to Mexico and Hayti and the South American republics. It is true that the Monroe Doctrine, a doctrine based largely on our regard for our own interests, is not applicable either in terms or in principle to a distant Asiatic territory. But undoubtedly, having driven out Spain, we are bound, and have the right, to secure to the people we have liberated an opportunity, undisturbed and in peace, to establish a new government for themselves."

The extension of the Monroe Doctrine to the Philippines would be a little too much. The United States can hardly indulge in the luxury of protégés in Asia. At least, it cannot do so without being at perpetual war with the Powers and the protégés.

"8. I would then, in a not distant future, leave them to work out their own salvation, as every nation on earth, from the beginning of time, has wrought out its own salvation. Let them work out their own salvation as our own ancestors, &c."

Mr. HOAR cannot get it out of his head that the inhabitants of the Philippines are one nation and one people.

"9. I would strike out of your legislation the oath of allegiance to us and substitute an oath of allegiance to their own country."

Their own country! What country? Mr. HOAR has a very noble love of freedom and a very hazy notion of conditions in the Philippines. When a man of his high ability cannot propose a policy more feasible than this, the utter weakness of the anti-imperialist side becomes more evident than ever.

Senators by Popular Vote.

The House of Representatives has approved the proposed Constitutional amendment altering the method of electing United States Senators. This amendment is in conformity with the views of some Democrats, very few Republicans and all Populists, Social Democrats and Socialists. It proposes that in lieu of the present Constitutional provision that "the Senate shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof," this shall be substituted:

"The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, who shall be elected by a direct vote of the people thereof for a term of six years, and each Senator shall have one vote. A plurality of the votes cast for candidates for Senator shall be sufficient to elect. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State Legislatures, respectively.

"When a vacancy happens, by death, resignation or otherwise, in the representation of any State in the Senate, the same shall be filled for the unexpired term thereof in the same manner as is provided for the election of Senators: *Provided,* That the Executive thereof may make temporary appointment until the next general or special election in accordance with the statutes or Constitution of such State.

"This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as a part of the Constitution."

Like all similar projects warranted to cure real or alleged political evils, this proposition has the ardent and unconditional support of some people not affected by it. The Representatives in Congress are elected by popular vote, and many of them have no insurmountable objection to the election of Senators by the same method. The Populists, who usually are in a minority in every Legislature, might, in a scramble where the plurality candidate prevailed, be able to choose a Senator. They have no objection to a trial of the plan; on the contrary, they demand it as something necessary.

The idea of popular elections of Senators has long had a desultory support, the sincerity of which has been sometimes open to doubt. In Nevada, the State having the smallest electorate, and probably the least regard for popular demand in the choice of Senators, a statute was adopted last year providing that candidates for United States Senator "may be nominated in the same manner as State officers and voted for by the people; the result to be transmitted to the Legislature."

In Pennsylvania, where the question as to the right of the Governor to fill a vacancy arising through the failure of the Legislature to elect has occasioned the long controversy in Washington over the Quay case, a statute was adopted in Harrisburg last year for the appointment of a committee of five legislators to confer with legislators in other States with a view to submitting an amendment to the Constitution allowing the choice not only of United States Senators by popular vote but also of President and Vice-President. This innovation, if seriously urged, would be certain to provoke such vigorous resistance that the project of electing Senators by popular vote would be submerged in the controversy. So radical a departure as the elimination of the Electoral Colleges, the destruction of the present relation of the States to each other in Presidential contests, and the attempt to substitute a direct vote at a time when qualifications of suffrage vary as radically as they do now, could certainly not be accomplished. In some States there is female suffrage; in some States there is an educational test for the franchise; in some States aliens can vote. In default of any uniform standard of suffrage the direct election of a President would not be considered seriously.

The choice of United States Senators by popular vote within the States which they are to represent respectively has been virtually provided for in some States by the plan of committing the legislators in advance to certain candidates. If that plan possesses any of the merits claimed for it, no Constitutional reason exists why it should not be adopted by other States.

To Congress.

Congress, like all collections of humanity, does things sometimes wise and sometimes foolish, but it will show the baser side of human nature and do an utterly mean thing, if it fails to make WILLIAM T. SAMPSON Vice-Admiral of the Navy.

The Naval Commander in the Eastern waters has been made Admiral. The Naval Commander in the Atlantic waters, in charge of an immensely greater fleet, covering a vastly greater field, and the victor in a sea fight which, though not such a factor in expansion, was vastly more influential than DEWEY's for compelling peace, deserves at least the highest place that it remains possible for Congress to bestow.

As a subject for great honors also, SAMPSON is on a par with DEWEY in two vital respects. He enjoys the unbounded confidence and approval of the men who served and fought under him, and, personally, he wears a stainless name.

With the American fleet and the fleets of other countries as they are, haggling over the price of armor is like haggling over the price of cartridges when our men in action are crying for ammunition. Congress ought at once to provide for the best armor in the market for every new armored ship in sight.

We look to the Boston correspondent of the *Springfield Republican* for the latest news from "anti-imperialist circles," and we seldom look in vain. Momentous news, too. Col. ALBION C. DRINKWATER, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Massachusetts Democratic State Committee, has been studying "the political situation in the Middle West" from a parlor car. He is full of "sweeping and roaring enthusiasm" as he tells about "the progress of anti-imperialism in the West." Col. DRINKWATER is a cautious observer, as may be judged from the fact that he sees "a tremendous ground swell" for BRYAN.

This is also "the outlook from the observation tower of the anti-imperialists on Kilby street." And they are working like ants, like beavers, like oxen. Meeting in Portland, April 10. "Anti-imperialist debate" at Camden, N. J. Mayor PERRY of Somerville is putting in giant blows. Dr. A. A. BERLE, who used to be Chaplain of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, is throwing his whole soul into the cause. Col. CHARLES RUSSELL CODMAN has been asked to speak, but has not had time to prepare his speech.

There is something appalling, Cyclopean in the industry of these anti-imperialists.

The Hon. CY SULLOWAY, M. C., is reported to be very willing to succeed the Hon. WILLIAM EATON CHANDLER as a Senator in Congress from New Hampshire. So are several other persons, but we do not see that Mr. CHANDLER is frightened. Yet he might well be frightened by Mr. SULLOWAY, who seems made for an "upper house," as some misguided people call the Senate. The newspapers in Mr. SULLOWAY's district speak of him as a "growing man." We hope that this is not true, as he is about 78 inches high already.

"Vence Dubs."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In this Southland of ours, in the heart of old Georgia, way back to the early '40s, and even prior to those far-off days, in playing marbles the boys used the words "vence," "vence roundence," "vence fudgence," "stiff knee from taw," "knuckle down," &c. It was dialect, but as common and as expressive as any elegant term Drs. Doak or White may be able to write. If we could induce Dr. Doak to play a game of *Knuz* with us, one time, I think we could cure him of his criticisms, and that he would admit that the English language was broad enough and strong enough to take in "vence dubs" or any other "vence."

R. W. BONNER.

MACON, Ga., April 16.

End-of-the-Century Weather.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Has there been a colder March in New York since the establishment of the Weather Bureau than was March, 1900? And has there been a colder April night than last Tuesday night, the 10th?

A. M. P.

HARLEM, April 15.

Some Vermonters.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Sardine Hubbard, Bandana Gallup, Frank Yellowneck and two families named respectively Stuffiebean and Epeneter, live in this vicinity.

D. B. J.

BURLINGTON, Vt., April 12.

Paradoxical.

From the Indianapolis Press.

Watts—What makes Mudge look so vacant?
Potts—I think he is full.

IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The inefficiency of their whole military system is being brought home to the British people in about the only way to guarantee a sweeping change, and it is fortunate for England that the experience has been gained in a war with a handful of farmers, and not with the highly organized armies of one or more European Powers. The defects that have been revealed in the Natal and Free State campaigns are only what might have been expected in an army in which military talent took second rank, and court favoritism and family connections were the great qualifications for advancement. It seems hard on the disrated Generals that they should be among the sufferers in war from the system under which they flourished in time of peace, but if the confidence of the fighting ranks is to be retained, the Government has no option but to recall those officers whose indecision, incapacity, or other faults have proved their unfitness to command in the field. But there are other questions equally grave demanding action on the part of the British War Office. Serious scandals in connection with the supplies for the army have been brought to light in consequence of which the health of the troops has suffered, and the names of several contractors have been struck off the lists, but the friends of the men in the field are demanding more drastic measures from the Government. The breakdown of the commissariat department nearly compromised the operations following the relief of Kimberley, and has been the cause of the long delay at Bloemfontein since.

It is quite impossible that a radical reorganization of the British Army should be effected during the present war, so that Lord Roberts will have nothing to do but go forward as best he can with the material furnished him under the present system, and be lucky if he gets through the remainder of his task without further mishap. In the shock of the revelations made in the published despatch of Lord Roberts, the details of what is going on at the different points where the Boers and British are in contact have for the moment lost interest, and the weather is hampering the movements of both sides. The insurrection in the northwest of the Cape Colony seems to be reviving, a body of Boers having attacked a British post near Kenhardt on Friday last, and the appeal issued by the two republics to the Dutch Afrikanders to take up arms indicates that they still entertain hopes of the Colonial Dutch making a serious diversion in their behalf against the rear of Lord Roberts's army.

Christian Science Argument.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In his communication in THE SUN of April 13, Mr. W. A. Purrington, referring to my letter of April 6, says that he has "neither time nor inclination to prolong the newspaper discussion," and that he trusts his is the final word. Mr. Purrington professes, however, that he will be satisfied if the questions contained in his letter of April 8 are answered frankly and unequivocally. I propose to reply to these questions in the spirit he desires.

Mr. Purrington speaks of Christian Science as a "delusion," and catalogues it with voodooism, mesmerism, et al. Will he say that the Bible, or the teaching and life of Christ are based on delusions? And yet Christian Science knows no other authority for its existence than the word of God and the life and teachings of Christ. How can they then be termed delusions?

The questions which Mr. Purrington still considers unanswered are as follows:

"What course would you or Mrs. Eddy adopt in any of the following cases:

"(a) Walking along the street, a brick falls from above and cuts your head, causing the blood to flow?

"(b) A child at the table swallows a fishbone, and is in peril of strangulation?

"(c) Your child is riding in a street car and a person with confluent smallpox sits down beside it?

"(d) A child in the street is run down by a cable car and bleeds from a severed artery?

"(e) A baby falls from a window and fractures its skull?"

Let me quote a case where the flow of blood was stopped by Christian Science, which will answer questions (a) and (d).

In stepping from a car on Columbus Square, Eighth avenue and Fifty-ninth street, a lady was thrown under a cross-town car, and the police drew her out, with face and head gashed and blood flowing profusely. The police wished to take her to the hospital at the suggestion of a physician who was present and assisted in lifting her from under the car. The lady refused to be taken anywhere but to her home. She sent immediately for a Christian Scientist, who is First Reader in one of the large New York churches. The flow of blood was quickly checked, solely through mental treatment. A surgeon was sent for who sewed the cuts, two very deep ones on the face extending from the hair past the eye to the lower part of the cheek, and one long gash on the back of the head. The surgeon performed his work without the aid of anæsthetics. The patient talked with him freely and cheerfully, took no medicine, was not confined to her bed from the shock. The wounds healed readily and perfectly, leaving no scar. When the surgeon removed the stitches, he said he had never seen such a case. This lady is a prominent society woman, and is willing at any time to corroborate this testimony in all its details. I will gladly refer Mr. Purrington to the patient and the healer if he will write to me.

With a severed artery (question d) a surgeon would be summoned to tie the artery, as in the former case to sew the wound; because if thought is the only force—the thought and fear of those about the patient would have to be taken into consideration, as likely to hinder demonstration; but many cases have been authenticated where accidents of this kind have been treated successfully through Christian Science, no surgeon being within reach.

Referring to question (b), the same power which stopped the flow of blood dissipates an obstruction, whether it be from a fish bone or croup, or a cinder in the eye. To bear this out I can cite a case and give Mr. Purrington the name of a Christian Scientist of this city, who, while dining had a chicken bone lodge in her throat, and removed it by no other means than the understanding of Christian Science.

Referring to question (c), if a Christian Scientist child were exposed to the disease called smallpox, we should treat this as we have treated scarlet fever, and other so-called infectious diseases, by mental means only. In the case of fractured skull, if called to treat, a Christian Scientist at this present stage of demonstration, would permit a surgeon to be called, confining his own treatment to allaying inflammation, and restoring the patient to his normal condition. Mrs. Eddy says in "Science and Health," page 400, "Christian Science is always the most skilful surgeon, but surgery is the branch of its healing which will be last demonstrated."

Mr. Purrington asks if I will say in your columns that I believe Mrs. Eddy took large doses of morphine, without harm to herself. Mrs. Eddy has said that she did, and I, in company with all Christian Scientists, accept her word, just as I would accept Mr. Purrington's statement of an experience through which he had gone. The protecting and preserving power of Divine Mind has been tested and proved throughout the centuries. Instances can be cited from the Bible, familiar to all Biblical students, demonstrating this same operative power. The Hebrew children walked unscathed through the flames. Daniel, who knew that the God he served continually would deliver him, came out from the den of lions alive. St. Paul threw off the poisonous viper, and was unharmed: all because they understood the same God and Principle of Life, which gives power to-day as then.

Let me close with the hope that Mr. Purrington may feel that he has been answered as he desired, "frankly and unequivocally," and that this, indeed, is the final word.

WILLARD S. MATTOX.

NEW YORK, April 14.

An Infelicitous Memorial Tablet.

From the Independent.

One cannot help smiling at the infelicity of the tablet recently set up in the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in this city, in memory of Dr. John Hall. It simply gives the dates of his birth and death, and says that he was "pastor of this church from November 3d, 1867, to September 17th, 1898," and then ends with this singular text, "There remaineth therefore a rest for the people of God." That his departure should give rest to the people of God is what some who remember the dissensions in that church the last year or two of his life do not like to have suggested. That is not what the committee meant by the Scripture passage; neither did Cowper mean by the lines,

"And Satan trembles when he sees
The weakest saint upon his knees."

what the little girl supposed who asked her mother why any saint should want to get on Satan's knees.

THE REVOLUTION IN COLOMBIA.

A Young Man in the Liberal Army Tells What It Is All About.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Since the 17th of October the revolution began, and since then I have been forming part of the officers that command the troops of the Liberal party. I am able to tell you and the American people the cause and the kind of men we have in our army. In the revolution of '85 the American Government was badly informed of the kind of men we had in the army, and that was the cause of the coming of American troops to Colon and Panama. In the revolutionary army of to-day you find the best young men of the nation, and all decided to fight to the last, and for a very simple reason. We are not fighting for any special person to come into power. We are fighting for our second independence, to have a free country, to be able to work and to make of our country a civilized nation.

The last fifteen years we can say, with millions of reasons, we have been under Spanish rule, and one proof of this is that when the Spanish-American War took place this Government was in favor of Spain and prohibited the publication of American victories. The Liberal party sided with the Americans and the proof is in the papers of those days.

THE SUN of Feb. 23 says that the officers of your Government have been surprised to hear of the rebel victories, that the Colombian Army is the most numerous and best disciplined army in Central America. This is the truth, and our victories over this army prove what our revolutionary army is. As I told you before, our army is composed of the best young men in the country, we have good artillery, Manlicher and Mauser rifles, splendid shooters, and young men that know what they are doing. Most of these young men have fought in the battles of Bucaramanga, Peralonzo and Gramalote, belong to the best society and most of them are sons of rich merchants.

To-day our army can be compared with the best in South America, the soldier is in the ranks by his own will, and the officers know their duties. This letter is written in haste, under a burning sun and in front of the enemy. I am a true Colombian, and have a good many friends in the States.

OCTAVIO PUYANA.

ESTADOS UNIDOS DE COLOMBIO, EJERCITO RESTAURADOR, near Pamplona, March 24.

ALLEN RESIGNS FROM THE NAVY.

The President Appoints Frank W. Hackett to Be Assistant Secretary.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Charles H. Allen, the new Governor of Porto Rico, has resigned the office of Assistant Secretary of the Navy and will sever his connection with the Navy Department to-morrow. Mr. and Mrs. Allen will leave Washington on the United States despatch boat Dolphin on Saturday morning for San Juan. The North Atlantic squadron, now at Bermuda, has been directed to proceed to San Juan direct from that place, instead of first returning to Hampton Roads as contemplated. It has been found impossible to get the battleship Kearsarge ready in time to participate in the naval demonstration in honor of Gov. Allen at San Juan on May 1.

The President to-day sent to the Senate the nomination of Frank W. Hackett of New Hampshire, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy, to succeed Mr. Allen. Mr. Hackett is a lawyer and has long practised his profession in Washington.

CAPT. DAVIS'S PRIZE CLAIMS.

The Attorney-General Holds That None of the Vessels at Ponce Was a Prize of War.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The Attorney-General of the United States has filed a brief in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia in the libel filed by Capt. Charles H. Davis, U. S. N., commanding the auxiliary cruiser Dixie, in behalf of himself and the officers and men of the Dixie, Washington, Annapolis and Gloucester, comprising the naval force under his command, to secure the condemnation as prizes of thirteen vessels and sixty-six lighters in the harbor of Ponce, Porto Rico, in July, 1898. The Attorney-General says that none of these vessels was a prize of war, and that Ponce was in the possession of a United States military force before the seizure of the vessels by Capt. Davis had been completed. He therefore petitions the court to dismiss the libel and allow the United States costs and charges.

The Croton Dam Strike.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* With the dead body of Sergt. Douglass lying in his home, and a widow and two children weeping by his coffin, the question again presents itself, "How many more innocent lives are to be sacrificed before we comprehend the state of anarchy to which we are making such rapid strides?" It is to be presumed, of course, the yellow journals will declare, as usual, that the sergeant was killed by some one outside the union, but the question remains, "Why?" and the answer was made by John Cassola, one of the strikers, who demanded of Sheriff Molloy: "Sheriff, I'd like to know what this all means. What are you going to do with soldiers here?"

What right has the Government to send troops when strikers take the field? Observe: "About a hundred men came armed and taking their places in military order were put through a drill and parade by a leader. Perhaps forty of these men had double or single-barrelled shotguns, while the others either carried axes or saplings."

The keynote was sounded by the Italian Consul's argument with the contractor, viz: "The raise in wages is not as much as it will cost to stop the strike." What a travesty on any form of government, one that cannot or does not protect a citizen in trying to earn his living in his own lawful way!

J. O. M.

WASHINGTONVILLE, N. Y.

Birds and Women.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* While thanking you sincerely for your earnest and practical editorial articles on the working woman's side of the song bird question, will you grant me a little more space to reply to one or two of your correspondents who have seen fit to take the other side.

"Jayhawker," for example, who has shown such solicitude for birds, shows at the same time that he knows very little about fancy feathers. He says: "Do you ever see feather collectors in the market? Have you ever seen a turkey or quail or partridge or chicken sold without its skin?" "Jayhawker" evidently thinks that birds and fowl are killed for their feathers. As a matter of fact, when birds and fowl are killed their feathers are plucked and dyed in all the prevailing colors, and sold by the pound.

The mistake of "Jayhawker" and many others doubtless lies in the fact that many of the ornaments upon women's hats appear to them to be genuine birds. While it cannot be denied that wild birds are still used, many of these ornaments, which appear to be genuine birds, are in reality manufactured. This is done by pasting the feathers on a frame, and it is done so artistically nowadays that it is no wonder that observers like "Jayhawker" mistake the artificial bird for the real. Not only are birds made in this way, but also parts of birds, such as wings and breasts. When pigeons and other birds are killed the edible part is removed and the feathers are mounted. "Jayhawker" and anybody else can verify these statements if they desire.

Your correspondents on the bird side of the question seem to have overlookd the main point at issue, which is this: Shall a great industry be destroyed and thousands of working women be thrown out of employment, all because of a mistaken zeal for the protection of birds?

I said before and I now repeat that I am in favor of laws being passed that will protect all birds, but what advantage, pray, is to be gained by making such a law so sweeping as to prohibit the use of feathers altogether, as Senator Hoar's bill does?

NEW YORK, April 18. HELEN L. DEVINE.

Imperial Federation Not Easier.

From the Glasgow Herald.

It is safe to say that the attitude of the colonies to the war in South Africa has accentuated rather than diminished the difficulties in the way of federation. "Compel us to send you troops," said Sir Wilfrid Laurier, "and you must call us to your councils." That word alone would damn federation.

Spring.

From the Chicago Tribune.

"O, Spring!"
wailed the poet,
"You shameless thing!
See you how winter lingers?
Curl your taper fingers
In his gray hair
As he sits there,
The beggarly lout!
And jerk a handful out!
And if this moves him not,"
continued the wretched spring poet, tearing his own hair,
"From the spot,
For heaven's sake
A hatpin take,
A hatpin long and slim,
And jab it into him!"

From the Chicago Times Herald.

Men are working with the wireless telegraph,
The horseless carriage buzzes through the street;
We may live to look upon the cowless calf,
The chiropodist may give us toeless feet.

We have looked upon the henless little chick,
We can hear the voiceless maiden try to sing;
Men have ceased to gaze in awe at strawless brick,
And now we're up against the springless spring.

PORTO RICO GOVERNMENT.

The President Asks Congress to Pass Necessary Supplemental Legislation.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The President today sent to Congress the following message:

"The time remaining before the 1st of May, when the act of April 12, entitled 'an act temporarily to provide revenues and a civil government for Porto Rico and for other purposes,' will take effect appears to be insufficient for the careful inquiry and consideration requisite to the proper selection of suitable persons to fill the important civil offices provided for by the act. The powers of the present Government will cease when the act takes effect and some new authority will be necessary to enable the officers now performing the various duties of civil government in the island to continue the performance of those duties until the officers who are to perform similar duties under the new government shall have been appointed and qualified. That authority cannot nor will be given at present by temporary appointments of the existing officers to positions under the act, for the reason that many of the existing officers are officers of the army detailed to performance of civil duties, and section 1222 of the Revised Statutes would prevent them from accepting such temporary appointments under the penalty of losing their commissions. The selection of the new officers and the organization of the new government under the act referred to will be accomplished with all practicable speed, but in order that it might be properly accomplished, I recommend the passage of a joint resolution to obviate the difficulty above stated. WILLIAM MCKINLEY."

Senator Foraker subsequently introduced a joint resolution to carry into effect the President's recommendations. It permits the army officers now performing civil duties in Porto Rico to hold office until Aug. 1 next, without losing their commissions.

PORTO RICO NOT A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

That is, Within the Meaning of the Drawback Clause of the Tariff Law.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Assistant Secretary Spalding of the Treasury has decided that Porto Rico is not a foreign country within the meaning of the drawback clause of the tariff law. The decision was brought out by a letter from the Surveyor of Customs at Kansas City, Mo., in which the Surveyor asked to be advised whether drawback can be allowed on salt used in curing meats exported to Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. Assistant Secretary Spalding replied that the Treasury Department is of the opinion that Porto Rico is not a foreign country within the meaning of the drawback law, and that, therefore, no refund of duty can be allowed on any of the drawbacks on goods exported to Porto Rico.

Another decision of the Department was called forth by a request for information from a would-be tobacco manufacturer in Porto Rico. This is that a manufacturer in Porto Rico cannot import tobacco from Cuba into the island without paying the full customs charges instead of 15 per cent. of the present rates. The apparent object of the prospective manufacturer was to avoid the full payment of customs duties on tobacco imported directly from Cuba into the United States by having the goods shipped by way of Porto Rico.

THE DUKE D'ARCOS INCIDENT.

No Instructions to Minister Storer to Express Regret to Spain.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The State Department disclaims any official knowledge of the reported action of Bellamy Storer in expressing the regret of the United States Government to the Foreign Office in Madrid over the sending of an invitation by Mayor Harrison to the Duke d'Arcos, the Spanish Minister in Washington, to attend the Dewey reception in Chicago. It is asserted by officials that no instructions on the subject were sent to Mr. Storer, and it is supposed that he made some statement to the Spanish authorities on his own responsibility, believing that it would be a graceful act to do so.

A published story that invitations to attend the Dewey celebration were not sent to any other members of the Diplomatic Corps, thus indicating that an intentional insult was offered to the Spanish representative, is untrue. The Duke d'Arcos knows that some, if not all, of his colleagues in Washington received invitations, and expresses himself as perfectly satisfied with the explanation of Mayor Harrison that the invitation was sent by mistake and that no insult was intended. It is not likely that any diplomatic representatives of a foreign country will accept an invitation to attend the celebration, because in so doing they would appear to sanction an affair that is based primarily on an American victory over a nation on friendly terms with their Governments.

BUFFALO EXPOSITION STAMPS.

Some of the Designs Already Adopted by the Post Office Department.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Designs for the special issue of postage stamps contemplated for the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo have been tentatively adopted by the Post Office Department. In the issue are to be included one-cent, two-cent, four-cent, five-cent, eight-cent and ten-cent stamps, the denominations used for circulars, letters, double-weight letters, foreign mail, registry fees and combined registry and postage fees. On one stamp will be engraved a picture of an American lakes teamer; another will include a picture of some modern, well-equipped express train; a third is to depict a bridge over Niagara Falls and the Falls themselves if a suitable picture can be obtained; a fourth will include a view of the canal locks at Sault de Sainte Marie. The automobile is to be made the subject of a fifth. All these designs typify artificial aids to commerce. For the sixth stamp the Department is somewhat puzzled for a proper development of that idea.

It has been suggested that the colonial desire for pictures of the American flag might be gratified by a reproduction of the national colors as the sixth stamp. If the Department can determine whether the flag is or is not an artificial aid to commerce this idea will probably be adopted.

SUFFRAGE IN THE SOUTH.

Bill to Declare Void Any Restrictions by Any State on Account of Color.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—In the Senate to-day Mr. Chandler (Rep., N. H.) introduced, by request, a bill for the prevention of the denial or abridgment of the right of United States citizens to vote on account of color; and it was referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. It declares void and inoperative any requirement of any qualification for suffrage prescribed by any State in its Constitution or laws which directly or indirectly by express words or by any device or subterfuge is made to apply to colored citizens and not to white citizens.

Section 2 makes it the duty of election officers to allow such colored citizens, if otherwise qualified, to register and to vote, despite the disqualification imposed by the State. Section 3 gives the citizen the right of action for $500 damages against a registration officer who refuses to register him, and the officer is also subject to a fine of $1,000 and six months' imprisonment for each offence. Section 4 provides like penalties for election officers who refuse to accept ballots of colored citizens. Proceedings under the bill are to be had in United States courts and the United States District Attorneys are charged with their prosecution.

BARBARA FRIETCHIE.

Whittier's Belief in Her Reality.

Here is an extract from a letter written by the poet Whittier to his friend, the late Miss Emily W. Price of Philadelphia, which shows that Mr. Whittier was personally convinced of the truth of the incident which he celebrated in the poem "Barbara Frietchie":

DEAR FRIEND: I first heard of Barbara Frietchie by a letter from Mrs. Southworth of Washington (the authoress), calling my attention to the incident, and enclosing an extract from a paper detailing it as it stands in the poem.

About the same time I had a letter from Dorothea Dix confirming it. I thought the testimony ample.

It has been denied since, but it is admitted by all that Barbara was a brave, outspoken, loyal woman; that she had a Union flag in her possession and that she drove the rebel soldiers from the sidewalk. I think she deserved all I said of her even if I was mistaken on some of the details.

* * * * *

I am thy friend, JOHN G. WHITTIER.

DANVERS, Mass., March 19, 1887.

The original of this letter is now in the possession of Mrs. J. Bayard Backus of this city, a sister of the late Miss Price.

Just What She Said.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Mamma—Why did you let him kiss you?

Daughter—Well, he was so nice he asked me—

Mamma—But haven't I told you you must learn to say "No?"

Daughter—That's what I did say. He asked me if I'd be very angry if he kissed me.