The Sun.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 1901.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, per Month	$0 50
DAILY, per Year	6 00
SUNDAY, per Year	2 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Year	8 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Month	70

Postage to foreign countries added.

THE SUN, New York City.

PARIS—Kiosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and Kiosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

The Cost of One Blunder.

In Lord LANSDOWNE's communication concerning the canal treaty we get once more an idea of the tremendous advantage to British diplomacy gratuitously conferred by the Hon. JOHN HAY.

The British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs is able to remind the American Secretary of State, with absolute truth, that the British Government accepted unconditionally and without change or modification the agreement proposed by Mr. HAY. We did this, he says, as signal proof of our friendly disposition, and of our desire not to impede the execution of a project "declared to be of national importance to the people of the United States." And yet, adds Lord LANSDOWNE in effect, your own Senate subsequently rejected your own proposition.

There is no answer to this except one which cannot be formulated in any official communication to the Government of Great Britain; one which the Hon. JOHN HAY, for reasons on which we shall not dwell, will never formulate under any circumstances or in any shape.

The rest of Lord LANSDOWNE's argument offers little that needs discussion. It begs the question of the present validity of the old Clayton-Bulwer Treaty; assumes that under international usage it must remain a binding contract until both parties consent to its termination; and treats the joint guarantee of neutrality as the essence of the original convention, and as a sacred, eternal and indispensable principle, just as if Article V. of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty did not provide for the withdrawal of that guarantee of neutrality by either party upon six months' notice and the pretext of dissatisfaction with the tolls!

Nevertheless, we cannot blame the British Foreign Office for making the most of the advantage enthusiastically thrust into its hands by the statesman charged with the American side of the negotiations.

The Latest News From Pekin.

Although the definite solution of the Chinese problem seems yet distant, the events of the last week have thrown some light on certain features of it, to wit: the aggregate amount of the indemnity, the mode of apportioning it, the method of paying it, and lastly, the claim of Russia to special privileges in all that part of China which lies north of the Great Wall, and which includes, not only Manchuria, but also Mongolia and Chinese Turkestan.

As for the dispute between Russian and British soldiers about a railway siding in Tientsin, no sensible person can have attached any importance to the incident. Had the troops actually fired upon each other, the Governments concerned would not have allowed themselves to be driven into war, which, at this juncture, would be equally unwelcome to both. England cannot afford to be drawn into a contest with a first-class Power while the bulk of her forces are occupied in South Africa, and the last thing Russia can desire, so long as the trans-Siberian Railway remains unfinished, is to push England into the arms of Japan. The expected happened. The local commanders were ordered by their home Governments to withdraw their soldiers from the disputed siding, the right to occupy which, it is agreed, shall be determined by Field Marshal Count VON WALDERSEE. An apology has been also tendered for the annoyances caused by French soldiers in the British concession at Tientsin, and minor proofs have been given of a general resolve to enforce concord mong the allied forces in the Province of Chihli.

Our State Department has provisionally estimated at $25,000,000 the indemnity which we should be justified in demanding from China, by way not only of compensation for the cost of our military and naval demonstration, which is put at about $5,000,000, but also of actual and exemplary damages for the indignity offered to our Government by the assault on its legation and for the loss of life and property on the part of American citizens. As the Berlin Government computes the sum already expended on its military and naval expedition at nearly $31,000,000, and has avowed a purpose of exacting exemplary damages for the murder of its Minister, as well as for other losses of life and property, it is obvious that the total German demand will greatly exceed that put forward by the United States. If proportional exactions should be made by Great Britain, France, Russia and Japan, the aggregate would materially exceed China's present ability to pay. This difficulty our State Department has proposed to meet in either of two ways: First, the Powers shall agree to require from China the payment of a lump sum commensurate with her existing financial resources, the lump sum to be subsequently divided among the allied Powers, in proportion to their several claims. The objection to this plan is that it provides no tribunal to test the validity or reasonableness of claims. The other proposal seems unobjectionable; it is that both the aggregate amount of the indemnity and the apportionment thereof shall be determined by the court of arbitration established by the Peace Conference at The Hague. There is some prospect of a general consent to this suggestion.

As for the method of paying the indemnity, when adjusted, Gen. JAMES H. WILSON, in his new and valuable book on China, expresses the opinion that an increase of the tariff on foreign goods to 15 per cent. *ad valorem* in gold, would yield an annual customs revenue of $75,000,000, a sum which would amply suffice for the interest and sinking fund incidental to a large foreign loan. At present, foreign merchandise pays a duty of only 5 per cent. *ad valorem* in silver, and, before the outbreak of the Boxer troubles, yielded about $22,000,000, the greater part of which is required for the interest and amortization of the existing foreign debt, which is, approximately, $250,000,000. It seems, however, according to a telegram from Pekin which we printed on Monday, that the British Government is opposed to raising the tariff at the treaty ports at the present time. Sir ROBERT HART suggests a substitute which would take the form of a stamp tax, a tax on native opium and a house tax; it is computed that these imposts, collectively, would produce from thirty-five to ninety-five million taels. We presume that these taxes, like the customs duties, would be collected by the Chinese Government, though they might be placed under the supervision of a foreign employee like Sir ROBERT HART.

According to our correspondent at Pekin, the St. Petersburg Government has consented to modify its demands with reference to that part of the Chinese Empire lying north of the Great Wall. In Mongolia and Chinese Turkestan, it is willing that Chinese shall share with Russians the privilege of securing mining and railway concessions, from which, however, the subjects of all other Powers are to be debarred. Russia further agrees that in Manchuria the Chinese Army shall maintain order until the completion of the Manchurian Railway. Neither will it insist upon keeping a Resident at Moukden, or upon substituting the formal annexation of Kinchow and Port Arthur for the lease under which those places are now held.

Whether the Chinese Government will assent to the Russian demands, thus modified, is still uncertain. Neither do we know what view of the transaction will be taken by some of the allied Powers. As for Germany, Count VON BÜLOW asserted in the Reichstag that the Anglo-German agreement did not bind the signatories to protest against a Russian annexation or protectorate of Manchuria, though, he added, he should be sorry to see China's fiscal resources crippled by the loss of the customs revenues derived from Newchwang and other Manchurian ports. According to a telegram from Yokohama, the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs takes a very different view of the Anglo-German agreement, to which, it will be remembered, Japan adhered. He holds that Manchuria was distinctly comprehended in the compact to uphold China's territorial integrity. Our State Department has not yet publicly signified whether it has the same understanding of the purport of the Anglo-German convention.

Americanism, German-Americanism and Germanism.

The excellent purpose and great public usefulness of the Legal Aid Society were properly recognized by the speakers at the banquet given on Saturday night in celebration of its twenty-fifth anniversary. We note especially Vice-President ROOSEVELT's remarks congratulating Mr. VON BRIESEN upon the circumstance that what was originally the Deutscher Rechtsschutzverein has become thoroughly Americanized. Mr. ROOSEVELT said:

"All around this room I see men of divers creeds, of divers race origin, who meet here to night simply as citizens of this city, and as citizens of this country. We cannot make this city what it should be, or this country what it should be, until we realize that he is an enemy to the development of our people who permits for one moment the existence of any dividing line of class, creed or race among those Americans, whatever their creed or birthplace, who honestly and in good faith strive for the welfare of America."

The applause which greeted these loyal words finds no echo in the office of our professionally "German-American" contemporary, the *Staats-Zeitung* of New York. That newspaper, in the extraordinary article which we reprint in another column, hastens to declare itself just such an enemy to the development of our people as Mr. ROOSEVELT described in the passage quoted above. The *Staats-Zeitung* in this instance does not fall back merely upon the "German-Americanism" which is ordinarily its stock in trade. It goes beyond that and sets up here on Manhattan Island a "Germanism" as something to be admired, encouraged and upheld, in contrast with an "Americanism" which it characterizes in somewhat offensive terms as "Germanism's" bad antitype.

Instead of rejoicing that the old Deutscher Rechtsschutzverein has broadened in the course of years into an institution partaking of the true national spirit, the *Staats-Zeitung* deplores that circumstance. It attacks the Hon. CHARLES S. FAIRCHILD, Mr. ROOSEVELT, and even the President of the society itself, Mr. ARTHUR VON BRIESEN, for failing to recognize "Germanism" rather than Americanism as the dominant spirit of the society's good work. It goes on to say:

"The Legal Aid Society is the product not of the American but of the real German spirit. The American talks a great deal about justice, but is perfectly satisfied when he receives it for himself. The German's blood boils when he sees an injustice done to others just as much as when he himself is a victim. * * * This celebration should have been a glorification of German energy, German sense of right and German activity in general."

Finally, the *Staats-Zeitung* warns the American citizens of German birth or descent who have made the Legal Aid Society what it is to-day that by supine acquiescence in such sentiments as Mr. ROOSEVELT expressed they have forfeited their right on other occasions "to boast of their Germanism," and it tells them substantially that they have surrendered their birthright "in the presence of conceited knownothingism and patronizing arrogance."

Unfortunate would it be if the utterances of the *Staats-Zeitung* correctly represented the attitude of a majority of our fellow citizens with German blood in their veins toward the republic which they have adopted as their own country and love even above the land of birth! Instead of being an integral part of the American nation, upholding our institutions, living our life, and sharing our aspirations and hopes, they would constitute a colony of exiles settled for more or less sordid reasons upon American soil in the midst of a community generally obnoxious to their alien minds and alien souls.

But the *Staats-Zeitung* does not represent the very constituency for which it professedly and professionally speaks.

Religion and the Bull Market.

The Rev. Dr. ALEXANDER, a Presbyterian minister, in a sermon on Sunday evening, described gambling as "epidemic in this city at the present time." If we include in gambling stock speculation on margins, as he did, the epidemic, undoubtedly, is here, but it is by no means a novel visitation peculiar to this time.

Since the Presidential election stock speculation has continued in great activity, and the volume of business done has aggregated more than ever before in the same time; but relatively to the substantial wealth of this country it is no greater than it has been often in the past. We have had bull markets before and it is such markets that draw in the outside public to speculate. Often before have preachers reprobated the "haste to get rich," but they have never lessened it. Practically everybody who is not rich is in that haste, and those who hold back from the current speculation are not deterred by any scruples against making money too fast, but by the prudence which warns them that by courting the chance they may be made poorer rather than richer. If it was a sure thing would not clergymen elbow laymen in the rush after it?

We do not wonder, however, that preachers are now crying out against the bull market as a distraction from religious meditation, for such it is unquestionably. A bull market is not conducive to religious revival. When Wall Street is booming, it may be assumed that churches are not thronged with anxious souls.

Great religious revivals, as, for example the "Great Awakening" of 1857, always accompany or follow periods of business depression. When shipwreck impends the crew turns from cursing to praying. When earth has brought only sorrow and disappointment and men lose hope of saving themselves from ruin they cry out for a Divine hand to save them. The warnings of the Gospels to the rich and prosperous, whose thought is on the treasures of this world rather than the treasures of heaven, are the most emphatic uttered by CHRIST.

When this first year of the new century began a plan previously formulated for the stimulation of a great and general religious revival was put in operation on a wide scale, but no such revival has followed. We see in newspapers reports of religious awakenings in particular churches in specific places, but they are few and without the consuming fire of the revivals of former days. From all parts of the Union come rather expressions of exultation over earthly prosperity and evidences of an eager desire in every community to get in the current which sweeps along to wealth.

It is true that this is a time when also there is a cooling of religious faith, but the great revivals have always come when the vitality of faith was low and the spark needed to be rekindled lest it die away. That there is such need now cannot be denied, yet no revival appears and the organized effort made to stir it up has been in vain, frustrated by men's absorption in the chase after the good things of this life. No man can serve two masters.

The spirit that drives men in this rush after a chance to get money quickly, to make hay while the sun shines, the Rev. Dr. ALEXANDER called the gambling spirit, and it cannot be denied that it is of that nature. Unquestionably, too, it is of the earth, earthy, as distinguished from the spirit which impels men, first of all, to work out their salvation with fear and trembling, fastening their thoughts and concentrating their aspirations on the things above and on eternity and not time.

The Wind Clan.

Col. BRYAN shows his continuing aversion to harmony with Democrats not attuned to himself by drawing his pen and jabbing therewith the fairy form of the Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND. To tell the truth, the Colonel doesn't make a graceful attack. He has not the command of ink that he has of voice; and in the matter of dulness and reverberant monotony we are not sure that there is much to choose between the Ostrich Tamer and the Fisherman.

Still, the candid philosopher must agree with much that Col. BRYAN has to say about Mr. CLEVELAND, and with what Mr. CLEVELAND is known to think about Col. BRYAN. About each other these distinguished Democrats are substantially right, whatever be their varying degrees of correctness or incorrectness as to other subjects.

It may not be courteous, but it is natural that two of a trade should not agree. The members of the Wind Clan of the Omahas used to spread and shake their blankets when a wind was wanted; but as a rule windmaker does not love wind-maker, and the Wind Clan is torn by divisions.

After the Conference.

Putting out of consideration the Constitutional question involved in Senator PLATT's plan to remove from New York city the control of its police, his parting words in abandoning the effort to accomplish it must be criticised as indicative more of passion than of the philosophic view:

"If it turns out in the next municipal election that the judgment which I have formed upon this subject has been wrong then I shall be glad that Tammany has been left in control of the police."

Mr. PLATT forgets that practically he is as much responsible for the Police law now on the statute books as Governor ODELL is. Indeed, at the beginning of the session of the Legislature the Senator had agreed to the Governor's message looking to a law certainly no more despotic than the one we have. To try, under the circumstances, to put upon the shoulders of those who disapprove his police policy the responsibility for winning or losing the next contest for the control of the city seems somewhat like running away from his friends.

The discussion as to further legislation being pronounced closed it is needless to debate whether the city's being deprived of the control of its police by the State would or would not tend to swell the Tammany vote.

But it surprises us greatly that Mr. PLATT, speaking from his place in politics, should think of attaching responsibility for anti-Tammany success to any element of the Republican party. Tammany is in power, and hence the Republican party would naturally be the candidate to succeed it, in case the people should desire to turn it out of office. But outside of both Tammany and the Republican organization is a body of enemies to each, big enough to hold the balance of power and bound to have the anti-Tammany candidate taken from among themselves or to see Tammany kept where it is.

This being the situation, to see a veteran like Senator PLATT attempting to hold fellow Republicans who dissent from his view on police legislation accountable for the result of the coming municipal election, excites our wonder.

Oliver W. of Jacksonville is the fastest running ostrich known, and paces his mile in 2:22.—*Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.*

Silver Bill, Col. BRYAN's famous Austin bird, paced the three heats in March, 1900, against the Hon. JAMES STEPHEN HOGG's Big Jim. Time: 2:21½, 2:19½, 2:20¼.

Alderman RACE of Chicago is distributing cigars done up in tissue paper which bears this legend:

"Smoke a Cigar With Alderman RACE, Candidate for Reelection, 35th Ward."

It is said that some politicians have a good brand of cigars for themselves and a nefarious one for their constituents. By such base economies is ruin reached. The candidate who distributes cigars takes his life in his hands. Woe be unto him if his gifts are malodorous and disappointing. Doubtless Alderman RACE knows his cigars and is really doing a favor to the voters of his ward. But the expedient is ticklish.

The park system of Washington is one of the most important in the country, and it is therefore satisfactory to learn that Mr. CHARLES F. MCKIM of the New York firm of MCKIM, MEAD & WHITE, has been asked to be the third member of the Park Commission for the District of Columbia, Mr. J. H. BURNHAM of Chicago and FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED, Jr., of Boston being already appointed as the other two. It is to be hoped that Mr. MCKIM will take the place.

A Lewiston, Me., correspondent asks if "HORACE BOIES of Iowa is still living." We believe that he is, and that he is still spouting the praises of his old friend, tariff reform. The *Philadelphia Record* prints a piece about "Industrial Dictators" by HORACE BOIES. Probably he is already busy with the "reorganization" of the Democratic party.

SOUTHERN HISTORY IN RAILROADS.

Regeneration of That Section of the Country Shown by Its Business.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

The return of confidence in Southern industries and the South generally has been strikingly demonstrated by the great advance in the shares of Southern railroads, which yesterday rose to the highest figures for the decade. Louisville and Nashville shares crossed par and Southern Railway advanced above 81, while the Missouri Pacific is selling just a little under 100. So, too, with the shares of other Southern railroads and, indeed, of all Southern securities generally.

When one contemplates the bettered conditions which have carried the shares of the Louisville and Nashville from the 20s up to par and those of the Southern Railway from 15 to 81, the story of development is a marvellous one. The part the Southern Railway has played is even more remarkable than that of the older line. The Louisville and Nashville is the first of Southern railroads and it has had the pick and choice of Southern territory. Its properties and connections are so valuable that it survived the panic of 1893 when so large a proportion of other railroads went into the hands of receivers, and during all that period of stress it never defaulted on a dollar of its obligations. The Southern Railway was organized out of the wreck of the old Richmond Terminal system in the dark days of five-cent cotton and $7 pig iron, and it seemed a hopeless proposition to the majority of financiers. Fortunately Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan was one capitalist who was able to look into the future and discern what splendid material was in the structure that had just been struck by the financial cyclone and how fair was the site upon which it had been reared. He determined to rebuild it, and the result is before us in one of the great railway systems of the world, which is able to meet all its obligations to its creditors, is now paying a 2 per cent. dividend on its $60,000,000 preferred stock and has shown such earning power that its $120,000,000 of common stock, once regarded as worthless, now has a market value of over 25 per cent. It is almost a parallel to the magnificent stories of the Pacific roads in the Northwest.

Another great railway system in the Southwest can duplicate these stories of development. The Missouri Pacific was regarded by so astute a financier as Jay Gould twenty-five years ago as likely to become one of the greatest trunk lines in the United States. He obtained control and transmitted the ownership to his family, his eldest son and executor being its President and its largest owner. Map as the system was, it was known in the language of the stock exchange, that a hard time after the shrewdest intellect of Wall Street had gone to his "final compt." It fell from the height of speculative favor to the lowest depth of financial despair. For ten years it has not paid a dividend and in the dark days of the panic its shares went begging as low as 10. Still the possibilities of value were there all the time and the judgment of Jay Gould has been vindicated today, when Missouri Pacific has become one of the largest trunk lines in the world and its shares are selling around par, though never a dividend has been declared.

The same is true of all the other Southern and Southwestern railroads, and the same conditions have advanced their shares and all kindred securities. The development of the South is their keynote, backed up by conservative and able management. The South has been slower in coming to its own than the West and Northwest, but it is assuredly coming. The people have more money and are understanding the new enterprises which the South has long needed, but which it could not have before. The prosperity and high prices of Southern railroad stocks and bonds are only indications of general conditions.

A CARD FROM JUDGE GAYNOR.

Story of a Ramapo Bribe Having Been Offered to Him Pronounced Without Foundation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I read in THE SUN of March 19, during my absence from the city, a letter purporting to be by "Arthur Barrington," in which the writer speaks (among other alleged briberies) of a bribe having been offered to me as a Judge by the Ramapo Water Company, and inquires why the felons were not prosecuted. I told I was spoken to about the matter it did not occur to me that any one could give any credence to such a statement; and that would be so except that its publication in your careful and accurate columns very naturally gives it credence.

May I therefore ask you to publish this letter of contradiction. The statement is, of course, without any foundation whatever, and yet unjust to the accused company. When I was a practising lawyer my services in behalf of the said company were sought, but for my own reasons I declined to give them, as appeared in evidence before a legislative committee. Your correspondent does not, however, refer to this, nor could any one consider an offer of a retainer to a lawyer for legal services as an attempt at bribery.

BROOKLYN, March 23. W. J. GAYNOR.

The Law as to Bumblebees in Prison Cells

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

MACON, Mo., March 19.—John Bunch, the litigant who is generally referred to in this section as the "bumblebee man," lost his $10,000 damage case against the town of La Plata in the Macon Circuit Court to-day. Judge Shelton, in deciding for the defendant on the demurrer, said the case of Ulrich vs. City of St. Louis was squarely in point, and he had found no decisions overruling it.

Mr. Bunch was arrested last fall by the town marshal and put in the calaboose. While there he was attacked by bumblebees and said no one came to his rescue during nine long hours of torture, and that when released at last he was insensible and it took two doctors nearly all night to save his life. The city was sued for negligence.

In the Ulrich case, which decided the fate of the Bunch case, the plaintiff asked for $20,000 for injuries inflicted by a vicious mule while plaintiff was an inmate of the workhouse. The injuries were inflicted while plaintiff was harnessing the mule in compliance with an order issued by the officer in charge. The Supreme Court decided the city was not liable, because an officer of a municipal government in the exercise of his duties as a police officer, is an officer of the State.

Weakfish Squeteague.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your editorial paragraph in regard to the weakfish is true in every word, but why not put in a plea for a better name for this unoffending creature? Roughly speaking he is called "squeteague" east of Long Island Sound, and "sea trout" south of the Virginia capes. Either, to my thinking, is preferable to the characteless name that he bears in the New York markets. "Squeteague" like "Tautaug" (blackfish) is a fine old aboriginal name and deserves to be perpetuated. C. L. N.

NEW YORK, March 23.

Intricate Financiering.

From the Detroit Free Press.

"Juddy and I got into a terrible tangle shopping to-day."

"How?"

"I owed her 10 cents, and borrowed 5 cents and then 50 cents."

"Well?"

"Then I paid 30 cents for something she bought—"

"Yes?"

"And she paid 40 cents for something I bought, and then we treated each other to ice cream soda."

"Well?"

"She says I still owe her a nickel."

Scribner's Magazine for April has an interesting table of contents, among the articles included in which may be named Mr. John Fox's "Southern Mountaineer," Mr. Sewell Ford's "Skipper," with colored illustrations, Mrs. Gilbert's final "Stage Reminiscences," Mr. Hornung's new Amateur Cracksman story, a sea story by Mr. James Connolly, and Mr. Pelzotto's "Cordes," illustrated by the author charmingly and characteristically.

THE CARNEGIE PROPOSITION.

As Viewed by Thoughtful Men.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: You have done a public service in challenging the acceptance of Mr. Carnegie's proposed gift of sixty-five buildings for branch libraries. The plan should present something of the originality of the United States Steel Association, but instead it only copies the methods of the past.

In the steel industry Mr. Carnegie has been prompt in conforming to the profound change in conditions due to railway and electric communication; he has been able to see that when forty or more factories in a given industry are connected by long-distance telephone, they must shortly be conducted as a single business. But he gets no light from this for use in the field of education, to which, as you properly say, the library scheme belongs. He does not see that advances are pending in school and university organization as radical and far-reaching as those marked by the great steel trust.

Through failure to perceive this, ill-advised action is now frequent in school organization under the endowment principle; certain things now applauded will become ridiculous in the near future. The school and all its belongings will follow the example of the steel industry.

Mr. Carnegie is good and generous, but in a matter so important as the library system of New York city clear direction is of far more value than grants of money.

The letter of "A Teacher," in THE SUN of March 20 sounded the right note. It is true that the need for such libraries as those proposed by Mr. Carnegie is passing. The daily newspaper, the weekly and monthly magazines, are the true circulating library of to-day and to-morrow. If you will look up the recent history of such libraries as the Mercantile of Philadelphia, I think it will appear that between the papers, magazines and low-priced fiction for sale at the corner news stands, which everywhere abound, it has come to be cheaper for the people to buy their reading matter than to pay car fare to the library.

An exhaustive inquiry ought to be made as to the actual use of such circulating libraries as now exist in New York city, measured by the increase of population and the better street car service. It should not be difficult to get at the facts.

The newspaper is to become more and more the daily book of the people, following upon the conditions which Mr. Carnegie has studied for his own business to such advantage. Even now, the new poem of world-wide interest first appears in the daily press. The end means the delivery at the breakfast table of each individual reading matter in exact accordance with his needs, thus reversing the very idea of a circulating library. This measure of distribution has already taken place for the literature of sports; it is all in the daily print for a trifling payment.

In the telephone, or instantaneous communication, the modern press, and the fast mail train, the newspaper has come to possess a perfect working machine. Prior to these conditions news organization could not on the whole be more than nominal, but it is now in the way of becoming actual and responsible on all sides. The method of journalism is to become scientific in all particulars.

When it is considered that news is the central product of communication, it is easy to see that, with the telephone coming into universal use, the most radical changes are at hand. Moreover, when the fact is grasped that the news traffic system, with its sweep, the entire organization of intelligence from university centre to the remotest social happening, it becomes worse than foolish to enter upon such a scheme as Mr. Carnegie lays down without an original inquiry.

A good deal is said about reference libraries in the city's schoolhouses. Would it not be a good plan to raise this up as the true direction for Mr. Carnegie's philanthropy? A fund might be placed at the disposal of the Board of Education to be used for library purposes only.

As to Mr. Hewitt's suggestion for lecture-rooms and clubhouses, I take it that no general scheme of the sort is wise. The clubhouse should spring from local and class impulse. Besides, it is best to wait on the transformation now going on in the churches before deciding on any club or lecture-room plan. FRANKLIN FORD.

CITY CLUB, New York, March 23.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your editorial of the 19th, on Mr. Carnegie's offer, is not only timely, but also true, every word of it. There are so many other things that we are in pressing need of that I think we ought to consider well his offer, liberal and munificent as it is, before we accept it on his terms. It seems rather extravagant to think of spending a million and a half dollars for sites, more or less, and five or six hundred thousand dollars annually for maintenance of these proposed libraries, when thousands of our children in the different boroughs are denied school facilities for want of a sufficient number of school buildings.

We need free baths for the masses. We need modern apartment houses for the poor. We need homes for old people, where indigent people can live, man and wife, after they have exhausted all their means and are old and unable to earn a living. I read in a newspaper the other day where a highly respectable and educated old couple, whose friends and relatives were all dead and money all gone, decided that they would die together rather than beg, which was seemingly their only alternative. They were found next morning locked in each others arms, both dead. The tears came into my eyes, unbidden, as I read this pitiful story, and I said to myself, oh, that some Carnegie would build homes for such people as these! We need many such homes.

Mr. Carnegie always makes his offers conditional, that is, they require somebody else to spend money. When Mr. Alfred T. White of Brooklyn builds apartments for the poor, he does not ask anybody else to do likewise. When Mr. D. O. Mills built his splendid hotels in New York for poor men, he didn't ask the city to share the expense, but went on and did it out of his own funds. More than all this, we do not need any more libraries, for the present, at least. In the ward I live in, the Twenty-fourth of Brooklyn, we have two free libraries, where any one who can give the proper reference can get any book he wants, and I am told that all, or nearly all the other wards are similarly well supplied with free libraries. Why, then, accept Mr. Carnegie's offer at such a fearful cost to the city? JOHN W. HARMAN.

BROOKLYN, March 23.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A recent correspondent suggested that those in charge of the city libraries should indicate to what extent the beneficiaries restricted themselves to the use of fictional literature. The following, from the *Academy* of Feb. 23, would suggest the propriety of their also indicating "the rapidity with which novels are devoured."

An interesting light is thrown on the rapidity with which novels are "devoured" in these days by a report from the Bradford Public Library, printed in the *Library World*. As Bradford has the time allowed for reading a novel is only seven days, but the loan may be renewed by the borrower on application. The following table shows the proportion of novels returned following the issue on a specific date:

Of 693 books issued on the 19th (Saturday)		
93	were returned on the	21st (Monday)
62	" "	22d (Tuesday)
62	" "	23d (Wednesday)
51	" "	24th (Thursday)
57	" "	25th (Friday)
206	" "	26th (Saturday)
Total, 611		

Bradford does not enforce the seven days' limit in the case of very solid books, for which ten or fourteen days are allowed. The most usual time limit in free libraries is fourteen days for all books.

It will probably be found that the American statistics do not widely diverge from those that pertain to our English confreres.

PHILADELPHIA, March 25. M.

Encroachments on the Bronx Park.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In a recent visit to Bronx Park I was surprised and indignant to see on the Park grounds a cheap building had been erected, and was then in full operation as a roadhouse drinking saloon. Its location is on the Pelham road just south of the Bronx and serves to blot out one of the fine views up that little stream.

Some time since you kindly allowed me to enter my protest against the Conservatory Building of the botanical section of this park by the location of a noisy hurdy-gurdy, merry go-round near one of its most wild and beautiful parts. I must make one more effort to stop it. Please help me to do so.

A LOVER OF THE BRONX.

JERSEY CITY, March 25.

AMERICAN AND GERMAN.

Singular Remarks by a Newspaper Printed in the German Language in This Town.

From the Staats-Zeitung of Yesterday.

Day before yesterday evening the Legal Aid Society of this town celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary by a banquet. Unfortunately, the festivities took a somewhat different turn from what those who know the history of this society had a right to expect. For nearly twenty of the twenty-five years of its existence the society bore the name of Deutscher Rechtsschutzverein and was supported exclusively by Germans. Then it changed its name, a fact which we secretly regretted but allowed to pass in silence because we did not wish to injure the praiseworthy work of the society, which is worthy of the support of every good citizen. On the contrary, we wish to point out expressly that the society, even in its present form, is doing a great deal of good, and that what it has accomplished cannot be too highly spoken of.

Nevertheless, we must express our astonishment at the fact that at the celebration mentioned the Germanism, out of which the society arose and which supported it for nearly twenty years, was pushed into the background and was treated by the greater number of speakers in a patronizing, yes, in many instances, in an insulting manner. The chairman, former Secretary of the Treasury Charles S. Fairchild, had the boldness to give it as his opinion that the chief purpose of the society was to teach immigrants the meaning of law and justice, and that the Union may be proud that it has a society which desires to give to the new arrivals who otherwise would perhaps become Anarchists, the right American ideas of equality before the law and of justice. Vice-President Roosevelt wound up his long and incoherent speech with the declaration that the greatest and best thing that the society had done consisted in the fact that it had become Americanized and that by dropping the German name had finally shown itself wholly worthy of the American spirit. Even the President of the society mentioned only in passing the part that Germanism had had in the foundation and growth of the society, recalled only a single one of the men who had taken part in it and represented German immigrants, as men with high boots, long coats, absurd hats and immense bundles. That sounded precisely as though it had been necessary to protect these persons against their own stupidity, even though perhaps that was not the speaker's meaning.

What, now, is the truth of the matter? The Rechtsschutzverein was not founded in order to train the immigrants to become good Americans, but in order to protect honest, industrious good creatures, accustomed to the protection of justice, against corrupt and bad Americans. The immigrants were unable to learn the noble American qualities through the society, because they applied first to the society after they had found out that there was no justice to be obtained in American courts for a poor man without political influence. America may be proud that there are people who give money and time in order to help their fellow citizens in need, but the fact that the necessity exists for such a Legal Aid Society is not a cause of pride, but of shame. In no other civilized land is such a society necessary.

The Legal Aid Society, moreover, is the product not of the American, but of the real German spirit. The American talks a great deal about justice, but is perfectly satisfied when he receives it for himself. The German's blood boils when he sees an injustice done to others just as much as when he himself is a victim. It is from this peculiarity of mind that this society arose, and to be silent about it now and to ascribe the whole credit for it to the Americans, or to allow ourselves to be joyfully patted on the shoulder because we have thrown overboard what was German and have at last become American, that is to say, have risen to a higher point of civilization is—well, we will say it is neither German nor manly.

This celebration should have been a glorification of German energy, German sense of right and German activity in general. The Americans should have been told that they deserved credit because they had finally, after twenty years, followed in the path that the Germans had marked out for them. That, instead of this, Germanism and its activity were practically wholly forgotten, that the celebration was turned into a painful wagging of the tail in the presence of conceited knownothingism and patronizing arrogance is very mortifying. The persons who organized the celebration will have to settle that matter among themselves, but will have no right on other occasions to boast of their Germanism after they have shown how flattered they feel when an American smiles upon them graciously.

CANNIBALISM IN HAYTI.

A Card Concerning Mr. Bassett's Denial of Its Existence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I notice a lengthy communication on your editorial page to-day from ex-Minister Bassett correcting certain alleged assertions of mine concerning cannibalism and voodoism in Hayti.

Permit me to say that your correspondent, whose communication was most courteous, labors under a mistake in thinking that I said the things which it is alleged that I said. The article in the Washington *Post* and other papers concerning Hayti purporting to be an interview with me was not written by me at all. It was written as a syndicate article by my friend, Mr. Rene Bache, and contrary to his usual custom, and no doubt unintentionally on his part, did not correctly quote me.

I have personally seen no cannibalism in Hayti, and written nothing concerning the republic except the matter contained in my book on "Cuba and Porto Rico with the Other Islands of the West Indies," a review of a book entitled "Where Black Rules White," in the *Nation* of last week, and an unpublished article on my desk entitled "The Other Side of Hayti." In all these articles I agree with your correspondent that Hayti is not so black as it has been painted.

ROBERT T. HILL.

What Love Is.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Concerning the definition of "love" permit me to suggest the one hundred and sixteenth of Shakespeare's sonnets, which reads as follows:

"Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove.
O, no! it is an ever-fixed mark
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;
It is the star to every wandering bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
Love's not time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come.
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
If this be error and upon me proved,
I never writ, nor no man ever loved."

The thirteenth chapter of St. Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians may be mentioned here as the most eloquent and beautiful of all the definitions of what "love" really means. WILLIAM H. CLARKE.

NEW YORK, March 23.

Senator Morgan on Negro Disfranchisement.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

Dear Mr. Greer: The Apportionment bill and the counting of the Electoral vote, without the question being raised as to the Constitutionality of the Presidential election in Louisiana and Mississippi, is a distinct victory for white suffrage.

Maryland has seen her opportunity and has hastened to profit by it. When things are coming our way there is no necessity for clamorous discussion until they are settled, lest some one might interrupt. So I think the least said is the best just now on the negro question. Those people will begin to draw off to the Philippines at an early day. They are already going to Hawaii and we shall soon find room for white people in the South. Then we shall be a free and happy people.

When the time arrives I will elaborate these views, but at present it is better not to discuss them. We should take a lesson from the Cubans and discuss the negro question with closed doors in our convention. The silent progress we are making is very encouraging. Sincerely yours,

JOHN T. MORGAN.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 19.

INDUSTRIAL CRISIS IN SPAIN

Loss of Trade Due to Loss of Colonies—Commercial Treaty With This Country Urged.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Consul General Lay sends to the State Department from Barcelona a translation of a report recently made to the Provincial Council by a society of Barcelona manufacturers, upon the causes of the present industrial crisis in Spain and the means to remedy it. The report says:

"The two industries that have suffered most through the loss of the colonies are those connected with cotton and flour, nearly the whole of their large production having been sent to that market.

"After having been unable to export any flour to Cuba during the time that the commercial agreement with the United States was in force, when it lapsed in 1894 this branch of industry resumed its exports, which reached the highest figures in 1897, falling to one-third in the following year and disappearing altogether after the Treaty of Paris. To-day the flour mills, with their excellent machinery, which furnished these exports, are no longer necessary, their output causing overproduction, from which the trade suffered severely last year. Ropes and twines show diminishing exports from 1893, due partly to the commercial arrangement with the United States and partly to the war which broke out in 1895. The war was also responsible for the decline in the exports of woollen goods, linens and silks, which have fallen steadily and brought about a general crisis in these branches of trade.

"Boots and shoes, which represented our largest exports to Cuba, have since 1898 been met by the American competition and during the past two years the exports have declined considerably.

"We do not mention several other products, the exports of which were unimportant, but, generally speaking, we may say that all have suffered by the loss of the colonies, as is proved by the fact that the exports to Cuba, which amounted to $167,000,000, were in the year 1898 reduced to $66,000,000, those to Porto Rico fell from $41,000,000 to $13,000,000, and those to the Philippines from $40,000,000 to only $27,000,000 in 1898.

"Our present position with respect to the Antilles and the Philippines is as follows:

"Cuba, subject to a military occupation pending the decision as to its future, grants us the same terms it does to other countries, including the United States. Porto Rico, since April 12, 1900, has applied the United States tariff to all foreign goods and the Philippines treat us in the same way as all other countries, the United States included.

"In regard to Cuba, we must watch closely the decision of its Parliament and at once enter into negotiations as soon as its independence is recognized. Should it be annexed to the United States, which is not likely, we shall have to seek for concessions through a commercial treaty with the United States, which is what we must do to obtain concessions in Porto Rico.

"With respect to the Philippines, we can only wait, seeing that according to the Treaty of Paris any advantage conceded to the United States during ten years is to be at once extended to Spain.

"The first thing to be done is therefore to make a treaty of commerce with the United States, which might be based on our second tariff and the special concessions granted to Switzerland, Sweden and Norway, and Holland."

GEN. MILES RETURNS FROM HAVANA.

His Address to Delegates of the Cuban Constitutional Convention.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Lieut.-Gen. Miles and Capt. Whitney