The Sun.

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What the Great Registration Means.

The registration in this city and generally in the cities and towns of this State and throughout the Union, wherever normal political discussion and division continue to exist, indicates a degree of interest in the coming election which even exceeds that manifested in 1896.

Why is there this profound concern? Does it mean that the American people want silver substituted for gold as the standard, and BRYAN for MCKINLEY as President?

Why are commercial travellers exhibiting their order books filled with orders for goods made contingent on the defeat of BRYAN? Why is it that so many orders on file with manufacturers are marked "void if BRYAN is elected"?

The greatest registration of voters since that wise and effectual method of protecting the purity of the ballot box was adopted is distinguishing this national election because the American people are determined that the policies which have brought to them prosperity and to this country honor and glory shall not be set aside and reversed. They have qualified themselves or are about to qualify themselves to get rid of Bryanism finally, by recording a judgment against it so terrible that never again will any political party dare to proceed on the theory that "a panic is a small price to pay" for the gratification of its greed for power.

Chandler, of Course!

The proper solution of the Senatorial situation in New Hampshire is obvious to every disinterested observer outside of that State. The candidates are multitudinous and in many instances deserving of high political honor; but one of them, and only one, is entitled for the next six years to the seat now occupied by the Hon. WILLIAM E. CHANDLER.

That one is the Hon. WILLIAM E. CHANDLER himself.

Although this distinguished son of the Granite State was one of the founders of the Republican party, and his political experience runs back for nearly half a century, he is the youngest man of his age in public life to-day. His mind is as enterprising, and his independence as courageous, and his loyalty to cause or principle as firm as they were during the Administration of ARTHUR or the Administration of ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

There is a lot of public usefulness left in Senator CHANDLER. The Senate cannot spare him yet. The Republican party needs his services at the post which he now holds, and the Republicans of New Hampshire owe it to the rest of the country that he shall stay there.

Will Canada Have a "Cold Storage" System?

The Conservatives of the Dominion seem to have made up their minds that a substantial and attainable boon must be substituted for the illusory "trade preference" plank in their political platform. The Canadian farmers cannot be convinced that Great Britain will ever tax the food products of other countries for their benefit and the Canadian manufacturers do not want such a concession, because they foresee that they would have to pay a ruinous price for it by admitting British fabrics duty free. If, then, the agricultural interest is to be won over to the Conservative side, some promise must be made to it, for the fulfilment of which the prospective beneficiaries may look to Ottawa instead of London.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER has shown himself equal to the emergency. He proposes to use the public funds of the Dominion for the purpose of providing cold storage and effective transportation of perishable food staples, such as are produced in Canada and consumed in Great Britain. That is to say, in the matter of placing perishable commodities on the British market he offers on behalf of the Conservative party a promise to place Canada on an equal footing with New Zealand, Australia, the Argentine Republic and the United States. At present, the Dominion sends to England but a small fraction of the food supplies which are benefited by cold storage and quick transportation. This will be rendered clear by a glance at some statistics. In ten months of the last fiscal year Great Britain imported 385,116,368 pounds of butter, whereof Canada furnished only 27,479,200 pounds. Of bacon Great Britain imported from all the world 570,829,280 pounds, of which Canada contributed but 55,748,560 pounds. Of the vast quantity of eggs consumed in Great Britain Canada forwarded only about 4 per cent. Her contribution of fresh meats, poultry, vegetables and fruits was even more insignificant. Here, according to Sir CHARLES TUPPER, is a field in which the Canadian farmers might obtain great advantages at the hands of a Government that had their interests at heart. Why, he asks, should not Canadian fresh beef and mutton undersell the beef and mutton of New Zealand in the British market, and why should not Canadian poultry, butter and eggs undersell similar commodities imported into England from Denmark and Normandy? For what purpose, he adds, could the public funds of the Dominion be better expended than in improving the position of Canadian food producers in the markets of the United Kingdom?

There is no doubt that this proposal has been received with favor not only by the Conservative but by the independent press. For example, the *Hamilton Herald* says: "A few days ago the *Montreal Herald* said that the Tories had no constructive policy to put before the people in this campaign. That criticism has been weakened by the publication of Sir CHARLES TUPPER'S cold storage manifesto. A constructive policy is outlined in that manifesto. It is a good policy, too." The comment of the *Woodstock Express*, which is also independent, runs as follows: "The manifesto contains a declaration of a distinct constructive policy on a subject of very great importance to the people of the country." The *Ottawa Citizen* says: "Sir CHARLES TUPPER would place, as the latest and largest gift of his long and useful life of service for this nation, upon the statute books a policy which directly and deeply concerns the weal of every farmer in Canada. He would invoke the vast resources of the Dominion to serve the farmers, as he coöperated with Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD to foster the infant industries of the towns and cities of Canada." The *St. John Sun* says: "Sir CHARLES TUPPER points out that nothing of importance has been done by the present Government during its four years in office to improve the facilities for the quick and safe despatch of perishable products to the transatlantic markets. The late Conservative Government took up the question of transporting cold storage, but progress was stopped by a change of Ministry, for while Mr. FISHER has followed in some respects the programme of his predecessor, he has done little or nothing to carry the system forward to its logical conclusion. Sir CHARLES proposes that the work shall be taken up and carried on until the Canadian producer of perishable products is brought into quick connection with the English consumer. According to the *Moncton Times*: "The cold storage question is of vast moment to the people of Canada and has an important bearing upon the future relation of the Dominion to the British Empire."

The newspaper organs of the Liberal Government headed by Sir WILFRID LAURIER seem to be a little worried by this new move on the part of their opponents. Some of them try to meet it by the method known to lawyers as "confession and avoidance." They admit that cold storage transportation would be a good thing for the Canadian farmers, but they say that the Dominion Government has already gone as far as any Government should go to further commercial facilities which, as a rule, ought to be left in the hands of private persons. That is, of course, the view of such matters taken by the Manchester school of political economists, which school is now a little out of fashion. We proceed to quote the *Montreal Herald*, which is the journalistic mouthpiece of Mr. FISHER, the Dominion Minister of Agriculture: "Sir CHARLES speaks of a national cold storage and transportation system. If this means that private enterprise is to be *assisted* in providing a system of cold storage from producer to consumer, it means precisely what we have had in Canada since the summer of 1897. If, on the other hand, it means that the Government of Canada is itself to go into the cold storage business, and that is the only reasonable deduction, Sir CHARLES TUPPER is proposing something which business men are certain to condemn, and which would never be ratified by any Canadian Parliament."

To an onlooker it seems that the Conservative leader has at last hit upon a method of appealing to the farmers, but it is obvious that Sir WILFRID LAURIER can outbid him, if he chooses; for he can quickly perform what Sir CHARLES TUPPER merely promises to accomplish at a future day.

Amenities of Politics and Journalism in Colorado.

Something in the Colorado air stings the nerve centres. Politics in that State never get below a temperature of 104 in the shade. There is a fever of language there of which our good old friend, Governor DAVIS HECTOR WAITE, was in his time the most memorable sufferer. But other tongues wag wildly in that perilous atmosphere. Our esteemed contemporary, the *Denver Times*, has been amusing itself lately by digging up some pleasant words spoken last spring of the Hon. TOM PATTERSON, editor of the *Rocky Mountain News*, by his distinguished brother in Fusion, Governor CHARLES S. THOMAS.

Mr. PATTERSON is one of the boldest and most candid friends of silver in the West. Both he and Governor THOMAS are candidates for the United States Senate. Both are foes, in theory at least, of corporations. Neither lacks gall to make oppression bitter. They used to be partners and friends. A modus vivendi has been arranged between them, we believe, and we reprint some passages from Governor THOMAS'S letter to his ancient ally merely for the purpose of showing the effect of the Colorado air and incidentally of throwing a candlelight upon the burlesque war against corporations in which so many Democrats and Populists in and out of Colorado have enlisted.

It is easy to separate the personal from the general in Governor THOMAS'S letter and to see what is due to the rarified air of Colorado and what expresses the common fact as to corporation baiters:

"A mendacity unusual even to you."

"No greater amount of falsehood was ever compressed in a single paragraph."

"I have no paper in which I may defend myself, attack my enemies, sustain my friends, herd clients into my law office, or increase the sum of my revenues."

"You love to temper the wind to the shorn lamb on the easy condition that you can do the shearing. With you, enmity to corporate designs is a pursuit that seems to be profitable."

"Several months ago my attention was called to the organization of a foreign concern whose object was the consolidation of both railways at Cripple Creek, including a mercantile company, reduction company and electric power company. Its prospectus demonstrated its purpose to evade the Constitution of the State, and I instructed the Attorney-General to prevent its consummation if possible. He made the attempt, but you, Mr. PATTERSON, you, the arch enemy of corporations and all their creatures, went down to Colorado Springs and convinced the Court with your eloquence and learning that there was no monopoly, no evasion of our organic act, no wrong to the public so long as the foreign company owned all the stock of the several subordinate companies without the ceremony of their formal transfer."

Which is exactly what we should expect an arch enemy of corporations to do. If Mr. PATTERSON'S course has been as described by Governor THOMAS, it has been normal and could have been predicted.

The arch enemy of corporations was grieved at Governor THOMAS'S relations with them. "Blinded by ambition for a seat in the Senate of the United States," wrote the Hon. TOM PATTERSON of Governor THOMAS, "he threw himself into the service of the great corporations, which in turn promised him their support in electing this fall a Legislature that would choose him as the successor of E. O. WOLCOTT." Whereupon Governor THOMAS writhed in anguish. To be called friend of corporations is the most serious charge that can be made against a Bryanite. So the Governor solemnly hurled back this charge:

"IT IS UNTRUE, and everybody knows it to be untrue. I deliberately affirm that I know of no corporation, public or private, that is committed to my political fortunes, that I have never solicited the support of one, that no one has ever done me the honor to offer it, and that no official act of mine has been influenced by one. I have endeavored to treat them fairly as my oath of office requires, and I have as far as possible enforced all legal obligations upon them. If I possess any political friendships among corporate interests or among individuals, I trust it is due to an earnest effort to rightly discharge my duties. Whatever the future may have in store for me or mine, I can look all men in the face and aver with truth that the cruel charge is wholly false."

In short, both Mr. PATTERSON and Mr. THOMAS are arch enemies of the corporations so far as their candidacy for the Senate is concerned. They can't help it if corporations are friendly to them.

For the sake of marking the progress of the fine arts in Colorado we wish we had space to copy the *Denver Republican's* sketch of Governor THOMAS tattooing the arch enemy with such indigo legends as "Liar!," "Political Turncoat!," "Corporation Attorney and Booster!," "Demagogue!," "Manipulator!," "Pretender!," and so on. The arch enemy should have been represented as tattooing the Governor at the same time with similar compliments.

Amid these amenities of politics and journalism in Colorado we should not forget the great lesson that while a Bryanite has no objection to making money out of them.

The First Thirty.

The outcome of the sifting process undertaken by Chancellor MACCRACKEN'S ninety-seven judges of Fame is on the whole satisfactory. The list of thirty names finally chosen for inscription in the temple of American worthies is not very far from that which most intelligent Americans would draw up according to their individual judgment, keeping in mind the need of representing the various departments of eminence.

For convenience we reprint the thirty names, in the order of precedence according to the number of votes received:

GEORGE WASHINGTON,	GEORGE PEABODY,
ABRAHAM LINCOLN,	NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE,
DANIEL WEBSTER,	ROBERT E. LEE,
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,	PETER COOPER,
ULYSSES S. GRANT,	HORACE MANN,
JOHN MARSHALL,	ELI WHITNEY,
THOMAS JEFFERSON,	HENRY WARD BEECHER,
RALPH WALDO EMERSON,	JAMES KENT,
HENRY W. LONGFELLOW,	JOSEPH STORY,
ROBERT FULTON,	JOHN ADAMS,
WASHINGTON IRVING,	WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING,
JONATHAN EDWARDS,	JOHN J. AUDUBON,
SAMUEL F. B. MORSE,	ELIAS HOWE,
DAVID G. FARRAGUT,	GILBERT STUART,
HENRY CLAY.	ASA GRAY.

The conditions of the election, of course, were such as leave room for inevitable differences of opinion concerning the comparative excellence of some of these names. Whether HORACE MANN or GEORGE PEABODY are more illustrious figures in American history than JAMES MONROE and ANDREW JACKSON, whether PETER COOPER deserves a place in company to which JAMES FENIMORE COOPER is not yet admitted, whether HENRY WARD BEECHER'S fame transcends that of JOHN C. CALHOUN or WILLIAM H. SEWARD, it is not necessary to consider. There is no known formula for an exact quantitative analysis of permanent reputation, individual ideas differ as to the qualities that make true greatness, and the list is not yet complete.

The one conspicuous omission that will strike every mind is that of the name of ALEXANDER HAMILTON, whose place by universal consent is high among the elect of American history. No list of ten, or even of five of the men who have left the deepest impression on the character of our institutions and the record of our civilization is truly representative unless it includes HAMILTON. The fact that his name does not appear is due to the technical construction of a rule of limitation which treats him as not a native American because he was born in the island of Nevis in the West Indies. Yet HAMILTON, under the strict provisions of the United States Constitution respecting the qualifications for President, was as eligible to that office as GEORGE WASHINGTON himself.

We do not regard as particularly happy the decision of the New York University Senate to establish a sort of annex to the Hall of Fame for the accommodation of HAMILTON and twenty-nine other "foreign-born Americans" who are excluded from the main structure by the present rules of selection. In the first place, HAMILTON'S niche or panel should be beside WASHINGTON'S and JEFFERSON'S. In the second place, the standards of rating for the "foreign-born" candidates must necessarily differ from those adopted in the case of the others, if an arbitrary number of places is fixed for Americans who did not happen to be born on this continent. In the third place, we are not aware that any really good reason for the discrimination and segregation exists.

Nevertheless, the Hall of Fame is interesting the people greatly, and we congratulate the custodians of the temple upon the general worthiness of their first batch of immortals.

New York's Stock Companies.

The theatrical season in this city has opened with a larger number of theatres offering amusement to the public than ever before. Many of these playhouses will be managed on the "combination" plan, which provides a succession of plays and players at each house. Having played their parts the required number of times, the players pass on to their next stopping place to entertain other audiences. In a number of theatres in this city, however, stock companies are established, working more or less on the system of the "palmy days" of the drama, and giving plays in a better manner than was the custom in those earlier times.

At our principal German theatre is a stock company working strictly on the "old lines." The company at the Irving Place plays modern dramas and classical pieces, comic operas, and *Possen mit Gesang*, and when a German star comes *als Gast*, the company supports him, just as if it had been hired especially so to do.

This is the old idea of a stock company. In the palmy days, companies such as this were at all the theatres in Europe, Great Britain and this country; in those days the great actors, not then called stars, travelled alone, and relied on the local company to provide the cast for their plays. So GARRICK travelled about England and Ireland; Mrs. SIDDONS made her famous success in Edinburgh with the aid of the local company; MACREADY'S first visit here was made alone, and on his second visit he brought merely one actor, Mr. RYDER, to play the "opposite parts." But the performances of the stock companies of those days would not suit us to-day. They were good in their way, but valuable chiefly for the training they gave to the actors, and, it may be questioned, though it smacks of theatrical heresy to do so, if the advantage to the actor ought to outweigh the disadvantages to the audience.

Besides the German company, there are in this city two other stock companies managed somewhat on the same plan, those at the Murray Hill and at the American Theatre. The former has just opened its third season, the latter is a beginner. These companies produce a different, and, generally, an old, play each week, the members of the company playing many parts as the season continues. Stars do not visit these companies, so that they are not the same as the German company. Perhaps the last English-speaking stock company here was at the Fifth Avenue Theatre when it was managed by DANIEL HARKINS, about twenty years ago. BOOTH played with the local company then, and MODJESKA; and MARY ANDERSON'S first performances in this city were given with a local company in the old manner. At the Murray Hill and the American theatres, the actors get the training that the "lovers of the legitimate" say was the strongest element in the old stock system; and as several of the original members of the company at the former theatre have obtained better positions in other companies, it seems that the training has stood them in good stead.

At some other theatres there are so-called stock companies, which in almost nothing resemble the stock companies of the old days. These companies take their names from certain theatres, and generally begin their seasons at those playhouses. But there is little or no rotation of plays among them; each actor is chosen to play one especial part, and keeps it through the season, either at the "home theatre" or "on the road." If a new play is put on the "home" stage, the company may find itself sent out as a travelling company; or it may be altered out of recognition with new people enlisted for new parts; yet still it is called the "stock company" of the theatre which gives its name to it. Evidently "stock company," instead of being a name of no account, is a name to conjure with just now.

The theatrical system to-day is as good as ever it was. In JEREMY TAYLOR'S time the same complaints of theatrical degeneracy were made as are made to-day. JOHN KEMBLE is said to have been driven off the stage by the horses and the elephants in "The Cataract of the Ganges." There have been changes; but all changes are not necessarily bad. Plays are as they ever have been—no better, no worse. There were good plays before SHAKESPEARE, though we may not care to see them now; and there were bad plays before Paris began to send its Palais Royal farces to our Théâtre Français stage. And the players are as the plays; we may not have the great individual actors now that once we had; but the companies are better.

The great actors came up from the ranks of the companies—of the old-fashioned stock companies. Perhaps the modern revival of the stock system, even in its modified form, may offer chances for future great actors.

Will Buddhism Revive.

Is there any likelihood that the twentieth century will witness a revival of Buddhism? Has it force enough, has it any force, to stand up against the altered conditions of the world? That is the interesting question which is discussed in the *North American Review* by Prof. T. W. RHYS DAVIDS of University College, London, the highest English authority upon Pali and Buddhist literature.

It seems that the influence of Christian propagandists on the one hand and of European and American scholars on the other has impelled Buddhists to examine the grounds of their belief, and with that end in view to study more carefully their ancient literature. The result is that throughout the Buddhist world, with the exception of Thibet, China proper and Mongolia, may be seen an enthusiastic reawakening for education, both primary and secondary, conducted upon Buddhist lines. Books are printed and circulated; schools for both sexes have been founded; even high schools and colleges have been established; and the sacred writings, no longer left in the hands of student recluses, are attaining a wide circulation. The extent and importance of the movement will be appreciated if we follow Prof. DAVIDS in his review of the various Buddhist countries which offer indications of revival.

Let us begin with India, where, until recently, Buddhism seemed to have become almost extinct, even in the very land of its birth. Now, however, an organization has been set on foot in Calcutta for the propagation of Buddhist opinion. This association was started by Ceylon Buddhists, and is presided over by Mr. DHARMAPALA, a Ceylonese well known in Europe and the United States. It has received the adhesion and support of influential natives of India, some of whom contribute articles to its journal, while others have gone to Ceylon to study Buddhism there. A principal object of the society, namely, to obtain possession of the ancient temple erected on the spot where the BUDDHA obtained Nirvana, has not as yet been successful. We are assured however, that the organization is full of vitality and aspiration, and it seems to Prof. DAVIDS by no means improbable that it will succeed in spreading to a considerable extent once more in India the faith of the greatest teacher and thinker that India has produced. In Ceylon the Buddhists, not without help from American sympathizers, have started new schools, both for boys and girls, and have inaugurated colleges for the higher education of the Buddhist clergy. More than one of these colleges, notably that in Colombo, have produced scholars and propagandists who are fully alive to the necessities of the times. There is in Ceylon a newspaper called *The Buddhist*, which is printed in English, and also a native journal written in Singalese, which is extensively read.

In Japan, split up as Buddhism is into many sects, the very difference of opinion has led to one sect vying with the other in propagandist education. Several of them have sent students to Europe for the express purpose of learning Pali and Sanskrit; some of these, especially Mr. FUJISHIMA, Mr. BUNYU NANJIO and Mr. TAKAKUSU, have by their published works added not only to native but to European knowledge. A periodical called the *Orient* gives expression in English to the general Buddhist view of things, and publishes English versions of the texts held in most repute. In view of the vigorous attempt made by the military caste to reëstablish the traditional Shinto faith since the adoption of Western civilization in Japan, the zeal and activity now displayed by Buddhists in that country are remarkable. In Siam the Buddhist revival has the earnest support of the ruling family. The Buddhist scholars of that Kingdom, where scholarship has never died out, have brought out at the expense of the Sovereign and under the superintendence of his brother a nearly complete edition of their ancient sacred books, and are beginning to produce an edition of the numerous commentaries, all in Pali but printed in the ordinary Siamese characters. In Burma the Buddhists feel less than elsewhere the pressure of opposing forces. Yet even here the press is issuing an increasing number of Buddhist texts, old and new.

Finally, Prof. DAVIDS directs attention to the quiet but noticeable way in which Buddhism is making its influence felt, quite apart from any religious propaganda, in the thought of the West. We are reminded of the declaration made by SCHOPENHAUER, who at present has probably more followers in Germany than any other philosopher: "If I were to take the results of my own philosophy as the standard of truth, I should be obliged to concede to Buddhism the preeminence over the rest. In any case it must be a satisfaction to me to find my teaching in such agreement with the religion professed by the majority of men."

Prof. DAVIDS, indeed, does not deem it likely that either in Europe or the United States any considerable number of people will ever range themselves openly on the side of Buddhism as a profession of faith. He regards it, however, as undeniable that there are certain points in the Buddhist view of life that are likely to influence with increasing intensity the conceptions of life, philosophy and ethics current in the West. The Buddhist system of self-training in ethical culture has, also, certain features which the practical Western mind is not likely to ignore, when they are known. Only when the texts have been properly edited, fully translated and so summarized as to be made accessible to every one interested in questions of philosophy and ethics will the full power of such truth as there is in Buddhism be felt.

For First Voters.

Let the new voter who inclines Bryanward, ask the oldest voter if Americans have ever known a Presidential campaign like this:

One element of the Democratic party, the Bryanized Gold Democrats, are arguing first of all that BRYAN, if elected, will be unable to carry out his platform on free silver. Another group of Democrats, mostly Southerners, and many of them among the party's most distinguished members hold anti-imperialism in contempt and deny BRYAN'S ability to defeat expansion. The mass of the Democracy are saying that the party's paramount purpose is to disestablish the American sovereignty in the East which their candidate was influential in establishing.

The people who would intrust their Government to such a combination of discordance, delusion and vacillation not unmixed with insincerity would be stupider than a merchant who turned over his business to a committee that disagreed on every important business idea.

The situation ought to produce among the McKinley and Bryan first voters a ratio of 100 to 1.

The Hon. DAVID BENNETT HILL poured out his choicest Bryanite talk at New Haven Thursday night, and so entranced his audience that only "more than one quarter left before he had finished." Another glorious laurel for the man who used to boast "I am a Democrat" and who is now entitled to say "I am a Populist, subject to the approval of the Hon. RICHARD CROKER."

From time to time that ingenuous Missouri statesman whom all know as GUM SHOE BILL folds his rainbow umbrella and steals away from New York to make a speech against imperialism and squeeze his tear ducts over the downtrodden Tagals.

The *Kansas City Star* recalls a speech made by this same Missourian at Auxvase, in his own State, Aug. 26, 1899. Here is a passage in it which he must have forgotten:

"However much the war is to be deprecated, we must so end it as to leave our prestige unimpaired. It would be most unfortunate for us and greatly lessen our influence with the Asiatic nations to end the war in such a way as to leave the impression that we were worsted, or that whatever concessions were made were extorted by force of arms. Unless the Filipinos are whipped into submission it will require a high order of diplomacy to end the war to our advantage."

The United States have been whipping the Filipinos into submission. GUM SHOE BILL and the rest of the Bryanites now shudder at the thought.

Anti-imperialists who have only put on the anti at the command of the Paramount should have long memories. There are other paramount issues which they can discuss to better advantage.

The insult which Col. BRYAN had to endure at Otsego, Mich., has not been punished. Just as the train was leaving that town a young man, "dressed in a regular army uniform and described as a Rough Rider," stepped forward and gave the Colonel a tall hat to take the place of that hat blown off his head by the Hon. PITHECANTHROPUS PETIGREW in South Dakota. Col. BRYAN is not the man to take a gift from a satrap or minion of imperialism and militarism. He will never wear that hat. So to do would be to put the hat above the man.

While the sentence pronounced on Friday upon nineteen-year-old JOHN GARRABRANDT in the Jersey City Court of Over and Terminer closes the case of a dangerous young criminal, one question concerning the affair still remains unsolved. During the trial GARRABRANDT'S mother asserted that her son had the cigarette habit and frequently smoked as many as ten packages daily; and it was alleged that excessive cigarette smoking helped to benumb the boy's intellect to the extent of rendering him irresponsible for his act. In imposing a sentence of thirty years at hard labor in the State Prison, the maximum penalty for murder in the second degree, Justice COLLINS said:

"It does not seem to the Court that you are insane, but rather you had a blunted moral sense. While you knew what you did was wrong, that fact seemed to have no deterrent force upon you. You could have refrained from that act, but you did not, and you are responsible for that act."

"Had GARRABRANDT'S confession that he committed murder for the purpose of robbery been accepted in its full extent," observed the Justice, "the verdict could have been properly murder in the first degree."

Precisely what part, however, was played by cigarettes in "blunting the moral sense" of the criminal and in saving him from the gallows was not made clear. Nevertheless, it is gratifying to know that, in this instance, a decree of punishment richly deserved was not withheld on account of the convenient and too common cry of "cigarette insanity."

In Praise of the Squirrel Inn.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I noticed with mingled surprise and disgust the letter you published last Sunday as well as the letter signed "P. Zeph," published yesterday, wherein the writers score the Squirrel Inn restaurant on the Bowery.

In justice to that worthy institution permit me to say a few words in its behalf. I went in there recently to try one of their dinners, and for 15 cents I received a most excellent, well cooked meal, sufficient to appease an ordinary appetite. I have no occasion to eat in restaurants, but for those who have the Squirrel Inn is a blessing.

One writer says the place was empty at noontime. He must be suffering from extreme near-sightedness or his watch was several hours slow. As a matter of fact, several of my employees who eat there requested me to let them off for lunch at 12:30 instead of noon, as they were unable to obtain seats owing to the crowd.

It's a pity that so excellent an institution should be the object of attacks by those who cannot appreciate its worthiness.

In addition to the excellence of their low-priced meals there is conducted on the upper floor a free public reading room, stocked with hundreds of volumes of books and all the current literature of the day, which is well patronized by workingmen who enjoy several hours' reading and smoking in a well-lit, clean and comfortable room. Besides this they have introduced free lectures by prominent people and free dramatic musical entertainments furnished by the Church Actors' Alliance. LUDWIG BLUMBERG.

246 GRAND STREET, New York, Oct. 12.

POLITICAL CALENDAR, 1900.

Election Day, **Tuesday, Nov. 6.** Polls open 6 A. M.; polls close 5 P. M.

Remaining registration days in cities of the first class of the State of New York (New York, Brooklyn and Buffalo):

Friday, Oct. 19, 7 A. M. to 10 P. M.

Saturday, Oct. 20, 7 A. M. to 10 P. M.

Registration days in cities and villages of 5,000 or more inhabitants, elsewhere than in cities of the first class, are held on the same days as in these cities, from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M.

The remaining registration day in election districts other than in cities or villages of 5,000 inhabitants is:

Saturday, Oct. 20, from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.

THE NEW SHAMROCK.

Hope That Her Model Will Be Something New, or Not Herreshoffian.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Sir Thomas Lipton is a good fellow, and his challenge for the America's Cup is heartily welcomed in this country. But, just for the sake of a little variety, not to spoil the interest in the advancement of designs, it is to be hoped that Shamrock II. will not be a copy, a plagiarism, of the works of Herreshoff. In spite of all its triumphs, yachtsmen refuse to acknowledge that that model has reached the end of all the lines. It is time to consult with some fellow like Thorneycroft to give him or somebody else a chance.

Fife and Watson have already been tried and found wanting. The latter's most remarkable experiments, Valkyrie III. and Shamrock, were simply coarse copies of Herreshoff's productions. But, by the barnacles! is there no longer a chance for competition in yacht designing in this country? Has Herreshoff monopolized bows, mid-ship sections, sterns, fins, keels and all the lead in the world? Is he a broad-reach trust all by himself, and so close-fisted a wind-hugger that nobody can make anything out of him? Who can tell?

However, he and Tod may roll, if the latter should be the designer of the British challenger, ought to be well able to give us something entirely new, and possibly to break all records. And, by the way, there are some old records that have not been beaten by the new creations of the past few years, notably that of the schooner Montauk over the New York Yacht Club course, not to mention the rate of speed of the old schooners Sappho and Enchantress. Everybody knows, of course, that in windward work the type to which they belonged is a back number, but it is somewhat puzzling to think that the giant sloops, although they can climb into the wind in a marvellous manner, can't go one whit faster through the water than the old-timers.

There is perhaps still room for improvement.

STATEN ISLAND, Oct. 12. RICHMOND.

Sailor Songs.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In the article on "Work Songs of Sailors" in THE SUN of Sept. 30, I noted marked differences in the songs as given by the *Transcript*, and as I heard them during the time I served before the mast in deep-water ships in the early '80s. It may comfort E. S. G., whose letter, published yesterday, sounds a note of regret that the old versions have been relegated to a place in the forgotten past, to hear that as late as 1884 I heard chanties sung as my father heard them thirty years before me.

The *Boston Transcript* fails to give one of the most popular topsail halyard chanties:

BLOW THE MAN DOWN.

I'm a flying fish sailor just home from Hong Kong
Chorus—To me way hey blow the man down,
The wages was good, and the passage was long,
Chorus—Give him some time to blow the man down.

* * * * * * *

Leave Her Johnny, Leave Her, as the writer heard it ran:

A hard old ship is the William Grace,
Chorus—Leave her, Johnny, leave her,
And the skipper was a hard old ease,
Chorus—And it's time for us to leave her.

and so on through each stanza, expressing a forecastle opinion of the after guard.

The old cotton ship days gave us a chanty of probably negro origin, which sounded like a dirge, so low were the notes and so long the meter:

I'd sail away for Mobile Bay,
Chorus—Lowlands, lowlands, away my John,
Five dollars a day is white man's pay,
Chorus—Five dollars and a half a day.

* * * * * * *

O Tommy's gone, what shall I do?
Chorus—Tommy's gone to Highlow,
Tommy's gone and I'll go too,
Chorus—Come young girls can you highlow,

is another with marks of age.

* * * * * * *

Here is one of the Black Ball era:

One day as I was walking down the Black Ball dock,
An old man there I chanced to spy, and it was old Tapscott.
Chorus—Then away, you santies, my dear honey,
O you sailor man, I love you for your money.

* * * * * * *

You Shenando' I long to hear you,
Chorus—Hurrah you rolling river,
You Shenando' I long to hear you,
Chorus—And I'm bound away on the wild Missouri.

is a deep water chanty that must have been passed on by raft crews to a lumber craft. These are not all the chanties I heard during my days at sea. Doubtless I have forgotten some, but the ones I have set down above will probably serve their purpose of showing E. S. G. that the old songs have been handed down fairly intact up to 1884, and let us hope to date.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 8. D. H.

Real Optimism.

I am an Optimist
With a Mg O.
And I go
Up and down the earth in gladness,
Not in sadness.
When sickness
Takes a whack
At the world
And lays it on its back,
I rejoice among men,
For I am a Doctor then.
When wars
Tear lands asunder,
And cannon
Thunder,
I rejoice among men,
For I am a Soldier then.
When litigation
And legal fees
Wreck fortunes
And rend families,
I rejoice among men,
For I am a Lawyer then.
When poets die
And their last sigh
Is wafted to the sky,
I rejoice among men,
For I am an Editor then.
When wives and husbands
Disagree,
And husbands
Have to climb a tree,
I rejoice among men,
For I am a Bachelor then.
When the Nation
Is running down,
And all the people
In city and town
And country are fearfully
Waiting for
Some dire disaster,
Panic or war,
I rejoice among men,
For I'm "agin the Administration" then.
When candidates
Behold the wreck
Of their own selves and party,
And get it in the neck,
I rejoice among men,
For I am a Woman then.
When everything
Goes wrong
And the grand, sweet song
Of living is out of tune,
And June
Is full of frost,
And hope seems lost,
I rejoice among men,
For I am a Pessimist then.
And thus and so on
Through the list
Of good that makes
The Optimist.
Oh, Optimism
When taken right
Is out of sight;
For whatever is
Is right; and I
Can make good of it,
If I'll only try.

W. J. L.

THE SHORTAGE OF LINE OFFICERS.

The Means by Which It Might Be Obviated Without Affecting the Army's Work.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Gen. Brooke, in his report on the Department of the East, comments upon the shortage of officers. Your résumé of the report this morning says: "Too many batteries and companies have only one officer present for duty; and at many posts where detachments are stationed there is no officer in command."

This state of affairs is due to the great amount of work which our officers have to do, not only now, in time of war, but always, and to the small number of officers we have. The law limits the number of officers: so many in the staff departments, so many to each regiment. But the law does not limit the amount of work to be done.

To my mind, the conditions described by Gen. Brooke could be avoided by an adaptation of the British custom of "seconding" an officer on permanent detached service. That is, by carrying the detached officer on the roster of his regiment for promotion and pay, but giving to the regiment an officer in his place. The promotion of the officer thus seconded goes on as if he was still with the regiment; it may result in his having to go on the "unattached supernumerary list" until a vacancy in his new rank occurs; or it may bring him back to his regiment, when his second goes on that list.

Such an arrangement in our army would do away with the extra Second Lieutenants hitherto usual in the engineers and artillery; it would provide officers for all kinds of detached service—staff duty, to general officers, college duty (now, however, done by retired officers wholly) and all other kinds. It would cost a little more than we pay now, but it would provide officers for troops, and officers should be with troops. It would save in the long run.

One of the most remarkable examples of absent officers is Major Richard H. Pratt, technically senior Major of the Tenth Cavalry. Major Pratt has been in charge of the Indian school at Carlisle, Pa., for, I think, seventeen years, and during all that time has been carried on the rolls of his regiment as "absent, detached service!" He has drawn pay on his regimental roll, and been promoted in the same way; and at Carlisle perhaps has done better work than he could have done with his squadron. Yet all the time his regiment has been deprived of his services, and a Captain has been in command of his squadron. With the seconding system Major Pratt would have got his promotion, and his pay, but another Major would have been with the Tenth Cavalry, and that regiment would not have had to get along for seven ten years with a Captain as Major, nor would a Captain have had to do a Major's work on a Captain's pay!

It would be easy to ascertain the average number of regimental officers absent from their regiments for say six months and more; and with this knowledge, to provide by law for about as many more officers, to be apportioned among the ranks. The newcomers would start as Second Lieutenants and be extra officers of the higher grades, would be promoted from the next lower grades. The 100 new cadets authorized by Congress will provide the necessary new officers, or a part of them, but without the seconding system, or something similar, the result to the army will not be wholly advantageous. There will be more officers, but there will be as many absentees, and as many junior officers doing the work of seniors.

I do not pretend to suggest the details of any plan for seconding officers; I hope that the future army reorganization bill may include some provision by which the regiments may have the proper number of officers and the necessary number of officers may be able to serve on detached service. R. B.

NEW YORK, Oct. 13.

There Was a Man in the House.

From the London Tit-Bits.

The other evening as a muscular person was passing a house a lady, who stood at the gate, called out to him: "Sir, I appeal to you for protection."

"What is the matter?" he asked, as he stopped short.

"There's a man in the house, and he wont go out of doors, though I have ordered him to."

"He wont, eh? We'll see about that." Thereupon the man gave the woman his coat to hold and sailed into the house. He found a man at the supper table and took him by the neck and remarked: "New style of lady, you are, eh? Come out of this, or I'll break every bone in your body!"

The man fought, and it was not until a chair had been broken and the table upset that he was hauled out of doors by the legs and given a fling through the gates.

"Now, then, you brass-faced old tramp, you move on, or I'll finish you!"

"Tramp! Tramp!" shouted the victim as he got up. "I'm no tramp. I own this property and live in the house!"

"You do?"

"Yes, that's my wife holding your coat."

"Thunder!" whispered the muscular man as he gazed from one to the other and realized that it was the wife's method of finishing a row she had been having with her husband. And then he made a grab for his coat and disappeared into the darkness.

How Lincoln Matched Backbones.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Reading a story of Lincoln in THE SUN I am prompted to add one which I do not believe has been preserved in print. I have it from hearsay, but I have no doubt of its truth.

In 1861, when Mr. Lincoln was on his way to Washington to be inaugurated as President, his train stopped at Rochester, Pa., a station on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad. Mr. Lincoln alighted from the car to stretch his long limbs by walking on the station platform. His identity became known to the townspeople assembled there and a friendly conversation with him ensued.

In reply to a reference to the threatening political outlook, he said: "Oh, no one has been hurt yet."

Seeing a tall man in the crowd, Mr. Lincoln remarked that he and the man were of about the same height and proposed that they measure. They took off their hats and stood together, back to back, while some one placed a hand above their heads and found Mr. Lincoln to be slightly the taller. J. DONAGHY.

NEW YORK, Oct. 10.

Honest as Well as Free.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It occurs to me that, inasmuch as