

The Sun

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The New Star.

On Wednesday's birthday a telegram was received in America announcing that Dr. F. D. Anagnostis, a born-eyed amateur astronomer of Edinburgh, had seen a new star in the constellation Perseus.

About a week in the evening the two Auriga stars are near the zenith and the new star lower down toward the west, and it is still easily to be seen from the roofs of most houses at 10 or 11 o'clock, its brightness making it conspicuous.

When it was first discovered on Feb. 21, it was more than fifty times fainter than now. A hasty examination of the invaluable series of stellar photographs stored at the Harvard College observatory shows that on Feb. 19 and earlier dates the star was at least nine thousand times less brilliant.

Consider what these bold facts signify. Every star is a sun, like our own sun. There is no reason to doubt that some, at least, of the hundred million stars shown in our large telescopes are accompanied by planets, our own star—the sun—has eight. If they exist—and who shall say that they do not?—all sorts of conditions prevail on their surfaces.

Some of them are worn out like our moon. No air and no water are to be found there. They are worn out, just as volcanic pumice is worn out. Some, like the planet Jupiter of our system, are like the burning volcanic lakes of Hawaii. Among the hundreds of thousands whose surfaces are now supporting life—plant life, animal life, human life perhaps.

Should the foreign forces retain possession of Pekin until the indemnities have not only been agreed upon, but actually paid? No such onerous conditions were imposed by Japan at the close of her triumphant State Department is understood to be of the opinion that a continued occupation of the Chinese capital is not indispensable to the successful conduct of the negotiations relating to indemnity.

The committee of Senators appointed to prepare a scheme of our relations with Cuba, including the Democrat, MONKEY, of Mississippi, and the Populist, TRILBY, of Colorado, have agreed upon one embodying, we believe, every proposition favored by the President.

Cuba is asked to give to the United States the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence. The Isle of Pines is to be omitted from the island's proposed constitutional boundaries. And the United States may acquire, by purchase or lease, three coaling stations.

The explanation of President Jordan of the Stanford University in reply is that "Prof. Ross was dismissed because, in the judgment of the university authorities, he was not a proper man for the place he held" and it is sufficient.

In the interior shall be liquidated in a lump sum at the port of entry. Assuming that this proposal will be accepted as the most practicable, we must still recognize that a question of some difficulty would arise as to the revenue thus obtained would have to be reserved for local purposes, and what part could be set aside for the interest and sinking fund of a new foreign debt.

Let us take for granted that the allied Powers will receive good faith, self-denial and good sense by refusing from exacting indemnities which, in the aggregate, shall exceed China's ability to pay. Would it be practicable for China to borrow in Europe or the United States a lump sum equivalent to three hundred millions of dollars? Even should a readjustment of her customs duties and inland transit dues seem to render it possible on paper to provide the interest and a sinking fund for a loan of that amount, would European or American bankers be disposed to lend the money?

Manœuvre, a prospective borrower must possess not only the ability but the willingness to pay. Who can say that the Chinese authorities after the withdrawal of the foreign troops, and after the rehabilitation of her own military strength, which seems likely to take place, will go on year after year applying revenues hitherto accounted indispensable for local or imperial purposes, to the service of the interest and the sinking fund incident to a new loan? Will not the feeling of rancor certain to be engendered by China's humiliation and coercion cause foreign bankers to view with considerable distrust her new promises to pay?

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which make his deposition from his chair a sin against him and the branch of science he professes. Sometimes, if not often, he amounts to little more than a mere pedagogue and his intellectual equipment and acquired knowledge are not such as to enable him to present his being fallacious, immature and unseasoned. And the college or university employing him is free to decide if it is willing to be responsible for his "thoughts." It engages the professor and it can discipline him, freely and without resources sometimes get into professional chairs, as has been demonstrated in the experience of our colleagues.

No professor holds his chair by a divine right which excludes him from criticism by the authority that put him there or makes his deposition from it a sin against freedom of opinion. The Stanford University itself has the right to freedom of thought and judgment and, hence, it has the authority to exercise the right by preferring some other man for the place.

The clubs for women are innumerable and their objects rank from Ancient Art to Zynotic Hologram. It is a pleasure to greet a new woman's club which is novel in its membership, at least, even if its aims are not especially original. Twenty-two households of Oak Park, Chicago, formed a club after prayer and a Bible-reading, which was called for a name for the new club. Among the names proposed were the Young Woman's Club, the Thursday Afternoon Club, the Young Woman's Thursday Afternoon Club. A member objected to the Thursday. It smacked too strongly of the calling of the members. Thursday was the maid's day out. "I don't see what difference that makes," said a maid who is no snob. "I am not ashamed of my work, and I think we ought to have a name that will tell what we are and what we are organizing for." This opinion was received with general applause.

The call for names proceeded. "Fortnightly" was suggested. Another outburst of wrath. "Fortnightly" was said to "sound too high-toned." "Who cares for that?" asked the young woman who is not ashamed of her Thursday out. "If we like a name, I guess we have as much right to use it as anybody." Then "Liberty" was mentioned. "Don't you think that might be taken as a challenge to the public?" asked a lady who is not a housemaid. Then she proposed "The Young Woman's Friendly Club" and that name was accepted.

A good name enough, no doubt, but the obvious and best name would have been "The Housemaid's Club." Why should a housemaid be ashamed of her profession? Why merge the individuality of housemaids into such an ordinary and general name as "The Young Woman's Friendly Club?"

It used to be the custom at Harvard in the seventeenth century to cane offending undergraduates, especially freshmen. One regrets as one reads of such bits of undergraduate humor as the Yale raid on a restaurant that undergraduates cannot now be publicly caned. A sound thrashing given in public by some athletic substitute for the President might turn the offenders from evil and would edify the public at any rate.

The child is born into the world entirely helpless. It is one of the most pathetic things that can be seen in the human family. The child is born into a world of pain and suffering, and it is the duty of those who are called upon to care for it to do so with the greatest care and attention.

There is a law against prize fighting in Minnesota. Under a mistaken conception of the character of the exhibition to be given or catering to that large class of prigs that would spoil all sport, Governor VAN SANT, acting under the advice of his Attorney-General, ordered the Mayor of Minneapolis to have the "fistic exhibition" stopped. In vain did the Mayor protest that there was to be no prize fight; that the contests arranged for were to be with large gloves and limited to not more than six rounds and that he himself had promised that there should be no prize fighting in Minneapolis. In vain did he ask the Governor to come to the show and judge for himself. The Mankato V. M. C. A. had passed a resolution against boxing. The Governor was as firm as basil. The wicked "prize fight" must be stopped.

The victims of the bicycle are many. The bicycle must be forbidden. But the reduction to absurdity is long enough. A law against boxing is a piece of foolishness. If the Minnesota law against prize fighting justifies Governor VAN SANT's interference with boxing in Minneapolis, that law should be repealed. So should all other laws that can be invoked against the most ancient and noble sport of boxing.

Mr. D. C. EATON of the city writes indignantly to an evening contemporary on the proposed suicide of certain Chinese officials. "Can it be," he asks, "that the United States proposes to enter an agreement, of which one of the conditions is that a human being shall commit suicide? Does it not make every one of us a murderer?" Mr. EATON seems to be unable to look at the matter from the standpoint of Chinese custom. In any western country, the agreement of which he speaks would be impossible, repugnant to morals and manners. But in China it is concordant with both manners and morals, and is in every way a mitigation of the ordinary punishment of death. De-capitalization in China is the most disgraceful form of the death penalty, and it is always performed by the victims themselves as a matter of choice. Suicide does not act as a degradation of ancestors. If Mr. EATON's ideas were carried out, and the Chinamen were executed,

Lord Kitchener's latest reports on the situation in Cape Colony and the Transvaal are more promising from the British point of view for an early termination of the war than those of any other general. The devastation of the northwestern Transvaal by Gen. Methuen and of the country west and south of Swartland, in which Amsterdam and Pretoria are situated, by Gen. French, most recent military operations of any kind in those districts out of the question for the rest of the year.

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There are blue noses and tingling ears from Texas to South Carolina. The snow and the temperature have been falling. The snow in the south might have been the nipping North. Six inches of snow at Montgomery, ten inches in some parts of Georgia, five inches in Atlanta—there must be a demand for "Arctic" and ear tips in the sunny South. But the little dash of cold comes as a sort of pungent sauce to the habitual mildness and the Southerners scarcely resent it.

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Secretary Long Sends Him a Complimentary Letter on the Eve of His Departure. WASHINGTON, Feb. 25. The Secretary of the Navy has written the following letter to Rear Admiral Philip Henshaw, Chief of Staff of the Navy, who will be returning to his post on March 1.

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