The Sun.

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An American Policy.

Some worthy citizens, including our dolorous old friends, the Hon. CARL SCHURZ and the Hon. GEORGE SEWALL BOUTWELL, are to hold a meeting in the Cooper Union tonight for the purpose of discussing "An American Policy for the Philippines."

An excellent suggestion of such a policy is found in the last Missouri Republican platform:

"We favor the extension of self-government to all the people that have lately come under the protection of this country as rapidly as they demonstrate their ability to exercise it. We hold our authority over them to be a solemn trust to be exercised with an eye single to their instruction, development and prosperity."

Another suggestion will be found in "General Orders No. 40," issued by Gen. OTIS last March and containing a law for the establishing of civil municipal government in the Philippines.

The beginnings of self-government in the Philippines have been made. The foundation will be added to as fast as the people show themselves capable of the additions—it may even chance, faster.

The Investigating Committee's Report on the Richardson Scandal.

These general remarks by the *New York Times* on the Richardson-Barcus scandal show a more accurate understanding of the moral and personal relation of the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON to the scandal than the investigating committee has seen fit to express in plain language in its report:

"Some serious facts appear clearly from the committee's report. It appears that Mr. RICHARDSON copyrighted in his own name a work with which his connection had been entirely official, and which he had in the House accurately declared not to be copyrightable. He had done this in order to make money for himself and for the partners whom he had taken for that purpose. The capital of the partnership was the plates which had been presented to him by Congress, and the copyright which he falsely pretended to have obtained in a Government publication. It also appears that what he describes as a 'small royalty' amounted to $11,320. That is large or small, according to the point of view. In the Fifth district of Tennessee we should say that it would be considered rather large. Large or small, it was gained by Mr. RICHARDSON for work which he had assumed credit for doing gratuitously, and declared that he would be well paid for by the approbation of the readers.

"As we have said before, it does not appear that Mr. RICHARDSON has done anything punishable or even indictable. But we are bound to say that the publications made on this subject by THE SUN have been fully justified. It is difficult to see how a statesman mixed up as Mr. RICHARDSON has been with so very unsavory a business can continue to hold the position of a 'leader' in the House of any party which pretends to have any respect for itself."

Our neighbor is quite right in saying that Mr. RICHARDSON has probably done nothing that is now criminally punishable. It is not even worth while to inquire whether he could be reached under the laws for knowingly asserting a false and fraudulent copyright and turning the same to his pecuniary profit. Mr. RICHARDSON is sheltered, so far as direct legal responsibility is concerned, by the initial mistake which a too easy-going Congress made when, at his own urgent solicitation and upon his humbug statement of the extent to which the country was indebted to him for literary labor which he had voluntarily assumed, it voted him the duplicate plates.

The enormity of that mistake by the Fifty-third Congress is clearly and adequately brought out by the report of Senator PLATT's committee. It can be deplored and denounced, but it cannot be punished or even rectified at this late day. The mischief was done when that Congress foolishly entrusted the Government's honor and dignity to the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON of Tennessee. The use which RICHARDSON made of the opportunity is now known to everybody. He passed the Government's honor and dignity along to BARCUS, together with the plates, and contented himself with pocketing the dollars as they began to flow back to him without a murmur about BARCUS's methods except on occasions when somebody was unamiable enough to bring to public attention the swindling performances of the "Committee on Distribution." On such occasions the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON was on his feet in an instant, denying all personal knowledge of the commercial part of the enterprise, expressing surprise and horror at the misdeeds of BARCUS's glib talkers, and professing absolute confidence in that young man's integrity and high sense of honor. On these occasions, we are obliged to add, the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON talked like a hypocrite and a very shifty person.

Of course, the evidence before the investigating committee was so overwhelmingly conclusive as to the deliberate and systematic intent to deceive the public that the report does full justice to BARCUS and his "Committee on Distribution." BARCUS *was* the "Committee on Distribution." Our only criticism of the tenor of the report and of the general manner in which the investigation was conducted behind closed doors, is that possibly more interest has been displayed in probing BARCUS than in getting at the bottom facts about RICHARDSON. This may be due in part to the comity of Congress, in part to a magnanimous if mistaken desire in the minds of the Republican Senators to avoid the appearance of political animus in the examination of a Democrat, or in part to the circumstance that the committee was not equipped with the powers necessary for a very thorough investigation. All three of these considerations may have had effect in determining the attitude of the investigators toward their most important witness, the gentleman from the other House. The fact remains that Mr. RICHARDSON was permitted to make his statement practically in his own way and to depart without being subjected to any cross-examination that went beneath the surface. We will except the questions specially relating to the copyright fraud. These were pressed by Senator ELKINS with an intelligent persistence which threw Mr. RICHARDSON into a state of confusion and self-contradiction and helplessness which would have been pitiable were he entitled to pity; and the results of this part of the investigation are reflected adequately in the report. But in regard to even more important aspects of the case, such as his actual knowledge of the operations of the "Committee on Distribution," his tolerance of the fraudulent methods employed, his willingness to profit by the same, his personal contiguity to the headquarters of the swindling concern, and his present and prospective cash profits from the whole business, Mr. RICHARDSON was not pressed very energetically, and his statements were apparently accepted at their face value.

For example, after having denied solemnly on a previous occasion that the stationery of Congress had ever been used by the "Committee on Distribution" to give the impression that it had official character, Mr. RICHARDSON was confronted with an original of the now celebrated letter of credentials to BARCUS's agents, typewritten on House of Representatives paper and signed with his own rubber stamp. Here follows an extract from the hitherto unpublished testimony at one of the sessions of the investigating committee:

"Senator ELKINS.—Did the committee ['the Committee on Distribution'] use the House of Representatives paper?

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—No sir; only about *half a dozen* sheets were ever used.

"Senator ELKINS.—Who used it, you?

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—No sir.

"Senator ELKINS.—Who got hold of it?

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—I think they were sent out *from the office by one of the clerks. I had a lot of paper at the office.* It was after the office was removed to Washington.

"Senator ELKINS.—Some of the agents used the Government paper?

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—I think *half a dozen sheets* were probably used, but they were not used generally. I do not think over half a dozen sheets were used. It was stopped immediately, *because it was not the proper thing to do*, and the company was not attempting to use it at all.

Again, a little further on:

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—So far as I know, and I venture to assert without any fear of contradiction Mr. BARCUS was not here but, then, his manager, who is present will swear and I have no doubt it is the fact—that there were not exceeding a half dozen, *or a dozen at the farthest*, sheets of that paper *used inadvertently*, and it was stopped immediately, and not another one was used. It was not done with any intention of giving the appearance that it was a Government publication at all, *because they were not intended for the public.*"

* * * *

"Senator ELKINS.—Is the letter which is published in THE SUN true? I refer to THE SUN of April 20, 1900, purporting to be signed by you.

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—That is the one where *they inadvertently* used the House of Representatives paper in October 1898. That is one of the half dozen; *and I think this is possibly the only one that was not taken in.*

"Senator ELKINS.—This letter was signed by you, and not by the 'Committee.'

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—It was signed with a rubber stamp, not by myself.

"Senator ELKINS.—That was in connection with the sale of this compilation?

"Mr. RICHARDSON.—Yes, sir; *they inadvertently used it.*"

We think most lawyers, if only for the sake of professional art, will regret that Mr. RICHARDSON's contradictory and commonplace explanations of the existence of the letter of credentials, over his name on House of Representatives paper, were permitted to escape so easily.

The only other detail of the testimony to which we shall at present refer relates to Mr. RICHARDSON'S cash receipts to date. He put the figure at about $11,000; and BARCUS afterward swore that it was $11,320.50. These are the figures that go into the committee's report. If they are generally accepted as measuring Mr. RICHARDSON'S share of the proceeds, they will give an entirely false impression of that historical student's pecuniary rewards. For BARCUS not only swore that he paid royalty to RICHARDSON at the rate of 75 cents a set, but he also swore that he had already printed 22,000 sets, and had 5,000 in press. Even if it be true the "small royalty" of 75 cents a set is all that RICHARDSON gets or expects to get for selling to BARCUS the Government's property, dignity and honor, the yield to him from 27,000 sets would be $20,250. Figure it thus:

Royalty on 27,000 sets	$20,250
Market value of 650 "remainder" sets at $20	13,000
Cost price of duplicate plates	3,200
	$36,450

Against this is to be set the "four years of labor" upon which Mr. RICHARDSON dwells so unctuously, although he undertook that labor of his own motion and was paid $20,000 and allowances during the four years by the Government for his services as a Congressman; and the $3,600 which he says he paid out of his own pocket for the index. He was not questioned regarding this alleged payment of $3,600. A little cross-examination would probably have developed the fact that the money did not go out of the Richardson family.

But Mr. RICHARDSON'S stake in the game not only was not measured by the $11,320.50 which BARCUS swears he has already paid him; it is not even measured by the $36,450 in the estimate above. The potentialities of wealth in RICHARDSON'S ten years' contract with BARCUS were enthusiastically explained by the latter gentleman when he was drawn on by the skilful questioning by Senator ELKINS:

"Senator ELKINS.—I infer that you have never had more than $25,000 cash capital invested in the business.

"Mr. BARCUS.—Outside of what came in from the business itself I believe that is correct perhaps.

"Senator ELKINS.—From what you know of the business and your experience, what does the future promise? You have sold and put out 22,000 and have ordered 5,000—27,000?

"Mr. BARCUS.—The 5,000 are not put out.

"Senator ELKINS.—I know; but they are ordered to be printed. At the rate at which you have done business in the last two years, I believe it is, what does the business promise for the next ten years?

"Mr. BARCUS.—I should say that *if the public mind could be put at rest on the subject of free distribution*, and that is a necessary hypothesis on which to reason, the books would have a sale of between 50,000 and 100,000 sets in the next ten years.

"Senator ELKINS.—Do you mean each year?

"Mr. BARCUS.—No, sir. I mean a total sale—an aggregate sale of between 50,000 and 100,000 sets.

"Senator ELKINS.—That is a very wide difference in a business transaction.

"Mr. BARCUS.—It is impossible to estimate accurately. I am undertaking to give you the minimum and maximum.

"Senator ELKINS.—Fifty thousand sets at $34?

"Mr. BARCUS.—If I am forced to fix a figure which would be near I would split the difference and say 75,000.

"Senator ELKINS.—At $50 per set as an average?

"Mr. BARCUS.—Well, close to that.

"Senator ELKINS.—If you sold 75,000 sets at $50 per set, the gross would be $3,250,000?

"Mr. BARCUS.—I should think that is correct."

Here we have the stake for which RICHARDSON and BARCUS were playing. Seventy-five thousand sets, even with the royalty as disproportionate as that which RICHARDSON and BARCUS swear is all that goes to RICHARDSON, his share would be $56,250 plus the $13,000 worth of "remainder" sets of the Government editions, or $69,250 in all. We do not include the value of the duplicate plates; perhaps they would be worn out by that time, and the market exhausted.

Despite all we have said about the insufficiency of RICHARDSON'S examination, the country is indebted to Senator PLATT'S committee for a service of great importance. Their report ends the Barcusian enterprise, the possibilities of which were so glowingly depicted by that sublimated book agent in his short conversation with Senator ELKINS. It is hardly conceivable that the Congress will refuse to terminate the scandal for all time by passing either Mr. BABCOCK'S resolution in the House or Senator GALLINGER'S in the Senate, providing for another Government edition of "Messages and Papers of the Presidents." Poor SPOFFORD is allowed to get off easily, but that may be charged to the charity account. And RICHARDSON, the leader of the Democratic minority of the House and the principal figure in the scandal which he himself has created through his greed and false pretences—how does he stand before the country in the light of the investigating committee's mildly expressed but morally damning verdict?

A Noticeable Difference Between Capital and Labor.

A remarkable difference between capitalistic employers and organized labor as it is at present inspired and controlled, is called up for consideration by an incident that occurred in Joliet last Tuesday.

An employee of the Great Western Tin Plate Works, who happened to be President of the Amalgamated Association of Tin Workers, was discharged; whereupon 150 men, fellow-unionists, quit work. As to their legal right to do this thing no one can question; but their act was the same as if the Great Western Tin Plate Works, being dissatisfied with one employee, had discharged all.

It is proper to say that there is no known case of any employer of labor being guilty of an act so vengeful and unreasonable, so foolish in respect to business and so unfair to employees.

Our advice to labor unions is to play fair with capital.

"Mere Rhetoric."

The Rev. JOHN W. CHADWICK, a Unitarian minister of Brooklyn, in a recently published sermon ridicules thus the "new progressive orthodoxy," as expounded in one of its latest books:

"'I open it haphazard, and I read: 'JESUS was not one of many, not merely an individual fragment of the race, but the true type and sum of humanity. He gathers into Himself all potentialities, forces, faculties, powers, which the entire race will eventually unfold. All that man has attained, all that he shall attain, was existent and active in JESUS.'

"'Now, this is not thought; it is mere rhetoric, and nonsensical rhetoric at that. A moment's thought would be the passing knell of any such inarticulate, gelatinous ephemeron. It is really all the worse, all the less serious, all the less real, because the writer discards the notion of the virgin birth and conceives of JESUS as the natural son of JOSEPH and MARY."

Undoubtedly, this is a just criticism, but is not like ridicule justified when the Rev. Mr. CHADWICK defines his own Unitarian belief by saying that "we believe in the Fatherhood of GOD" and "sincerely trust that for every private grief or public danger there is some ample compensation in the full circle of the Eternal Wisdom and the Primal Love"?

Is not this also "mere rhetoric, and nonsensical rhetoric at that"? Where do you get your authority for your belief in "the Fatherhood of God," in "the full circle of the Eternal Wisdom and the Primal Love"? You can get it nowhere else than in Divine revelation, or in the Bible. In the natural law there is no quality of sentiment; there is no love there, primal or other. If you believe in such love's ruling the world in a spirit of Fatherhood contradictory of natural law you must believe that it is proclaimed by infallible supernatural authority. But we find no such expression of belief in Mr. CHADWICK'S sermon. "We believe," he says of the Unitarians, "in a blessed immortality for righteous souls," but on what do you base your belief? There is no natural evidence of any such immortality; the only evidence is in supernatural authority in the Bible or the Church, both rejected by Mr. CHADWICK.

It may be said of his own sermon, therefore, as he says of the book he ridicules, that "a moment's thought would be the passing knell of any such inarticulate, gelatinous ephemeron," for he, too, "discards the notion of the virgin birth and conceives of JESUS as the natural son of JOSEPH and MARY," and therefore treats Christianity as merely human philosophy and "the Fatherhood of GOD" as a poetic conception purely.

The Coming Election in Canada.

It is nearly four years since the House of Commons, now sitting at Ottawa, was elected, and, if we may believe the *Toronto Globe*, which is supposed to speak with authority, a new appeal to the ballot box may be looked for at an early date. What is likely to be the outcome of the contest? We find the question differently answered accordingly as we turn to the newspaper organs of the Liberals on the one hand and to those of the Conservatives on the other.

The *Globe* itself, for instance, insists that there is ample foundation for the confidence expressed by Sir WILFRID LAURIER and Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT in the success of the Liberals at the next general election. It points out that, in forty-five elections to fill vacant seats, the Liberals have carried forty-two, a fact which scarcely bears out the assertion that there has been a Conservative reaction since 1896. It is largely on the indications afforded by these by-elections that the *Globe* bases its prediction of a sweeping Liberal victory.

On the other hand, the *Mail and Empire* sees grounds for encouragement in the fact that the Conservatives have carried the Province of Manitoba and have shown an increase of strength in Prince Edward Island and in New Brunswick. It accuses Sir WILFRID LAURIER of intending, provided he can secure this year a renewal of his mandate from the people, to force upon Canada the programme of unrestricted reciprocity or commercial union. We have no doubt that such a programme would prove attractive to Canadian farmers, woodcutters and miners, but it would obviously repel all the voters interested in Canadian manufactures which could not compete with American commodities if the tariff wall were removed. Moreover, the *Mail and Empire* is mistaken in assuming that the United States would cheerfully become a party to a continental commercial union. We do not consider that admission to the market constituted by only five million human beings would compensate us for giving the Canadians access to the market afforded by seventy-five millions. If the Provinces composing the Dominion of Canada want unrestricted reciprocity, they can obtain it by entering the American Union, but not otherwise.

That some of the Liberals look forward with misgiving to the electoral campaign is evident from an article published in the *Soleil*, which is Sir WILFRID LAURIER'S organ in the Province of Quebec. That newspaper describes the *Globe's* intimation of an early dissolution of Parliament as a "grave error," and it warns Liberals that they need a thorough reorganization of their party, not only in Quebec, but throughout the Dominion, if they are to maintain their present ascendancy. "Are we Liberals," it asks, "quite sure that we are ready for the struggle, notwithstanding the excellence of our cause and the brilliant administration which our chiefs have given us? Have not our leaders kept themselves too aloof from their partisans during the last four years, and have they not in this way paralyzed some of their most devoted friends?" The *Soleil* would hardly speak in this tone if it were confident of victory. The article is reprinted in full by another French newspaper, the *Courrier du Canada*, as offering conclusive proof of discord and despondency in the Liberal ranks.

No Monopoly in Virtue.

The Democratic members of the House Judiciary Committee are saddened and even scandalized by the Republican Anti-Trust Constitutional amendment and Anti-Trust bill. They have put their hands to a minority report that glows with the lovely warmth of virtue against a remedy for Trusts which, they say, is prescribed by partisan and political considerations. They don't want a Republican remedy, however searching.

"Don't patronize the shop over the way," the Democrats yell to the country; "the only, real, genuine, Simon-pure, infallible Anti-Trust Specific and Rough on Octopuses is to be found in the Democratic establishment. May also be had at the branch Populist and Silver Republican stores. Do not be humbugged by imitations! Remember, ladies and gentlemen, that we keep the only sure cure. Works like a charm. Don't be deceived by fraudulent goods, but buy the great Democratic Anti-Trust Specific and Rough on Octopuses."

Poor souls! But what is to be done about it? You might as well try to copyright the air as to get a sole and individual interest in the Anti-Trust issue. Everybody is against Trusts.

I am against Trusts.	We are against Trusts.
Thou art against Trusts.	You are against Trusts.
He is against Trusts.	They are against Trusts.

And every politician and every political party oppose Trusts from the loftiest motives of public duty. All parties, big and little, are unalterably opposed to Trusts and regard them as a nuisance, a curse and a crime. So it would seem safe to stop yowling about Trusts and take up some disputed proposition, such, for example, as the initiative and referendum.

The Lack of Officers in the Army.

The importance attached by the War Department to the passage of the Army bill now before the House of Representatives, which increases by 100 the number of cadets at West Point, is indicated by the journey to West Point of the joint committee of the Senate and House. The members of this joint committee made the trip from Washington and spent all of Saturday last at "the Point," especially to see for themselves what would be needed in the way of immediate new accommodations, if the bill should become a law.

The condition of the Army, in the matter of commissioned officers, may be gathered by a study of the recent roster of the Fifth Cavalry, dated April 30, 1900. This regiment is stationed in Cuba, with a home squadron at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. The roster shows this state of affairs: The Colonel is in command of the regiment; the Lieutenant-Colonel is on sick leave; one Major commands the home squadron; the other two Majors are on detached service. Among the staff officers there is one vacancy; of the five carried on the roster, one is away. The list of line officers shows most clearly the way in which the commissioned strength has been depleted. Of eleven Captains (there should be twelve), five are with their troops; of twelve First Lieutenants, five are with their troops; of seven Second Lieutenants (there should be twelve), three are with their own troops and three are with other troops. The absent officers are serving with other organizations, many of them with higher rank in the so-called Volunteer regiments.

The graduating class at West Point cannot supply more than fifty-four Second Lieutenants toward filling the 130 vacancies in the grade. After the new graduates are commissioned twenty-six enlisted men may obtain commissions, and then there will be seventy-six vacancies which should be filled, and yet ought not to be filled by civilians. The only way to prevent the recurrence of this state of affairs is to increase the number of cadets at the United States Military Academy. It is in the highest degree important that the number should be increased, as the Army bill proposes.

The Rev. ELIJAH KELLOGG of Elm Island and Pleasant Cove and other delightful places dear to children was 87 years old the other day. Nearly sixty years ago he became minister of a church in Harpswell, Me., a good place to be young or old in. The heart warms at the mention of the Rev. ELIJAH KELLOGG. Flies and bumble bees buzz at the window of the schoolhouse. The sleepy day wakes up to hear some youngster proclaiming that ye call him chief and ye do well to call him chief.

How many times has the Address of SPARTACUS to the Gladiators been heard in great dingy city schoolhouses, in little red or white and green district schoolhouses, in log houses and rude sheds and on the platforms of town halls or high schools, on examination or exhibition days. It has been spouted in college and declaimed at huskings. And the boys rant and howl it now as their daddies used to do. You may chance to hear it pouring through the open windows of some schoolhouses as you pass. Possibly the smallest boy is addressing the gladiators. Nobody could play SPARTACUS without feeling gigantic.

It may be said that Mr. KELLOGG avenged the chief. The Romans laid him low but Mr. KELLOGG raised him up. One looks back fondly to the days when the remarks of SPARTACUS seemed not a piece of rhetoric, but as real as life and as thrilling as the circus. You were SPARTACUS. Your friends were assistant gladiators. That odious shock-headed boy in the back seat might make faces at you while you were talking to your gladiators. Him you would lick after school. Meanwhile let the gladiators gladiate. We have seen fights with stones between the Romans and the gladiators, a method of ancient military science too much neglected by archæologists.

Well, it will always be a day of triumph in Capua, and may the Rev. ELIJAH KELLOGG live a thousand years!

Assuming that its flood of billingsgate has subsided, we will again ask of the *Washington Post* a still unanswered question which circumstances make fair, beyond debate:

Were you a party to the garbling by Rear Admiral SCHLEY of the correspondence sent to him by Lieutenant-Commander HODGSON, to whom SCHLEY had appealed as a witness to disprove a certain statement in THE SUN? That is to say, when there was published in the *Post* on the morning of June 14, 1899, the letter from HODGSON to SCHLEY, did you know that there was in existence another letter showing that HODGSON gave to the one published a directly contradictory meaning to that which it apparently bore upon its face?

Upon the publication of that letter of June 14 the representative of THE SUN in Washington was instructed to ask Rear Admiral SCHLEY whether something had not been left out of it, whether something had not been left out of it, for, as it stood, it contradicted statements which THE SUN had reason to believe. SCHLEY replied that the letter had been received as printed, that it was printed intact—and nothing more.

This was fraud. HODGSON'S statement to Capt. CHADWICK showed that there was another letter of the kind we have described.

Now will the *Post* inform us whether it knew anything of the other letter at the time, and whether it was SCHLEY'S dupe, or his accomplice in the cheat?

This Hodgson correspondence is at the bottom of the Schley scandal, and all about it should be made clear.

Brig.-Gen. SCHWAN must be complimented for having contributed one of the most enlightening criticisms on the Philippine situation that has come from the archipelago. It is proper to say that it is one of the most hopeful. It will be found in another column of this morning's SUN.

The first of the VAN WYCK brothers to speak in the family defence in connection with the American Ice Company, a trust born in Bryanism, is his Honor the Mayor, ROBERT. And a very queer speech his is. The statement upon the same subject by the other brother, AUGUSTUS, should be more in the form usual in debate, and therefore, also, more in detail.

"For principles which we believe to be McKinleyism, we have nothing but abhorrence."—*Resolution adopted yesterday by the Gold Democrats of Indiana.*

Yet the first distinctive principle of McKinleyism is the gold standard—honest money. Wonderful is the perversity of discontented faction.

IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Lord Roberts having advanced his headquarters from Kroonstad to the south bank of the Rhenoster River, reports from there that the Boers who had occupied a position athwart the railway line beyond the Rhenoster had retired during the night, finding their flanks threatened by the mounted divisions under Gens. Hamilton and French. Lord Roberts speaks of the passage of the Rhenoster having been stubbornly contested, but does not say at which point, though from the part said to have been taken in the fighting by Gen. Smith-Dorrien's brigade, which belongs to Gen. Colville's division, it seems to have been in his own front. The resistance was probably made by the Boer rear guard to cover the retirement of the convoys and main body to the Vaal and beyond, as there are no positions where they can safely make a stand south of that river. The destruction of the bridge across the Rhenoster and other railway works in their rear will somewhat delay the British advance, and give the retreating Boers time to cross the Vaal and destroy the railway bridge at Viljoens Drift.

The situation is becoming interesting because of the determination to carry on the war to the end, arrived at in consequence of the refusal of the British Government to consider any proposals for a cessation of hostilities short of unconditional surrender. The Free State capital has been removed to Vrede, eighty miles east of Heilbron, and President Steyn is supposed to have gone there, though it is more probable that he is with one of the commands in the field. The reports of wholesale surrenders of Commandants with their men are not confirmed, but there appear to be a considerable number of submissions of individual burghers in the districts covered by the advance of the British army. Of the resolution of the Transvaalers to continue the fight there seems now no doubt, and it appears equally certain that if they find it necessary to do so in self-defence they will not hesitate to wreck the mines of the Rand that have brought them all their trouble. THE SUN correspondent at Johannesburg states on the authority of the Transvaal State Mining Engineer, Mr. Klimke, that the work of destruction can be accomplished in two days, but that both himself and President Kruger are opposed to such action. The question, however, has its military side, and that may prevail.

It is a little surprising to learn that rebellion in active form still exists in the British territory west of the Free State, but Gen. Warren is reported to have had a smart brush at Douglas in Griqualand West with a party of rebel Afrikanders, who, after their defeat, retired north. Sir Charles Warren is now on familiar ground, and where any reverses he may meet would not have the consequences that followed the affair of Spion Kop. The Boers are evidently still in possession of Laings Nek, but it is uncertain whether they will attempt to hold it against Gen. Buller in the event of his trying to force his way into the Transvaal by that route. It seems not unlikely that he is preparing a flanking movement to avoid the losses inevitable to a frontal attack of this formidable position.

PHILIPPINE POSTAL SERVICE.

Director Vaille Reports a Surplus of $21,968 at the End of the Last Quarter.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—In view of the charges made during the agitation over the Cuban service that the Philippine postal administration has been conducted irregularly also, the Post Office Department gives the following letter just received from Manila. It is dated April 14 and is signed by F. W. Vaille, Director of Posts:

"Mail for the States will be despatched by the transport Thomas to-morrow, April 15. Quarterly statements have not yet been received from all stations, so it is not possible for me to give you by this despatch a complete report of business during the last quarter. Receipts on account of sales of stamps (with four stations to be heard from), $27,612; on account of box rents and second-class matter, $855; total revenues, $28,467. The accounts for the quarter have not yet all been paid, but the expenses were considerably less than the receipts. Cash surplus on hand March 31, $21,221; cash credit at San Francisco office, $747; total cash, $21,968. All expenditures on account of salaries had been made before this count, and the only accounts outstanding are those for foreign service and for supplies from the States. With all expense paid there will remain a net profit of over $16,000 for the eleven months from May 1, 1899. This makes absolutely certain a continuance of service until June, 1900, without a deficit. Money order business has been reported to a total amount of $100,577."

A G. A. R. Candidate for Vice-President.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As an interested Republican allow me to ask: What is the matter with Col. A. D. Shaw, Commander of the G. A. R., for our next Vice-President? He is a public man of large experience, everybody's friend, North and South; one whose life work has been above reproach; an ideal candidate.

GEORGE M. MCCOMBS, M. D.

FRANKFORT, N. Y., May 22.

Mourning Dress in Philadelphia.

From the Philadelphia Record.

The most striking style in mourning dress for women, which is now frequently seen on Chestnut street, is a bright-colored shirt waist, with the mourning band around the left sleeve, and a black skirt. Dressmakers say the style among women is attaining wonderful approval, and in time the mourning veil and sombre clothes will be no more.

Easily Obtained.

From the Indianapolis Journal.

Dobbs—I'm hard worked just now; my typewriter girl is taking a vacation.

Dibbs—How did she get a vacation this time o' year?

Dobbs—Got it! Lots you know about typewriter girls! She said she wanted it.

THE TELEGRAPH IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The Government has issued a map, prepared under the direction of Gen. Greely, showing the progress made by the Signal Corps in erecting telegraph lines and laying cables in the Philippines. It is gratifying to see that the work is already far advanced. As planned thus far it contemplates the connection of Manila by wire with the most important points on all the larger islands between the north end of Luzon and the north coast of Mindanao, a north and south distance of about seven hundred and fifty miles. At least two-thirds of this work has already been accomplished. With the aid of the British cable to Cebu only about one hundred and sixty miles of land wires and cable are now required to place Manila in touch with north Mindanao.

The system has been chiefly developed in Luzon. Two lines of wires extend from Manila to the north coast, one of them skirting the west shore and the other passing northward through the rice fields of central Luzon and the rich tobacco district of the Rio Grande de Cagayan to the tobacco port of Aparri. Large use is made of cables to connect detached portions of the land system. In the fresh waters of Laguna de Bay, for example, three lines of cable connect with land lines at four points on the shores of the lake. Another cable between Cebu and Ormoc, on Leyte, has brought that large southern island into electric communication with Manila. A number of the cables already laid and several of the projected lines extend across deep indentations of the coasts, saving the detour around the shores and connecting with land lines at either end.

If it had not been for the British cables landing at Manila, Iloilo and Cebu, Spain would have had no electric communication between the capital and any part of the archipelago. The entire system of land lines, with the short cables that unite them, is the work of our Signal Corps, and these lines now in operation are probably over fifteen hundred miles in length. The plan is to run lines north and south through the main chain of islands with tranverse land lines and cables extending across the archipelago east and west and branches in all the islands connecting important points with the trunk lines. This work is now in progress, or completed, as the map shows, from the north end of Luzon to the shores nearest to Mindanao. Twenty short lines have been built between the central trunk line in Luzon and important towns east and west of it. Sections of the trunk lines are now in operation in most of the larger islands. Over one hundred and fifty miles of land wires are now in service in Panay, about one hundred miles in Negros, and fifty miles in Cebu, while the development of the system in Luzon is far toward completion.

The first purpose of these lines was, of course, to serve our military needs. A good deal of work remains to be done to make them of the largest permanent efficiency. But the fact remains that we are covering the archipelago with a network of telegraphs which will be a potent agency in its development.

REVOLUTION IN COLOMBIA.

A Strong Defence of the Government.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I read in your issue of April 19 a letter from Mr. Octavio Puyana relating to the revolution in Colombia, stating many things that are untrue.

In the first place, it is false to affirm that the revolution in Colombia is a war of independence, as there is no foreign rule over the country. Mr. San Climento, our respectable President, is a Colombian of high reputation, who has served in several administrations as Secretary of State, Senator and Representative in Congress, Governor of a Department and Judge of the Supreme Court; he was elected to office by an overwhelming majority.

In 1885 and later in 1895 the Radicals made a rising to overthrow the legitimate Government and get into power, and, although they brought some soldiers from Venezuela, they were defeated, and many of their chiefs ran away, carrying with them large sums of money collected for war purposes. It was undisguised ambition that led them to promote this wicked rebellion, when the republic was in a critical situation, on account of having paid the Italian claims, and notwithstanding the depression of our paper money, owing to the reduction of prices in coffee, one of our principal articles of exportation. It was ambition that made them solicit help from the neighboring republics and promote the invasion of our territory, for which they are convicted of the crime of high treason.

Mr. Puyana goes so far as to affirm that the Government of Colombia prohibited the publication of any news favorable to the American Army at the time of the Spanish-American War. That is also false, as can be attested by the American Minister at Bogota and by all the Consular Agents at the Colombian ports. At this very moment the expedition that has crossed the Isthmus to survey the route for the interoceanic canal has had all the protection required from the Government and people of Colombia. A simple glimpse at our map will show that the rebellion is reduced to one corner of the republic, where it is losing daily its mercenary soldiers, and where it will receive very soon its quietus.

It is very well for the rebels to buy mercenary soldiers from Venezuela, Equador and Nicaragua, but to try to embitter the good feelings of the Government and people of the United States against our Government is a felonious action.

The rebels of to-day are the companions of Prestan and Cocobolo, and they have in their ranks many of the same school that proclaim the same principles.

The burning of the bridges of the C. and M. Railway and the seizure of the steamboats belonging to the American company is a proof that the rebels have no respect for property.

Cucuta, the only city where they have their headquarters, is to-day a dreary desert, where famine, plague and misery reside.

The Government has 60,000 men, the largest army ever seen in South America.

At this very minute news comes of the defeat of the rebels in Santander.

ELADIO FERRER.

CARTAGENA, May 8.

Playground Wanted in 14th Assembly District.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* We know that there are playgrounds in the city where the children have a great deal of sport. As we have no playgrounds around our district we feel very lonesome. We love to play ball, but we have no place to play in. The nearest place to us is Thirty-fifth street and First avenue. Is there no chance for having one in the Fourteenth Assembly district?

COOPER SENIOR CLUB, 269 Avenue C.

NEW YORK, May 22.

J. D. Rockefeller Adds $5,000 to India Famine Fund.

A contribution of $5,000 from John D. Rockefeller was received yesterday by the Committee of One Hundred on India Famine Relief. Other contributions made the total for the day $6,946.31.

Charge of Alfred Austin.

(Written under the inspiration and in humble imitation of his great lyric on the relief of Mafeking.)

Waiting, with pen in hand,
For triumph of England
On South Africa's strand
Sat the laureate.
Foreinst a writing pad—
Desire frantic he had
To make Englishmen glad
With rhythmic treat.

Hark! 'tis the newsboys now
Blooming is the hir row:
"Heavy! Mafeking slef!" Enow
For the glad poet:
Dashed he to pad his pen
Charged prosody rules then,
As he did before often
Or I'm a go-at.

Charged he with broken metres and with uneven feet,
Accent stress misplaced, great
Pronouncations;
Fled prosody pell-mell,
Dactyl and spondee fell
While wrote Alfred like—well—
Startling the nations.

Lo! he is at it yet,
Seats trochees—*en effet*
Slaughtering—nor up he'll let—
Tired of it are you?
When shall he out be played?
His pen cruel be stayed?
Oh! the wild poem he made—
Wouldn't it jar you?

PATRICK J. TANSEY.

CHINESE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Minister Wu's Efforts to Have the Restrictions Removed.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The President to-day transmitted to the Senate communications from Secretary Hay relative to the status of the Chinese in the Philippine Islands, including notes from the Chinese Minister at Washington, setting forth reasons why in the opinion of his Government the Chinese Exclusion laws should not be applied in the Philippines. In the first of these notes, dated Feb. 3, 1899, shortly before the ratification of the Paris Treaty, Minister Wu inquires what policy the American Government intended to adopt toward Chinese immigration to the island. The Chinese population in the islands, he declared to be very large, engaged in every walk of life, and had intermarried with the Philippine races. Free immigration and unrestricted commerce had existed in the past, and Minister Wu asked, on behalf of his Government, that nothing be done to disturb those relations or abridge the rights and privileges so long enjoyed in the islands by the Chinese.

On Sept. 12 last Minister Wu, after receiving notice from the State Department that the Chinese Exclusion laws had been practically enforced by the military order of Gen. Otis for a year before the date, presents to Secretary Hay and through him to the President and Congress, the "most earnest and solemn protest of the Imperial Chinese Government against the existence and enforcement of the order as contrary to international law and comity, in violation of the spirit of existing treaties, and in utter disregard of the friendly relations which should exist between the two Governments."

Minister Wu on May 7 renews his efforts to have the restrictions as to laborers removed, and in a note to Secretary Hay says:

"It is the earnest wish and hope of my Government that this question be dealt with by the Government of the United States in a fair, fair and liberal spirit, having in view the continuance and enlargement of the existing friendly relations between the two countries. The Imperial Government feels that the reasons for the adoption of an exclusive policy by the United States respecting Chinese laborers do not hold good in the Philippines, but that, on the contrary, even from the testimony of many American and European travellers and observers, the presence of Chinese is indispensable to the proper development of those islands. I feel confident that if Congress be put in possession of all the information possible on the subject so as to enable it to consider the question in all its bearings, it will, in its unerring wisdom, enact such measures, when the proper time comes, as will be satisfactory to all concerned. With this object in view I beg to request that you will kindly transmit to the Congress copies of my notes to the Department on this subject."

ANTI-CANTEEN BILL.

House Committee on Military Affairs Orders a Favorable Report on It.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The House Committee on Military Affairs to-day ordered a favorable report upon the Bowersock Anti-Canteen bill. The vote was 9 to 3, as follows:

Ayes—Messrs. Marsh of Illinois, Ketcham of New York, Capron of Rhode Island, Dick of Ohio, Sulzer of New York, Lentz of Ohio, Hay of Virginia, Cooper of Illinois and Hull of Iowa.

Noes—Messrs. Parker of New Jersey, Stevens of Wisconsin and Slayden of Texas.

Messrs. Brownlow of Tennessee, Mondell of Wyoming, Esch of Wisconsin and Broussard of Louisiana did not vote.

A change was made in the wording of the bill so as not only to abolish the canteen, but to prevent the sale