The Sun.

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The Secretary of State.

The renomination and prompt confirmation of all the members of President McKINLEY's able Cabinet occurred yesterday to nobody's surprise and to everybody's satisfaction.

If a change here or there is contemplated, it can occur later in a manner more conducive to the amenities of an entirely harmonious family than if the reorganization marked the line between the first term and the second.

The old rumors of Mr. HAY's intention to retire have not been verified. The only part or product of him that has retired is the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty, which went out of existence at midnight between Monday and yesterday.

We are free to say that if the general programme of Anglo-American relations which was sketched out in London during the spring and summer of 1898 is to be pursued by this Government, no man living is better qualified to superintend the business on the part of the United States than the present Secretary of State. No other American is so familiar with the terms of the original understanding, expressed or tacit. He knows the details. And meanwhile he has learned something about the possibilities.

The Hitch at Pekin.

Although the first anniversary of the Boxer outbreak is not far distant, it is still impossible to predict how soon the allied Powers will be able to readjust their relations with China. It is reported, indeed, by the London *Morning Post* that Mr. ROCKHILL, the acting American Minister, believes that a settlement of the main points in controversy can be effected within two months. Sir ROBERT HART, on the other hand, considers that there are formidable obstacles to be surmounted. It is easy enough to identify the difficulties which he has in mind. They are, obviously, connected with the aggregate amount of the indemnities to be exacted and with the methods of payment to be enforced.

According to a telegram from Pekin some of the English missions have refused to accept any money compensation for damages incurred by them, and the American missionary societies have declined to accept indemnity for murdered missionaries. It is well known that by assessments levied upon villages and local officials some missionaries have more than reimbursed themselves and their converts for losses experienced. In such cases, of course, there would be no equitable claim for any further indemnity. Evangelists cannot consistently insist upon the imposition of damages for exemplary or punitive purposes, and we understand that our State Department also is disposed to hold that the allied Governments should limit their demands to the actual cost of the expeditions undertaken for the restoration of order, supplemented with reasonable compensation for the lives lost at the hands of the Chinese.

Such moderation is dictated, first, by a recognition of China's present disabilities from a financial point of view, and, secondly, by the determination that China shall not suffer territorial mutilation, provided she shows a disposition to make any pecuniary sacrifice in her power. According to Sir ROBERT HART, her power extends no further than to furnish security for the interest and sinking fund incident to a foreign loan not exceeding $300,000,000. According to one report from Pekin, the aggregate indemnity will even fall short of that amount, provided the rest of the allies shall show themselves as reasonable as the English intend to be. Unhappily, there is no certainty that this will be the case. On the contrary, the Italians and Spaniards, who have taken but an insignificant part in the rescue of the Pekin legations and in the restoration of order in the Province of Chihli, are said to be exorbitant in their demands. The adjustment of the various pecuniary claims would be likely, therefore, to involve considerable delay, even if all the Powers were honestly desirous of relieving China from the necessity of satisfying her creditors with territory instead of money.

Ostensibly, all the Powers represented at Pekin—including even Russia—have agreed to refrain from any further dismemberment of the Middle Kingdom. It is difficult to reconcile with this agreement the negotiations reported to be carried on by the Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg, negotiations that have in view what would be tantamount to a cession of the spacious and populous Province of Manchuria to the Czar. In return for such an acquisition, Russia could, of course, afford to renounce any claim to pecuniary indemnity. Such an act on her part, however, would, manifestly, upset the plans of her allies. It would render almost inevitable the application of the policy of dismemberment to the Chinese territories south of the Great Wall. Why? Because her allies, in calculating their respective claims for indemnity, would have to begin by estimating the money value of Manchuria, which, if we may judge from the actual revenues of Newchwang alone, would be very great. Evidently, the aggregate of the foreign demands, if computed according to such a standard, would altogether exceed China's ability to pay in money, and would have to be liquidated by territorial concessions.

There is no end to the trouble that would be caused by Russia's rupture of her compact with her allies, and by her separate agreement with China to cry quits in return for the establishment of the Czar's ascendancy in Manchuria. The immediate hostility of the Japanese could only be averted by the abandonment of Corea to the Mikado, and the consequent juxtaposition of the Japanese and Russians on the Asiatic mainland would render war inevitable at an early day. It is doubtful, moreover, whether the Manchu dynasty would survive the discredit which would attach to it in the eyes of its Chinese subjects after its surrender of the country whence it came should become known. The vast regions of Middle and Southern China, which comprehend more than two-thirds of the Empire's population, would justly apprehend a like fate for their interests in the foreigner, and the patriotic uprising, which, hitherto, has been confined to a few northern provinces, would quickly extend over the whole of the Middle Kingdom. To cope with the unanimous resistance of China to dismemberment would tax all the military resources of the Western nations for many years.

As we have repeatedly pointed out, there is but one practicable solution of the Chinese problem. That is to be compassed by adhering rigorously to the agreement to avoid any further mutilation of the Middle Kingdom, and by making the demands for pecuniary indemnity as moderate as possible, in view of China's restricted ability to pay. Those who, by word or deed, favor some other solution are either inattentive to notorious facts or are secretly cherishing designs inconsistent with the motives they profess.

Cannon, Moody and Heatwole—Protectors of Fraud.

Representatives CANNON of Illinois and Representative MOODY of Massachusetts, the two Republican conferees on the part of the House, have attempted to explain and defend their astonishing intervention in behalf of RICHARDSON and BARCUS.

It is these two Republicans who, at the last moment forced out of the Sundry Civil bill the provision unanimously adopted by the Senate and designed by that body to end now the scandal fixed on Congress by JAMES D. RICHARDSON of Tennessee and his impudent partners and agents in defrauding the people.

Those two Republicans, Mr. CANNON and Mr. MOODY, acted solely on their own responsibility when they used their power as conferees to continue the fraud a while longer for the pecuniary benefit of RICHARDSON's assignee. The House has never been permitted to consider or act upon this question of its own honor. HEATWOLE of the Printing Committee has attended to that during the past nine months. For nine months he has suppressed the Senate resolution adopted early last June and sent to him for consideration and report. He has neither considered it nor reported on it. He has simply suppressed it, to RICHARDSON's continued profit and to BARCUS's. HEATWOLE is not a person of importance, and the real motives of his conduct do not interest us greatly.

But the case is different with CANNON and MOODY, who at the last moment used their power and trust as conferees to complete the service to fraud which HEATWOLE's stolid non-performance of duty had begun. HEATWOLE's protection of the swindling gang was negative; theirs is positive and defiant.

The cash value of this protection has been indicated by BARCUS himself. He said to the Senate investigating committee:

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

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

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

"Senator ELKINS.—If you sold 75,000 sets at $30 per set the gross would be $2,250,000?

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

A private monopoly of public property meaning to BARCUS a business of two and a quarter millions of dollars was at stake when these two prominent Republicans, Mr. CANNON and Mr. MOODY, intervened to "put the public mind at rest on the question of the free distribution" of a Government document.

CANNON's pretended explanation is characteristic of that wily old logrolier and man of mouth. He evades altogether the consideration that prevailed in determining the action of the Senate, namely, the duty of Congress to stop at any cost, for the sake of its own dignity and for the protection of the people, the swindling operations carried on under false pretence of Governmental authority, and to such extent that the petty criminal courts are busy with its agents while the high courts are denouncing its principal. Mr. CANNON has nothing to say about that. What he does say is that the proposed Government edition for free distribution would not be large enough to meet the demands for it; and that, as to selling the books at cost, he "looks with disfavor upon the proposition that the Government shall go into the book-publishing business." This is Mr. CANNON's flimsy pretext now. Yet on May 11, 1897, when the House foolishly voted to RICHARDSON, at his urgent solicitation, the set of duplicate plates upon which he and BARCUS have subsequently erected this monopoly and this scandal, Mr. CANNON was present and heard Mr. RICHARDSON say:

"I do not want any copyright as against the Government. I do not ask for it and would not have it. The Government has a right to print this book *ad libitum*, and I have no desire and no disposition, and have never had any disposition to try to prevent the Government from printing it. * * * If Congress sees fit to print other editions of the work from the plates in the office any number of times it can do so, and nobody can restrain it, and nobody will attempt to restrain it."

And three years earlier than that, on June 11, 1894, when the Democrats were in power in the House and RICHARDSON as chairman of the Committee on Printing, introduced his starter of this enterprise in the form of a resolution providing for 6,000 sets of the "Messages and Papers" which he subsequently and patriotically undertook to compile, Mr. CANNON was also present and by his consent the Government then went into the "book-publishing business" by the publication of this same book.

To discuss the attitude of the Hon. JOSEPH G. CANNON from the point of view either of ethics or of legislative propriety or personal consistency, does not at any time seem to us a profitable undertaking.

Mr. MOODY of Massachusetts we have supposed to be a different sort of person. Even now we prefer to believe that the humbug of his defence has been crammed into him by a more sophistical individual. For he says:

"I want to say that there was a general feeling of resentment at the fraudulent methods pursued by the private publishers of the document to effect sales, and a personal desire to have the document printed. But we could not gratify personal wishes in violation of our convictions of duty, and at an expense to the public of $200,000.

It is a public misfortune that Mr. MOODY should have allowed his personal wishes to be overcome by the alleged convictions of duty urged upon him by CANNON. These alleged convictions of duty are as fraudulent as the Barcusian methods which excite Mr. MOODY's ineffective resentment:

First, that the proposition to stop the swindle involved an expense to the public of $200,000.

Who told MOODY that? Who gave him that figure as the amount carried by the Senate amendment? Two hundred thousand dollars would be a cheap price for the Government to pay to extricate itself from the scandal in which RICHARDSON and BARCUS have entangled it; but as a matter of fact the expense to the public would be less than one-third of the sum alleged by Mr. MOODY. The Senate amendment provided for 50,000 copies of the document to be sold at cost of production, estimated by the Public Printer at $6 or $7 a set, and 2,000 copies for distribution by Senators and Representatives. The public expense incurred, at the higher estimate of cost of printing, was $365,000 and not $200,000 as stated by Mr. MOODY.

Secondly, that the proposed edition of 2,000 for free distribution was too small to satisfy the demand, and would lead to embarrassment on the part of Congressmen "and probably serious political difficulty."

The more accomplished Mr. CANNON probably preserved with difficulty a straight face when he saw that his colleague had borrowed and gravely repeated this precious bit of humbug.

Thirdly, that the Government ought not "to go further into the book-publishing business. True, admits Mr. MOODY, "the Government prints and publishes many documents, but they are mainly of an official character; this is a diversion into the fields of pure literature."

MOODY of Massachusetts is too intelligent a man to suppose that any human being will believe that that was his real reason for striking out the anti-Richardson amendment. What does he mean by "a diversion into the fields of pure literature?" He speaks as if the proposition had been to reprint at the public expense the Waverley Novels, or KANT's "Critique of Pure Reason" or "Rollo's Travels in Europe." If the messages and papers of the Presidents are not "mainly of an official character," what matter that ever passed the printing presses of the Government Printing Office can properly be so described? As to "going further into the publishing business," the very conference report in which CANNON and MOODY announced their inflexible determination not to interfere with the sleek talkers of BARCUS also recorded their cheerful acquiescence in a Senate amendment providing for the printing of a new edition of the book called "Mineral Resources;" and another Senate amendment providing for the publication of the proceedings in connection with the reception of the Webster statue; and yet another, raising to $75,000 the House appropriation of $70,000 "for engraving and printing geological maps."

Fourthly, Mr. MOODY declares that he and CANNON were anxious to maintain the "principle" that subjects which do not come directly within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Appropriations should be kept off of general appropriation bills. This matter, he urges, came properly within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Printing, that is to say, of HEATWOLE! That may be; what HEATWOLE's jurisdiction means, we have seen during the past nine months. As to the "principle" involved, we beg leave to call Mr. MOODY's attention to the circumstance that the original deed of gift to RICHARDSON of the duplicate plates of this same Government document was grafted by the Fifty-fifth Congress upon the Sundry Civil bill of 1897, and grafted there by the hand of none other than JOSEPH G. CANNON of Illinois, who had charge of that measure on the part of the House as he had charge of this.

Thus CANNON and MOODY—CANNON nonchalantly and MOODY somewhat apologetically if not hypocritically—range themselves alongside of HEATWOLE as Republican protectors of "the scheme permeated with fraud from start to finish." For some reason not disclosed by them they have deliberately incurred the responsibility for this shameful miscarriage of justice, and they should be made to feel how heavy that responsibility is.

BARCUS does not care what explanations they give or what reasons they allege. All he cares about is the "protection" they have afforded to his notorious proceedings. And their explanations are probably as satisfactory to the Hon. JAMES D. RICHARDSON of Tennessee as any others that ingenuity could have produced.

Staff Details a Fact.

The operation of the detailed staff system, for which Secretary ROOT and the most advanced and competent officers of the army have long been working, was saved from an indefinite postponement late last week, and the first steps have been taken in making it a permanent feature in the army. Secretary ROOT detailed eighteen officers from the line to the most important staff departments not affected by the terms of the original Army bill, and the President has sent to the Senate the names of eighteen Captains of the line to fill the vacancies caused by this detail; for under the Army law as a certain number of line officers are to be detailed to the staff constantly, vacancies are created in the line, which are filled by promotion. That is, the line regiments are no longer to be kept short of officers, but are to have, so far as possible, their proper and needed complement. Officers returning from their staff details retain their rank, and will be assigned to duty with that rank; if, by their return from staff details, there are more of any rank than the legal limit, no further promotions to such rank are to be made until the number is reduced to that authorized.

The officers detailed, whose term began on Friday, the 1st of the month, are Majors E. W. McCLERNAND, JAMES PARKER, W. E. WILDER and S. W. FOUNTAIN of the cavalry; Majors R. P. STRONG, L. V. CAZIARC, and S. W. TAYLOR of the artillery, and Majors A. C. SHARPE, H. A. GREENE, J. G. BALLANCE and C. J. CRANE of the infantry, who are assigned to the Adjutant-General's Department; and Majors E. D. THOMAS and J. H. DORST of the cavalry, Majors J. M. K. DAVIS and R. D. POTTS of the artillery and Majors F. A. SMITH, ALFRED REYNOLDS and J. A. IRONS of the infantry, all of whom go to the Inspector-General's Department.

The new system is thus in operation, in accordance with the intention of the Army law. Had the details and consequent promotions not been made at once, it might have been some years before it could even have been started; and as it is said that eleven years will be needed to place it in complete operation, owing to the fact that permanent officers of the military bureaus of the War Department are not to be displaced, any delay at the beginning would have added to the time that must elapse before the entire staff could be made up of details from the line, as the better opinion of the army desires.

With the inception of the new system it is to be hoped that the idea of an Army War College has not been dropped entirely. More than ever, as the appointments to the staff are to be only for a term of years, will the need of such an institution be felt; for it will be, as in the navy, practically a staff college, to train officers likely to be detailed for staff work.

Begging the Question.

The discussion by the Presbyterian Union of proposed changes in the Westminster Confession avoided carefully the main point and therefore amounted to nothing. That point is as to the authority of the Bible, upon which is based that whole standard of faith.

The Westminster Confession starts out necessarily with the chapter "Of the Holy Scripture," for from the Bible alone is drawn the authority for the system of doctrine that is afterward laid down. Throughout, each declaration is supported by proof texts from the Bible as the supernatural and all-sufficient source from which the articles of faith are obtained.

Without such authority there is nothing for its theology to build on. Theology deals with wisdom unattainable by men, with knowledge possible only to God. Unless there is an absolutely authoritative revelation from Heaven, an indisputably inspired Word of God, all of the Westminster Confession is human speculation purely. The standard, therefore, starts out with the fundamental declaration that all of the books of the Old and New Testaments as canonically accepted by Protestantism "are given by inspiration of God, to be the rule of faith and life," the main proof text being this from Revelations XXII., 18-19:

"If any man shall add unto these things God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this Book. If any man shall take away from the words of the book of the prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life and out of the holy city and from the things which are written in this Book."

At this time, however, it is denied even in Presbyterian theological seminaries that this Book is "given by inspiration of God." Many or all of its words are treated as human merely, "a literature," marred by imperfections inseparable from human undertakings. Attempts are made to reconcile this rejection with the theory of inspiration, but they flout the reason. Everybody knows that unless knowledge of the supernatural world comes to men by indisputably supernatural inspiration and revelation it is impossible for them to obtain it. "Canst thou by searching find out God?"

All the speakers at the Presbyterian Union on Monday night begged this great and fundamental question, though without the settlement of it no revision of the Westminster Confession, no amendment to it and no explanatory addition to it will be worth the consideration of any intelligent man. First of all, the dogma of Holy Scripture must be laid down and accepted, else there is nothing to build on, and it is that very dogma which is now questioned by theologians.

Is the Bible "given by inspiration of God" or is it a production of human intellects? Is it of Divine authority or is it only human "literature"?

Capt. GEORGE S. CHAPMAN may not be the most modest policeman in New York, or the wisest. It may be that he is not the most beautiful. But he has a certain stoutness of heart that is not unbecoming in a servant of the city. His gymnastic entrance into THE ALLEN'S "West Side Club" in the face of a determined threat that he would be shot if he made the attempt had in it nothing of cowardice. He might have delegated his subordinates to undertake the job. And they, possibly, though not probably, might have been of the same sort as the men who let a young man kill himself in their presence at Forty-second street and Sixth avenue because they were afraid of his revolver. If Sir Feathers would spend a few hours each day in the study of law and particularly of the Bill of Rights he might become in time a fairly able policeman.

A despatch sent from Terre Haute to the *Indianapolis Journal* reveals a brutal callousness of public opinion in regard to the lynching of the negro GEORGE WARD:

"The very large majority of the people are indifferent or commending the act and excusing the officers of the law for not making a determined effort to protect the prisoner. Sheriff FASIG has made a public statement that, after consulting with prominent business men, he decided to let the mob have its own way, and instructed the deputies not to injure any one. As a result of this statement he has held a lease at his office in the Court House to-day. There has been a stream of people all day calling to congratulate him."

Terre Haute may yet come to some sense of shame. It will not have much pride in recalling "the afternoon when the crowd of men and boys made a bonfire over the negro's body and whistled and sang 'A Hot Time in the Old Town To-night' as they cleaned pieces of bones of the negro's body and offered them for sale."

Seen from the point of view of the undergraduate, the great purpose of a college education is to achieve a mysterious and appalling college "yell." The Western colleges, and especially those of the always gifted State of Kansas, are singularly successful in this direction. Here, for example, is the warcry of the Ottawa University of the Sunflower Ottawa:

"Rola! Bola—O!
Rola! Bola—U!
O, U! O, U!
Rola! Bola—O, U!"

This would make an excellent incantation. There's magic in the sound of it. A Shaman or a Lapland witch would find these college yells very valuable.

The Hon. WILLIAM E. MASON has been transformed in the last few months. He has become as enamored of silence as he once was of speech. Only yesterday he came forward as a friend of closure and berated the habit of "eternal and everlasting speech." We have great hopes of him. When he first bounded into the Senate, words gushed from him uncontrollably. He had tears for the Philippines and language for everything. But he has sat under those painful and inmitigable bores, WINDAILEN and PETTIGREW. His ears have been deafened by the sounding brass and tinkling cymbal. He has learned by suffering what a plague continual jabbering is. He has reformed. He has cut his wisdom teeth. He will be a useful Senator yet.

The Hon. CRAZY SNAKE and his band have been indicted for conspiracy by a Federal Grand Jury at Muskogee. Mr. SNAKE grew weary of being governed without his consent. He has confessed that he intended to set up a Government of his own. In short, he has most of the merits of AGUINALDO, and the Anti-Imperialist League ought to give him sympathy and supplies and do its best to protect him from the Indian Territory satraps of the despot at Washington. Mr. SNAKE is a martyr of liberty and the Hon. WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON should write a series of sonnets in honor of him at once.

AROUND THE GALLERIES.

J. H. Twachtman's Landscapes at Durand-Ruel's.

Neither Mr. Twachtman's way of looking at nature nor his way of interpreting it is of the obvious kind. He views it as an intimate with an eye particularly for its unobtrusive manifestations, and is never so much at home as when he is laboring at some subtle interpretation. Wherefore it seems a pity that he had not confined this exhibition to the pictures in which his motive is fully wrought out, instead of dissipating the visitor's attention with a large number of sketches. These are interesting enough, as the jottings of a sincere artist always are, but rather to those who already know and appreciate his work than to those who are trying to understand it. They show a constant delight in the unexpected patterns of space and form which nature reveals; the patches of form and color, flattened and semi-transparent in the broad light. Scarce one of them that is not a vivid note, in which the economy of strokes affords a continual surprise. But, after all, they are only unimportant little studies compared with the fulness of expression in his completed pictures.

The latter demand for their appreciation a more intimate experience of nature than the average man possesses; for the simple love of nature has not yet imbedded itself in American culture. Men and women have their country homes and play a pleasant little masque every year of merging themselves in country life, but no more reach the heart of nature or an appreciation of its simple appeals to the spirit than do the exquisites in one of Watteau's landscapes. They have an eye only for the obviously picturesque in outward manifestations. Whereas the intimate charm of these landscapes is that they interpret the spirit of nature, hinting at its quiet whisperings and unobtrusive secrets. As examples may be mentioned "Misty Morning," "The Hemlock Pool," "In Winter," "The Torrent," "Barn in Winter," though these names by no means exhaust the list. To any one whose childhood has been moulded even in part by contact with nature these pictures are instantly beautiful, not only for their faithful realization of familiar phenomena, but infinitely more for their rich suggestiveness in awakening forgotten memories of his own associations and experiences. They represent some of the subtleties of nature which appeared to the eyes of the country-bred boy only half observed, their relations to his development wholly unsuspected; yet, recalled by these pictures, they have an intensity of personal meaning for the man that it would need a poet's faculty to express in words. It is this intimate relation between humanity and nature that the best of the truly open-air painters suggest, because they get at it, as the ordinary dweller in the country does, by living constantly with nature and studying it in its everyday moods. They extract the poetry from nature, not by approaching her with a definite sentiment in their own minds which they compel her to interpret, but by wooing her to divulge her own secrets. It is the objective as compared with the subjective motive in landscape; and, although we are not concerned here with balancing their respective merits, it may be noted that, while the latter readily appeals to average susceptibilities, the former demands in advance a more intimate acquaintance with nature. Hence its more limited acceptance.

But, associations apart, the thoughtful visitor can hardly fail to note in the "Misty Morning" the exquisite delicacy with which the painter has depicted the cool morning light and thin mist hovering over a stream only half awake between its wooded banks, or in "The Hemlock Pool" the effect of a brook, hushed in the cold embrace of winter, the nimbleness of atmosphere quieted to a tender pensiveness. Further, how exhaustively the varieties of sober coloring are represented! This keen receptivity to the most delicate differences of color is illustrated again in several winter scenes, particularly in one entitled simply "In Winter." A time of day has been selected when the light is low and dull, and though the picture is full of snow, there is probably not a spot of pure white anywhere, the varying values having been toned to creams and drabs in relation to the blue purple of some distant trees.

The artist's rendering of movements is also to be noted. He shows two pictures of water moving in masses: "The Torrent" and "The Waterfall," representing in the former the sluggish suggestion that winter gives to water and in the other its buoyancy and animation under summer sunlight. Each phenomenon is interpreted with fidelity, though the harder problem involved in the winter scene makes its successful realism so much the more out of the ordinary. An entirely different kind of animation is rendered in the "Barnyard," the foreground of which is dotted with poultry, while figures are seen further back. It is brimful of life and movement, cheery in color and excellently suggestive of spontaneity. Among other characteristics of the exhibition one recollects in "The Ferry Landing" (a scene in Gloucester harbor) a very charming example of decorative composition as well as of vivacious impressionism. It has not the deeper qualities of many of the other pictures, but its simple statement is rendered with consummate skill. Through and through it is the record of an artist. Among a handful of pastels, also, there is a little gem, called "Wheat Fields," mere stretches of different hues in tone, spotted with dark; but the artistry display ed is really exquisite, so sure and virile, yet so subtle.

This statement fairly summarizes the best of Mr. Twachtman's pictures. They are strong in method and in the sincerity of conviction, representing the knowingness of the skilful painter and the mature knowledge of a student of nature, both put at the service of very sensitive expression. Moreover their method is so honest that the pictures bid fair to improve with time. In the "Hemlock Pool," seen many times before, one already notices a ripening of tone and increasing coherence of effect.

Portraits by William Thorne at Knoedler's.

A few years ago Mr. Thorne sent to the exhibition of the Society of American Artists the study of a girl's head; a frank rendering of a wholesome type of female beauty, treated as a statement of fact with no artistic motive either of arrangement or brush work; a pleasant picture, quite undistinguished. Judged by the portraits now exhibited, he has made no further step as an artist. He is satisfied to reproduce the merely obvious.

Therefore the first view of this exhibition gave one a disagreeable sensation of its being commonplace; involving a series of painted likenesses of men and ladies, without a suggestion of artistic purpose or accomplishment. While a second and a third visit confirm this impression, one finds some alleviation in studying the pictures merely as likenesses. In the subjects themselves there is nothing commonplace; at least this is true of the ladies, who are all gracious and, some beautiful, examples of American womanhood. Unfortunately, however, a man's costume is not picturesque and the mere presentment of pressed cloth clothes and well-laundered linen with an accurate delineation of features does not avail to save all the examples from commonplace suggestion.

In fact these likenesses bear the same relation to artistic portraits that the average photograph shown on Fifth avenue bears to the work of such artists in photography as Mrs. Gertrude Kasebier and Alfred Stieglitz, who avail themselves of the resources of light and shade and produce throughout their pictures a beautiful tone, using these means to hint at the character of the sitter. But Mr. Thorne is satisfied if he conveys an accurate idea of the features. He gets no value out of color, no tonal quality or depth or purity of hue, his flesh tints in the case of the men are often hot and bricky; in the case of one woman the same, while the faces of the others verge on porcelain effects; the textures of the gowns are perfunctorily rendered, with no dwelling on the intrinsic charms of satin and velvet; the foliage backgrounds are dry and unatmospheric, and nowhere is the color laid on with any skill of brushwork or apparent enthusiasm in the work. Light and shade are introduced only to produce modelling, never as the eloquent expression of some finely conceived preferred effect. Instead, from an artistic standpoint, these portraits represent simple journeymen's work, honest, respectable and self-respecting, but without a suggestion of artistic feeling or knowledge.

On the other hand, accepting them as we find them and acknowledging that they represent on the average public notion of a portrait that it should represent a patient resemblance, we can have no difficulty in recognizing their great goodness. They are entirely free from any apparent conscious effort of paint on the painter's part or of clever methods to secure attractiveness; they are swift and in good taste; the painter having had a respect for his sitter has made one recognize it is the picture.

For Sale by Hubert Vos at Keppel's.

The sanctimonious sentiments of the last paragraph are not altogether applicable to the portraits by Hubert Vos. The man on his own part is very noticeably appearing in a picture of himself in a black silk waistcoat and dull green smock. The effectiveness of the thing is distressingly obvious, and the smooth perfection he has given to the texture of his cheeks and the delicate sleekness of his brushed-up moustache add the aggravation of complacency. And the pose is symptomatic. He starts out with the purpose of doing something that shall compel attentiveness; dangerous experiment for any but a strong man to attempt, since it is false in principle, and only justified, if even then, by big and forceful technique. And Mr. Vos is neither a strong thinker nor skillful technician. If one or two of his male portraits have a certain powerful directness, it is not the result of shrewd perception of character or a gift of impressive synthesis, but of the exaggeration of details, such as the rigid definition of features with colors that do not appear in the human face. Similarly, in the portrait of an old lady, the coarse time has been treated with almost brutal abruptness and the face is livid and leathery. The unthinking may exclaim, "How lifelike!" forgetting that true realism does not ignore the spiritual quality and air of benignant repose that we may feel sure must prevail over the ravages of time in so fine a type of face as this one. Such painting as this is neither art nor nature; it belongs in the category of those representations of an old hat and a dog whip hung upon a stable door. In another portrait of a lady Mr. Vos appears to have tried for spirituality by giving the face and arms an unlifelike gray pallor and setting off the figure in a draping gown of most unsympathetic blue surrounding his travesty of the ideal with a rococo frame, whose whiteness is the climax of ineffectual effectiveness.

For Mr. Vos seems to have little sense of color, though he uses it without any compunctions. Position of prominence has been given to the full-sized portrait of a lady in a green dress, so we may conclude that the painter himself is fairly satisfied with its effect. It represents the crudest assertion, uncontrolled by mind or taste, and not redeemed by any skill in brush work. Unfortunately, it strikes the key of the whole exhibition: prodigious complacency, mediocre accomplishment.

Pastels by J. Wells Champney at Knoedler's.

Mr. Champney has been delivered of an idea. He thinks that the easel picture would better serve as an embellishment to the home if its character were kept in tune with the uses of the room. Thus, with a fine disregard of the possibilities, latent in mere man, he rules the Madonna out of the smoking room, and, getting down to the level of our weaknesses, shows three houris, which he submits for our companionship. For a bathroom he supplies two panels of nude women, "Before" and "After" the plunge; for the nursery, a many-winged cherub, a warm-fleshed little cupid and a child simpering over some cherries, while for a music room he suggests four Valentine-like young women playing upon instruments.

It is all very funny and a little sad, not that Mr. Champney should have his ideas of appropriateness, but that he should seek to give expression to them with examples of the limners' craft so pitiably feeble as these. One's spirits are not raised by the reflection that, no doubt, some people will think them "just too lovely for anything."

THE NAVY.

Some Sane Reflections on Admiral Sampson's View of Gunner Morgan's Case.

From The Mobile Daily Register.

Admiral Sampson is right, if the naval service is to be considered from the point of view of ancient tradition and unbroken custom. The officers of a warship are members of the Captain's family; they are daily associates under conditions of greatest intimacy; they enjoy the entrée of good society everywhere, being regarded always as gentlemen until proved to be otherwise. The tradition comes from the Continent and the custom is followed in all navies. That it is undemocratic is plain; that it is a negation of the American pretension that all men are born free and equal is likewise plain. Therefore, from the point of view of regard for our American principles, Admiral Sampson is wrong in his refusal to indorse the application of a gunner to be an ensign.

We are face to face with a rather serious question. Will the service be bettered by the introduction of the democratic practice of promoting from the rank into the line? In the army it appears to work without any great damage, although we must bear in mind that association in the army is not as association in the navy, and that the army officer is seldom called upon to take part in the official and semi-official affairs in which the navy officer must ever be ready to figure—and with credit to his country.

It will be at once said that a man who is capable of performing the duties of a naval officer is quite fit for anything that may be required of him in the social line, and quite fit associate of those of like professional skill. This, however, is questionable. We can conceive of a man who can perform all required duties aboard ship but will nevertheless be wholly out of place in the ward room and elsewhere.

The point to be kept in view, however, is simply this: Shall we have a navy distinguished as it at present is by not only the capability of its officers but by their polished manners, fitting them for any society, or shall we have one where no attention is paid to manners, and nothing but professional skill is required?

Admiral Sampson prefers the service as it is: Secretary Long wants it the other way, and has so ordered. The press has taken the matter up, and is giving Sampson a very savage lecture upon his lack of democracy, accusing him of having come up from the bottom himself. He is simply defending the good of the service as he understands it, and he has the excuse that the service has been aristocratic from the start, and now for the first time has arisen the question of changing it.

We think there is more in it than appears at first view, and that haste in doing anything about it may lead to trouble that will not be as quickly remedied.

Beginning of the Mayoralty Campaign in Chicago.

From the Chicago Times-Herald.

Behind the bar of nearly every big downtown saloon in the city the following printed announcement is now being prominently displayed:

I will bet
$5,000
Or any part of it, that
CARTER H. HARRISON
Will be the next
MAYOR
of Chicago.
PATSY KING.

"Patsy" places no address after his name. There is no need, for everybody who knows the "push" knows who and what he is. Patsy, or to give him the full benefit of the name, Patrick J. King, is the best known professional gambler in the city—indeed, the last remaining representative of the old-time sports who once "ruled the roost" in Chicago. He owns most of the policy shops in town, and has the honor of being the Democratic county central committeeman from the new Thirteenth ward.

JURORS MAY SLEEP IN COURT.

If Caught Do Not Wake Them Up It Is Not a Cause of Reversible Error.

CHICAGO, March 5. Numerous instances of slumber snatched by a judge during the hearing of a litigious case are held to be appellate court not to be reversible error. The ruling of the reviewing court occurs in connection with the decision on the appeal of the Chicago City Railway Company from the judgment of the Superior Court awarding to Teamster John Anderson $5,000 damages for injuries received by him in a street car accident. Judge Adams, who issued the ruling of the Appellate Court, said:

"The trial occupied eight or nine days and may have been conducted in such a manner as to exhaust almost any one accustomed to listen to it, as was the presiding judge. If the judge was asleep, as contended, counsel must have known it, and knowing it they should have suspended the examination of the witness then testifying until the judge awoke."

GREENE'S REMAINS IN A BANK VAULT.

Col. Gardiner to Bring the Casket Plate Home to Have It Burnished Up.

SAVANNAH, Ga., March 5.—Col. Asa Gardiner, who has just instituted a successful search for the remains of Major-Gen. Nathaniel Greene, lost for more than one hundred years, left for New York tonight. The remains of Gen. Greene and those of his son, George Washington Greene, were placed this afternoon in hermetically sealed and zinc-lined metal boxes and were interred in the vault of the Northern Bank of the State of Georgia. The remains were taken from the boxes in which they were temporarily placed yesterday by the same men who removed them from the tomb and were put into the boxes especially prepared for them in the presence of Major Rosser, Superintendent of Police.

The box containing all that remains of Gen. Greene was marked with a plate bearing this inscription:

"Major-General Nathaniel Greene. Born Aug. 7, 1742; died June 19, 1786."

The box in which was placed all that could be found of Gen. Greene's son, found in the same vault, bears a plate with this inscription:

"George Washington Greene, son of Major-General Nathaniel Greene."

Col. Gardiner has retained the casket plate found in the vault and also the Revolutionary buttons, and took them to New York. When he reaches New York he will submit the plate to his friend, Director-General L. P. Di Cesnola, of the Metropolitan Museum, and the latter will endeavor to treat the plate chemically so that it can be more easily read than now. If possible, the plate will be thoroughly renovated. The skull found yesterday shows that it belonged to a man with a massive head, such as Gen. Greene is reported to have had. His head was almost as large as Daniel Webster's. Col. Gardiner says the skull was so large as to attract immediate attention after its discovery. The hands of the General, encased in silk gloves, were well preserved, considering the great length of time he had been buried.

Col. Gardiner believes the remains of Gen. Greene and those of his son should remain in Georgia. He would not think of removing them from the State. They will be kept in Savannah. The local committee that assisted in the search for the grave will be called upon for an opinion as to the best spot for the final resting place of the remains.

WAGERS THAT HE WILL GET CONVERTS.

Banker-Evangelist to Put Up $1,000 That He Will Save Fifteen Souls in Two Weeks.

CHICAGO, March 5.—Duke M. Farson, a banker and evangelist, will hold revival meetings at the Sheffield Avenue Methodist Church on a wager. He had a conference yesterday with the Rev. Richard A. Morley, pastor of the church, to settle the preliminaries. Mr. Farson handed Mr. Morley a letter stipulating exactly the conditions of the contest, and Mr. Morley assented to it. It is in part:

"You are to turn over your church building for a period of two weeks, beginning on Monday, March 11, properly lighted and heated at all hours during said two weeks. There shall be no interference with my plans during this same period, by either yourself or your official board. Further than this, you agree that during the period of the meetings there shall be no church entertainments, sociables, concerts, bazaars, fairs or other form of unholy amusements held in connection with the church, or by any societies connected with the church.

"On my part, I agree to hold a meeting at your church during all of these two weeks, or such part of the same as shall seem wise to me, appointing such preachers or other leaders as I choose. I fully believe that during this period of two weeks there will be at least fifteen people either converted or sanctified through the power of Almighty God.

"In furtherance of my expression of faith in the above proposition, I hereby agree to make a conditional subscription to your church of $1,000, to be used for church purposes, which money is to be paid to you, provided the revival does not occur."

"The Mystery of the Universe."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: While a scientific solution of what "Baffled" chooses to call the "mystery of the universe" may never be forthcoming, a great deal of it may be done away with by reasoning from a reasonable foundation.

At the base of this must be the acceptance of the fact that a soul comes to this earth more than once. Without this belief it is hard to imagine a just God, and an unjust God is an impossibility. Given this as a starting point, the rest of the puzzle may be worked out to perhaps divergent but at least reasonable conclusions.

For instance, if we return to be born again it must be under some inexorable law. Surely God does not keep busy choosing abiding places for each individual soul, but has subjected it to some law which works by itself as does the law of nature. A feature of this law which would compel a soul to seek to be born of a soul with some similar characteristics would explain to some extent the seeming law of hereditary influence.

Another important conclusion to be reached is that if there is a just God He never sent or allowed us to come to this world of trials without our consent. With this life came the great gift of independence, a privilege so great that it allows us to deny our Maker Himself. This fact is continually overlooked by those who seek to hold God responsible for our mishaps and calamities. In placing us here God granted us complete independence because without this there can be no real progress or reward. God in His m