The Sun.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 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.

Funston.

Here is a man who has at least common sense enough to state his doubts with brevity and to expect a brief reply:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As one of your regular readers and occasional admirers, I beg to ask you for a candid, straightforward answer to the following brief question:

"Do you consider FUNSTON'S success in bagging AGUINALDO, by use of forgery and disguise, an action of which Americans can feel proud?

"Or is it an action disgraceful and cowardly, and one of which every American must feel ashamed?

"JOHN A. STILLWATER.

"BROOKLYN, April 2."

To which we reply candidly and straightforwardly that in our opinion no American need feel ashamed of FUNSTON or of FUNSTON's achievement.

His methods were legitimate and within the rules of war and consistent with the soldier's personal honor.

Intention to deceive there was. Intention to deceive there is when a General makes a feint to the right with a purpose all the time to move to the left; or when he causes misleading misinformation of any sort to reach his antagonist; or even when the Captain of a man-of-war paints the hull of his ship with a color likely to be confused with the darkness or the fog; or when he dowses the glim to delude the foe on any occasion.

A false front is forgery in one sense; and disguise is the essence of strategy. You can apply the ugly words to military deeds, just as you can call the killing of the enemy murder, if you prefer to use that term.

War is hell, and unfortunately hell is still on earth; and while it remains we are lucky to possess a few such gentlemanlike, honorable, enterprising and successful devils as Brigadier-General FREDERICK FUNSTON, formerly of Kansas, now of the Hall of Fame.

Some Fairness in Disfranchisement.

Disfranchisement has been adopted in several Southern States by Constitutional amendments, by the adoption of new election laws without opportunity for the expression of popular opinion, or by poll tax restrictions devised as obstacles to the suffrage; but in Alabama alone a method has been adopted which satisfies the requirements of decent fairness.

That State has a very large colored population, with many colored illiterates, while the number of white illiterates is relatively small, but it is proceeding toward negro disfranchisement with some respect for the principles of our political system. On the 23d of this month, at an election to be participated in by all the voters of Alabama, black and white, without any new discrimination whatever, two questions are to be referred to the citizens: First, whether or not there shall be a Constitutional Convention and, secondly, who, if the calling of a convention is approved, shall be the delegates to it.

Each Alabama voter will have the opportunity to declare his preference for or against the convention, and, if in favor of it, he will vote on a separate ticket for members of the convention. Of these, 55 are to be chosen by the State at large and 100 locally, that being the number of the lower house of the Montgomery Legislature. On May 7 the vote is to be canvassed officially for Governor, Attorney-General and Secretary of State, and, if the convention is approved, a Constitutional Convention of 155 members will be summoned to meet in Montgomery on May 21.

The session is to be limited to fifty days and is to be subject to an inhibition as to certain articles of the present Constitution relating to taxation, representation and the situation of the State capital, and the new Constitution adopted is to be submitted within sixty days to the people of the State for their ratification or rejection.

It is assumed that a disfranchising clause will be a feature of the new Constitution; but if it is adopted in a fair and orderly way, after the voters of the State have had due opportunity for argument and protest, that is a great improvement on the fashionable Southern method of getting rid of the negro votes.

The Chinese Indemnity: How Sir Robert Hart Would Pay It.

According to a telegram from our correspondent at Pekin, Sir ROBERT HART, who, for many years, has been maintained by the Chinese Government in the office of Commissioner of Maritime Customs, has lately had a conference on the indemnity question with a committee appointed by the foreign Ministers. He explained in detail a plan by which, in his opinion, China could raise the money to pay the various claims. As, in spite of Germany's opposition, his plan met with the approval of a majority of the committee, we may probably assume that it will be ultimately adopted.

The scheme proposed by him is that China shall not attempt to borrow in a lump sum the aggregate amount of the indemnities demanded, but that each Power shall accept Chinese bonds for the specific amount due to it, and that these bonds shall be redeemed within a certain limit of time, say fifty years. The securities for the redemption of these bonds are to be, not the customs duties, no increase of which for the purpose is now proposed, but the following revenues, to wit: the likin, the tax on opium and "the regular tax on house owners." Let us see what these revenues now yield.

According to the Chinese Board of Revenue, the total collections of the likin, or inland transit dues, in all the eighteen provinces amount to 17,000,000 or 18,000,000 taels; the tael, it should be remembered is worth about 70 cents in gold. According to Gen. JAMES H. WILSON, however, these figures include, first, the likin on foreign opium, amounting to about 1,000,000 taels, which is accounted for in the maritime customs returns; and, secondly, the likin on salt, estimated at nearly 7,000,000 taels, which appears in the separate official statement of the product of the salt monopoly. Gen. WILSON's deduction is that the actual yield of the likin, aside from foreign opium and salt, otherwise accounted for, is only from 9,000,000 to 10,000,000 taels. If we accept the last-named figure, the present annual value of the likin in gold would not exceed $7,000,000. What has Sir ROBERT HART in mind when, among the revenues to be pledged for the indemnities, he specifies the tax on opium? We have already seen that a tax on foreign opium amounting to about 1,000,000 taels is accounted for in the maritime customs returns from the treaty ports. According to Gen. WILSON, however, foreign opium supplies also a large part of the return, estimated at 5,000,000 taels, from native maritime and inland Custom Houses which are not under Sir ROBERT HART'S supervision. There is, of course, a great quantity of domestic opium produced, which is taxed as it passes from place to place in the course of distribution; but, as this tax figures in the likin, we have already accounted for it in the 10,000,000 taels attributed to that source. As to foreign opium, although exact data on the subject are not obtainable, it seems to follow from what is said above, that the combined annual yield of the duties imposed on it at treaty ports, non-treaty ports and inland Custom Houses, can hardly exceed 3,000,000 or 4,000,000 taels, or, say, at the outside, $2,800,000 in gold.

What is meant by "the regular tax on house owners?" In Gen. WILSON's exhaustive account of China's fiscal system, we find no reference to an impost described in the terms quoted, and we infer that what our correspondent has in view is the well-known land tax which in China has been long looked upon as the principal source of revenue. As we pointed out on a previous occasion, the yield of this tax for all the provinces should, according to the Chinese Red Book, amount to 32,845,474 taels in silver, and to 4,356,382 piculs of rice, or to about 40,000,000 taels in all. This assessment, however, was fixed at about the beginning of the century, and is considerably in excess of the sum actually collected. Gen. WILSON computes that, in the years preceding the outbreak of the Boxer troubles, the annual return from this source was not more than 27,500,000 taels, or rather more than $20,000,000 in gold. At the same time, Gen. WILSON thinks that the Imperial Government could easily raise an annual income from this source alone of 104,000,000 taels, if a tax of only a quarter of a tael per acre per year on the land actually under cultivation were imposed and honestly collected.

To sum up, we find that the revenues upon which Sir ROBERT HART would make the aggregate indemnity due to foreign Powers a first charge, now represent, or would represent, if peace and order were restored, a total annual revenue of $29,800,000, which, however, according to Gen. WILSON, could be largely augmented. Of course, the whole amount of this revenue has been hitherto required for imperial and provincial purposes, and it is difficult to see how China could afford to set aside more than a third of it for the interest and sinking fund incident to bonds redeemable in fifty years.

If no more than this can be done, the aggregate indemnity should not exceed $200,000,000, for even this sum would require China to provide at least 5 per cent., or $10,000,000 annually for interest and amortization.

Massachusetts and the Belgian Hare.

The annual banquet of the New England Belgian Hare Club was held in Boston Monday night. It settled, or is thought to have settled, a momentous question. The Belgian hare is easy to produce; is it good to consume? We are not sure that Los Angeles, the Belgian hare capital and mother city, has given much thought to the problem. For a long time, at least, Los Angeles must have found these gifted quadrupeds too expensive to eat. There has been more money in selling them. The New England specimens are mostly of the gilt-edged sort, and the thrifty breeders cannot sacrifice any of them without a pang. Then the art of cooking Belgian hares has no down upon its cheeks as yet. The sublime artists have yet to arise. But courage and the readiness to cook and eat regardless of expense or suffering are not wanting in New England. So divers choice Belgian hares were butchered to make a Yankee holiday.

It must be admitted that the diners were resolved to like the hare meat. Their palates were prepared to respond to the touch of enlightened self-interest. Hare flesh was tasted and found good. The Belgian hare soup was thought to be delicious. The fricasseed Belgian hare was very like chicken. The roasted Belgian hare was very like turkey. Consider the genius and the versatility of an animal which has the merits of chicken and of turkey. Doubtless boiled Belgian hare is very like capon; stewed Belgian hare can't be distinguished from terrapin; and Belgian hare in the pot is pigeon pot pie to the life. Belgian hare club sandwiches will be on the bill of fare of the Somerset Club next week. The Hon. EDWARD ATKINSON has already computed that a family of nine can live on a Belgian hare and an Aladdin oven for nine days. The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, ever foremost in good works, has added a Belgian Hare Day to its calendar and at its "smoker" in the Faneuil Hall Armory to-night will try the merits of smoked Belgian hare as a shoehorn to champagne. There is no visible limit to the culinary possibilities of Belgian hare.

Massachusetts is preserving the Gypsy Moth at great expense. It is generally admitted that vegetation will have to die out in the State; and beans are already the subject of a Trust. Dark would be the prospects of a sufficient food supply were it not for the beneficent potentialities of

"The little Belgian rabbit
So increasing in its habit"

as the old folk song says. The Belgian rabbit outstrips all censuses and defies competition. Prof. JAMES MILLS PEIRCE of Harvard College has demonstrated by means of permutations and combinations that by 1910 the number of Belgian hares in the State will be 1,998,743,411. By dividing the land, exclusive of the public parks and cemeteries, into reservations, each surrounded by a neat wire fence, the State will be sure of an ample food supply for generations to come. But care must be taken not to overdo. If the Belgian hare has a fault, it is ambition; and the example of the Gypsy Moth should teach the Massachusetts folks to be reserved in encouraging strangers.

But the Belgian hare is not merely food; it is clothes. At this same banquet were shown Belgian hare mats, rugs, gloves, and so on. The Erving Winslow Belgian hare muff is already on the market. Col. CHARLES R. CODMAN wore a pair of Belgian hareskin overshoes to the Anti-Imperialist wake in Faneuil Hall Saturday night. The Belgian Hare Boston Bag is becoming a familiar sight in the streets and the electric cars. Gen. SAMBO BOWLES now wears a Belgian hare tippit when he makes his weekly pastoral visit to Agawam. In short, the Belgian hare, like HESPERUS, bringeth all things. The Massachusetts people have an easier source of food and clothing than any other tribe that we have heard of, not excepting the Fish Skin Tartars; and we dare say that there will be Belgian hareskin wigwams on the Common before June.

Italy in Tripoli.

The opening of an Italian Post Office in the capital of the Turkish Province of Tripoli in North Africa a short time ago was made the occasion of a naval demonstration by the Italian Government. A squadron of warships was sent to Tripoli to give éclat to the proceedings, which, owing to the almost entirely Italian character of the foreign population, took the form of a national celebration lasting several days.

Yildiz Kiosk was informed by the Vali through the direct cable between Constantinople and Benghazi of what was going on, and without loss of time 3,000 troops were despatched to reënforce the garrisons of the coast, the Sultan's suspicions of Italy's intentions regarding his last remaining province in Africa having been thoroughly aroused.

Coincidently with the sending of troops to Tripoli, the reserves with the army in Macedonia whose terms of service are about expiring have been notified by the Turkish War Office that they will be kept under the colors until further orders, the attitude of Montenegro, Servia and Bulgaria and the fear of an Albanian revolt under Italian influence requiring the Turks to remain on guard at all points in Macedonia.

"Satisfied With America."

Col. BRYAN'S view of the situation is not less gloomy than it was before the capture of AGUINALDO. He is reported as saying that if all the insurgent Filipinos should surrender, "there is still left the appeal to the American conscience." That is to say, if every man, woman and child in the Philippines were satisfied with America and were happy under American sovereignty, there would still be WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN and the Anti-Imperialists to placate.

On the very day when Col. BRYAN, at Lincoln, Nebraska, was declaring himself an irreconcilable, EMILIO AGUINALDO at Manila was taking the oath of allegiance to the United States. Just before taking that oath, and after having learned from Chief Justice ARELLANO what the United States Government was doing and expected to do in the Philippines, so far as the Filipino Chief Justice could afford the information, AGUINALDO had remarked:

"Enough! I am satisfied with America."

And then he swore that he would bear true faith and allegiance to the United States Government. He came in under the flag; and sooner or later all the Filipinos will have followed him.

That leaves Col. WILLIAM J. BRYAN and the Anti-Imperialists away behind their late hero and idol. He is satisfied with America. They are dissatisfied with America and intend to stay dissatisfied.

The Billion Dollar Drink Bill.

The *American Grocer* estimates the total expenditure of the people of the United States for beverages of all sorts in the year 1900 at $1,228,674,925, of which over a billion dollars was expended for alcoholic beverages. The estimated consumption was as follows:

Alcoholic drinks	$1,059,563,787
Coffee	125,798,530
Tea	37,312,608
Cocoa	6,000,000
	$1,228,674,925

In volume consumed coffee led beer:

	Gallons.
Coffee	1,257,985,296
Beer	1,221,500,160
Tea	416,515,885
Spirits and wines	112,675,873

The theory of the *American Grocer* is that in prosperous times the consumption of alcoholic liquor increases. Yet this generalization does not seem to be sustained beyond dispute by the subjoined figures of per capita consumption in the United States, as reported by the Bureau of Statistics at Washington:

	Spirits. Gallons.	Wine. Gallons.	Beer. Gallons.	Total. Gallons.
1891	1.43	.45	15.31	17.19
1892	1.51	.44	15.17	17.12
1893	1.52	.48	16.20	18.20
1894	1.34	.31	15.32	16.97
1895	1.13	.28	15.13	16.54
1896	1.01	.26	15.38	16.66
1897	1.02	.53	14.94	16.50
1898	1.12	.28	15.96	17.36
1899	1.17	.35	15.28	16.80
1900	1.27	.40	16.01	17.68

It will be observed that the highwater mark of individual thirst for alcohol was reached, not in a season of national prosperity and buoyant hopefulness, but in 1893, the year of President CLEVELAND'S second inauguration; that is to say, in the first of the "four years more of GROVER."

In that memorable year the average American citizen took in eighteen and one-fifth gallons of alcoholic stimulant and then stood up and faced the hard times.

The popularity abroad of American-made articles is well illustrated by the demand in Germany for typewriters and counting machines manufactured in the United States. In a communication received recently by the State Department United States Consul WARNER, at Leipzig, states that during the first nine months of last year the German importations of machines of that sort amounted to $562,870. Of this amount 10 per cent. came from Belgium, 10.5 per cent. from England, and 75.9 per cent. from the United States. During the same period the typewriters and counting machines exported by Germany were valued at $213,010, or considerably less than one-half of that country's importations of similar merchandise. For the entire year of 1900 Germany's importations of American typewriters alone amounted to more than half a million dollars.

Consul WARNER does not agree with the sentiment expressed freely in Germany that the partial success lately achieved by inventors and mechanics in that country, in their endeavor to overcome the lead of ingenious Yankees, is likely to give much uneasiness to the latter. He holds the belief that, although the demand for labor-saving devices is increasing with great rapidity in Europe, and particularly in Germany, it will for the most part continue to be supplied by machines of American make.

When the steamboat was invented and found to be practicable, it was predicted that all sailing craft would very soon disappear. When the telegraph was introduced and extended, some people could see no further use for the mails. The success of the sewing machine, it was said, heralded the doom of all seamsters and seamstresses. The growth of the typewriter industry convinced a great many enthusiasts that pen makers and pen scribblers would sooner or later go to the wall. A few years ago it was commonly remarked that the career of the horse must soon terminate, owing to the great and rapidly increasing popularity of the bicycle. And, finally, it is to-day soberly predicted that a short time hence the demand for horses will be so small that all equine animals will be barred from the streets of the metropolis. Listen to the serious prophecy of the consulting engineer of a large motor vehicle company in this city, made last week before the New York Electrical Society:

"There are now in New York about 400 vehicles of the automobile type and about 400,000 horse-drawn vehicles. I will predict that in a few years notices will be posted to the effect that no horses are allowed upon the streets of New York, street cars will disappear, and the sidewalks will be elevated so that pedestrians will not be in the way of the electric, gasolene or steam vehicles that will then be in use."

What nonsense! Automobiles may multiply until they become as numerous as bicycles, and both may continue to multiply until the task of dodging them produces apoplexy and brain fever, and horses will still be used and admired. They may, in some parts of the country, be fewer in number, but they will not, by any means, be extirpated. Even flying machines of an infallible type may come and go, and horses, like shortsighted prophets, will still survive.

THE STRUGGLE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Since the failure of the negotiations between Lord Kitchener and Gen. Botha, hostilities seem to have been resumed with increased activity on both sides. The field of the principal operations is the southeast of the Transvaal where Gen. French is reported to be making what appears to be a clean sweep of the country adjoining Natal and Zululand.

The Boers are directing their efforts mainly to the interruption of the British communications with Natal and Delagoa Bay, it being of vital importance to them to make the transport of supplies for the British as difficult as possible. A business letter received in this city from Natal says that the holding up of trains and the capture of mailbags for the Transvaal and Bloemfontein are of such frequent occurrence that important documents are no longer entrusted to the mails and from Pretoria it is reported that the ravages of horse sickness were very great, and that little could be done to arrest or even check its progress.

This last fact would account for the slackness that has been apparent for some time in the prosecution of the campaign in the Transvaal by the British, and for the circumstance that so much of the work has fallen on the infantry. The Boers must also be suffering from the effects of the horse sickness, though probably in a less degree than the British whose horses are nearly all foreign.

Operations against the Boers in the north have begun by Gen. Plumer, who has occupied Nylstroom, half way between Pretoria and Pietersburg, but all the northeastern Transvaal still remains intact, the British not having yet been able to penetrate the mountain strongholds. The present season and the next few months, however, are favorable for a campaign in the Zoutpansburg, as the troops would escape the deadly fevers that prevail in the valleys during the summer months.

Meantime Gen. De Wet has taken the field north of the Vaal, and was last reported at Vlaklaagte near Standerton. From this it would appear that he purposes giving his attention to the railway into Natal, several trains on which have been recently derailed, one on Monday last in British territory, followed by severe fighting between the Boers and British.

As yet the plague is not reported to have made its appearance in the north, but it has been deemed expedient to make preparations at Pretoria against a possible outbreak. Small commandos still continue active in the Cape Colony.

$1,124,157,697 GOLD IN TREASURY.

Total Amount of Money in Circulation, $2,187,243,580, or $28.25 Per Capita.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The amount of money in circulation has increased to $28.25 per capita. The total circulation in March, as reported by the monthly statement of the Treasury Department to-day, was $2,187,243,580, an increase of about $166,000,000 in the last twelve months. The increase is ascribed to the phenomenal activity in trade throughout the country. The general stock of money and bullion in the Treasury has also increased rapidly, the gain in the last thirty days being about $10,000,000, bringing the grand aggregate up to $2,477,227,185.

The Treasury now holds more gold than at any time in the history of the Government and the inflow is going on rapidly. The total value of gold and bullion in the Treasury vaults now stands at $1,124,157,697, of which more than $7,000,000 was added in the month of March. During the same short period the gold in circulation decreased by the amount of about $1,500,000.

HIS COSTLY MEAL OF EGGS.

What He Ate Would Have Brought Him $600 an Hour Later.

From the Washington Evening Star.

"Six hundred dollars' worth of eggs would seem to be a rather heavy breakfast for one man to eat," observed a well-known scientist, "but I can certify that a man ate that amount of eggs, and that he told me after he had got away with them that they had not fully satisfied his hunger. Ten minutes after he had finished his meal he complained that the eggs did not seem to sit well in his stomach. It happened in this way.

"Several years since I was out in the Rocky mountains, in Colorado, hunting eggs for the Smithsonian Institution. I was instructed to devote special attention to pheasant eggs and to one variety in particular, the yellow pheasant, popularly called, which were then, as now, very scarce. The trip was on the whole rather successful, though I did not find many of the particular pheasant eggs referred to. One morning I found myself on one of the high mountains which surround the city of Georgetown, Col. I had had my own breakfast in town and rode up the mountain on a burro carrying on my search for pheasant eggs.

"About 10 o'clock I ran across a mine prospector, who was just finishing up his breakfast. After spending some time in conversation with him, I noticed some pieces of egg shell on the ground. To my surprise and delight they were the shells of the pheasant eggs that I was so anxious to find. Not supposing that he was interested in my branch of science, I mentioned in a casual way that the shells were of the egg of a certain species of yellow pheasant that I was exceedingly anxious to find or secure. Then he told me that in his wandering up on the mountain that morning he had found a nest containing the eggs, and finding that they were fresh he had eaten them, six in all.

"Then it was my turn to talk, and when I had told him that the eggs were very rare and that I would willingly pay $100 a piece for them, he looked disgusted and actually turned pale. He had been having rather a hard run of luck and felt very sorry, of course, that he had unaware partaken of such a high-priced breakfast. He thought he might be able to find another nest thereabouts and offered to furnish me six eggs of the same species for a sum considerably less than $600, which offer I accepted. We hunted together all that day and every day for over a week, but to no purpose. Three months later I made a similar find myself, but at a place 300 miles distant from there. The eggs I found are in the Smithsonian yet, and as I know are about the only eggs of that particular species in any collection in this country.

"A year ago I got a letter from the prospector. He is still in Colorado, but says he has never been able to eat an egg of any kind since."

Commissary Frauds in Manila Exaggerated.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Gen. MacArthur has replied to the War Department's inquiry regarding alleged frauds in the Commissary Department at Manila. He says:

"Commissary frauds being investigated; not sufficient gravity to cause concern, apparently due irregularity sales savings. Press reports inexact and misleading."

GEN. FUNSTON'S "PERFIDY."

His Achievement Considered in the Light of International Law and Military Ethics.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The "Anti-Imperialists" and irreconcilables have found pleasure in the thought, which they have amplified into a belief, that Gen. Funston, like Moses, broke all the commandments at once when he captured Aguinaldo and more or less mutilated and dislocated versions of the opinions of writers on international law on the subjects of spies and deceit in warfare have been adduced to support their present creed.

The two means used by Funston in the capture, the use of forged letters, and the disguise of his men, are chosen for especial comment by the opponents of the Government. On the first point, they quote Lieber's "Rules of War," to the effect that "military necessity * * * admits of deception, but disclaims acts of perfidy;" the assumption being that the use of forged letters was perfidious. But Lieber further says, "Military necessity permits * * * of such deception as does not involve the breaking of good faith either positively pledged regarding agreements entered into during war, or supposed by the modern law of war to exist."

This last clause is so vague that it leaves the whole question practically open. Col. Davis's book on international law, which is used as a text book at West Point, is cited on the same point; but here again it appears that "good faith" must be preserved—and there is no definition of good faith. But Sir Sherston Baker says on this very point: "Whenever we have tacitly or expressly engaged to speak the truth to an enemy, it would be perfidy in us to deceive his confidence in our sincerity. But otherwise we are justified in leading him into error, either by words or actions." Sir Sherston continues: "Deceitful intelligence * * * false representations made in order that they may fall into the enemy's hands and deceive him * * * are allowable." He follows Halleck almost verbatim in this; the earlier writer says: "If the occasion imposes upon us no moral obligations to disclose to the enemy the truth, we are perfectly justifiable in leading him into error either by words or actions." Even the Anti-Imperialists will hardly assert that we were under moral obligations to tell the truth to Aguinaldo.

Upon the use of disguises by Funston's men a letter that is practically a brief against Funston, published on Monday in the *Evening Post*, quotes extracts from Lieber's "Rules of War" to the effect that persons in disguise within the enemy's lines "can expect no quarter," and further in opposition to the use of flags of truce and of the enemy's flags in battle. Funston, however, did not use a flag of truce, so that the latter quotations lack appositeness.

But Funston certainly went within the enemy's lines in disguise without telling the enemy why he had come. This did not make him a moral criminal, as the Anti-Imperialists would make out; it made him and his men spies, and as such liable to execution if discovered. In other words, Funston and his comrades took their lives in their hands when they went within the Filipino lines, fully conscious that they did so. Do the Anti-Imperialists consider that a military spy is a moral criminal; that because in civil life spying is infamous it is conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman to act as a spy in war? Vattel, whose "Droit des Gens" was published in 1758, thought that no man of honor would act as a spy; but modern writers differ from him. Says F. E. Smith, in his "Primer of International Law," "stratagems and ruses are essential in war, and it is not easy to see that spying, unless aggravated by dishonoring circumstances in no way essential to it, is morally more culpable. The distastefulness of the employment, and its lack of distinction, together with the distressing nature of the penalty risked, call for remarkable valor and constancy in the spy. If the objection to spying is a moral one, the part played by those who employ him would appear to be less respectable than that of the spy himself. The latter at least puts his own neck in danger."

A spy is executed not because his actions have been criminal, but because they have been so dangerous to the enemy; as a rule, he has operated in the enemy's lines at the front, and as has been said of the Indian, the only good captured spy is a dead one. There is no place where he may be imprisoned; the only way to keep him from regaining his own side is to execute him. For this reason alone is a spy hanged; not for any moral criminality; and his own side may, and often does treat him as a martyr—as witness André's monument in Westminster Abbey and Hale's in our own City Hall Park.

By dragging in rules of war relating to acts not committed by Gen. Funston, a formidable looking brief is concocted charging him with perfidy and deceit, a study of the same text books cited in preparing that brief show that he committed deceit permissible under the laws of war, and that he acted as a spy, and was liable, if captured, to hanging. That he took the chances and kept his head out of the noose is subject for congratulations rather than for reprobation. B.

NEW YORK, April 3.

POLICE FACTS

Concerning Patrols, Expenses and Arrests.

There are 7,400 members of the New York police force for all the boroughs—7,368, to be exact. The number of arrests made by the New York police last year was 138,875, or an average of between 18 and 20 for each policeman.

The city of New York includes 2,508 miles of streets, of which more than 700 miles are in the borough of Queens and require little patroling, and 289 are in the borough of Richmond, requiring still less.

Chicago, with 70,000 arrests in a year and 4,000 miles of streets to be patroled, has 3,300 policemen.

Boston, with 45,000 arrests in a year and 500 miles of streets, has 1,100 policemen.

Philadelphia, with 1,500 miles of streets and 60,000 arrests in a year, has 2,780 policemen.

St. Louis, with 550 miles of streets and 25,000 arrests in a year, has 1,300 policemen.

Buffalo, with 650 miles of streets and 25,000 arrests in a year, has 730 policemen.

Baltimore, with 375 miles of streets and 30,000 arrests in a year, has 880 policemen.

New Orleans, with 700 miles of streets, 18,000 arrests in a year and a large floating, turbulent colored population, has only 300 policemen.

San Francisco has 430, Pittsburg 385, Providence 250, Washington 600, Louisville 325, Cincinnati 516 and Cleveland 400 policemen.

In 1899 the expenses of the New York Police Department were $11,182,500. This year they are $11,162,000.

The London Police Department costs $8,100,000, the Paris department $6,000,000 and the Berlin Police Department $1,500,000. Berlin policemen are retired Prussian soldiers.

There are 16,000 policemen in London, 9,000 in Paris and 5,000 in Berlin.

The expense of the New York Police Department, the chief item of which is salaries, is disproportionately great when compared with the expense of other cities, American and foreign, and is in considerable measure due to the changes in grade of compensation established from time to time by the Legislature and made mandatory upon New York city authority.

In 1888 when the plan of regrading the Police Department by statute was begun police captains received in New York county $2,750, sergeants $1,600, roundsmen $1,200 and patrolmen $1,000, $1,100 and $1,200 each, according to the duration of their service. The present pay of captains remains the same as then, but sergeants receive $2,000 each instead of $1,600, roundsmen $1,500 instead of $1,200, and patrolmen from $1,150 to $1,400 instead of from $1,000 to $1,200 each.

These increases, extending over a force numerically as large as an army, have necessarily added much to the expense of police maintenance to the taxpayers of New York, and the expense has been further enlarged by the enforced increase to conform to the New York standard of the pay of police employees in Brooklyn, Queens and Richmond.

In 1897, before consolidation, the schedule of pay for policemen in Brooklyn was as follows: Captains $2,700, sergeants $1,750, roundsmen $1,200, and policemen—there were then 1,456 and are now 1,849 in Brooklyn—from $720 to $1,000 each. In Staten Island, now Richmond borough, the pay of captains was $1,750, sergeants $1,300, roundsmen $1,000 and patrolmen the same.

The New York Board of Police, which has been superseded by a single headed commission, reported on Oct. 18, 1900, that the quota of patrolmen to population—one patrolman for each 554 inhabitants—was "hardly adequate to perform satisfactorily the multifarious duties of a police force in the city of New York."

The annual cost of the Chicago Police Department is $3,300,000, Philadelphia $2,050,000, Boston $1,500,000 and St. Louis $1,400,000.

The expense of the Police Department in all four of these American cities, having a total population of 4,100,000, is $8,000,000 a year.

New York, with a total population of 3,500,000, expends in police salaries alone more than $10,000,000 annually.

A LESSON FROM LARCHMONT.

One Way of Hustling Suburban Fire Apparatus in Double-Quick Time to a Fire.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In yesterday's SUN I find this lively and interesting paragraph:

A meadow grass fire at Larchmont yesterday afternoon was blown against the barn of J. H. Gilmore, the actor, and the barn was destroyed. Larchmont's millionaire firemen hitched their hose reel to a trolley car, covered a mile in four minutes and reached the burning barn in time to save two horses and an automobile.

It seems to me that it would be well if that paragraph could be read and pondered by the municipal authorities of every suburban community.

It may be, indeed, that the Larchmont way is now common, but I doubt it, for I never heard of such a thing before, and I read THE SUN daily. But it ought to be a common way, and in these days, with trolleys pretty much everywhere, there would be few suburban districts in which the fire apparatus could not get a lift from them, in some directions, at least.

As everybody who has lived in the suburbs knows, the common practice is to haul the apparatus to the fire by hand or by horses whose use on occasions is contracted for with some neighboring livery stable keeper; and, of course, these provisions for taking the apparatus to a fire should be retained as before; because there might be no trolley line on the street where the fire was, and there might be no car along when it was most needed; but certainly the authorities of every suburban town ought at once to make arrangements with the trolley lines running through their respective regions to haul apparatus to fires when circumstances make the giving of such help possible.

The picture suggested to the mind by the description in the paragraph above, of the Larchmont hose reel traversing a mile in four minutes, is truly inspiriting; and, as everybody knows, saving time in getting to the fire means the saving of property in the suburbs just as it does in the city. Anybody that has ever lived out of town, in a suburban neighborhood, knows, for instance, what often happens in case of fire in places where the fire apparatus is hand-drawn or even where it may be drawn by horses.

There is, say, a fire a mile and a half out from the centre; maybe a barn. Now how long does anybody suppose it would take a hand-drawn or even a horse-drawn fire truck or hose wagon to get there over more or less hilly country roads? How often might you meet the fire apparatus only half way to the fire, with the men or horses toiling at a walk up some tedious hill while the barn burned merrily? And how often, in such cases, does it happen that the firemen get there only in time to wet down the smouldering embers?

Now, suppose there was a trolley line that way and they just hit a car. Fancy the light hook and ladder truck or the hose wagon bounding along after a trolley car going fifteen miles an hour and getting there! And I don't see why the trolley couldn't be made equally useful in stretching in hose. In some of these suburban places where they have hydrants they are yet a long distance apart. What's to hinder, if the hydrant should be, as, in fact, it might be, a quarter of a mile from the fire—what's to hinder stretching in with the trolley car in far less time than men could drag the hose?

In all seriousness, it seems to me that lively paragraph about the burning of Actor Gilmore's barn contains a valuable suggestion for the authorities of every suburban community. A FORMER SUBURBANITE.

NEW YORK, April, 2.

THE ALLIED ARMIES IN CHINA.

The Quality and Performance of the Soldiers of Different Nations.

George Lynch in the Independent.

Living and camping with the men of these various forces on an expedition such as this very severe march to Pekin, one got a very close insight into the comparative discipline, the equipment, the endurance and the fighting or soldier spirit in them, as well as into the working of their transport, commissariat, army, medical corps, &c.

The standard of comfort of the United States soldier is far and away higher than that of any soldier in the world. The United States commissaries in Pekin were a perfect godsend for procuring luxuries which could not be obtained in any others.

In discipline—I mean the obvious discipline, the surface discipline if you wish, the discipline that was apparent to the eye of the spectator—the American soldiers were wofully lacking, and would compete with the French for the last place among the allied forces, but when real fighting is to be done they generally manage to get there, fight well and shoot straight.

In sharply marked contrast to every other arm of their service, the Japanese cavalry were an absurd caricature. This is not altogether surprising when we bear in mind how unused to horses is the average Japanese. He has not the instinct of caring for horses which is ingrained in those who are accustomed to them from childhood. In every other branch of their service it appeared to me that they equalled, if they did not surpass, the best of the allied troops in China. Their extreme mobility in the field was a revelation, all their movements seemed to be done on the double, and there was a verve, go, and activity about them that was simply delightful to watch. The old fighting or soldier spirit of Japan seems still actively burning in the breast of every little Jap. They sing as they fight, and fight with the frolic welcome of schoolboys who love the game they are playing. Their disregard of life is extraordinary.

Quite in contrast, this spring and go and fighting spirit appears conspicuous by its absence in the German. He appears to be the acme of the manufactured soldier, the soldier who is the result of laborious and accurate drill. On parade, their drill showed up superior to that of any of the other allies. But then it was stiff, wooden and mechanical to a degree, and it would be curious to observe, when occasion should arise, owing to severe losses among the officers, how this human mechanism manufactured on the parade ground would work when thrown on its own resources and when obliged to rely on his own individuality.

Rough, uncouth, heavy, slow moving, but giving one the idea of great stubbornness and endurance, the Russians appeared to be in many respects the best war soldiers of the lot. They almost equal the Japanese in the simplicity of their diet. Although slow in movement, they are capable of executing extremely long marches.

The regiments of colonial French troops which accompanied the original expedition may be passed unnoticed, for they lacked nearly every soldier-like quality of conduct or equipment. They were simply beneath contempt. They distinguished themselves chiefly by their looting exploits and by their outrages on the Chinese, more particularly upon the women, and competed successfully with the Russians and the Germans for the first place among those who were to disgrace Western civilization in the Orient.

Thought He'd Die Within a Week and Did.

NEW HAVEN, April 3.—One week ago Thomas R. Allen of this city, a well-to-do blacksmith, aged 45 years, got a notion into his head that he would be dead in a week. His family endeavored to disabuse his mind of the premonition, but Allen could not be comforted and he went at once to Attorney Jacob P. Goodhart of this city to make his will. He explained to the lawyer that he was pretty sure he was going to die in a few days. The will was made. Three days later Allen was attacked with pneumonia and he died last night.

No Constitutional Convention for Tennessee.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 3.—Tennessee will not have a constitutional convention. The question of calling one has been pending in the Legislature since the beginning of its session, but it was not finally disposed of until to-day when the House by a decisive majority refused to pass the bill providing for the submission of the question to a vote of the people. The Senate took similar action some time ago.

A Tribute to Richmond.

From the Richmond Despatch.

"As a guest with my family at the Hotel Jefferson on the night of the fire," said John Harsen Rhoades of New York to a *Despatch* man, "I deem it to be my duty and a privilege to express on their behalf, and I am sure on behalf of the numerous other guests in the hotel, our thanks for, and our high appreciation of the sympathy and marked courtesies extended to us by the residents in the immediate vicinity of the hotel. Not only were offers of services rendered, but in many cases their homes were freely opened to us for the night, and I have no doubt others besides myself were compelled, for the want of shelter, to avail ourselves of these kind offers.

"The generous, refined and hospitable nature of our fellow countrymen of the South is proverbial and well known to those living of the older generation, but in this instance, in the case of some of us, we will carry memories of a stirring event in the city of Richmond, graced by acts to us of generous kindness on the part of her people, which will remain for the rest of our lives."

JUMPING ON A MISOGYNIST.

Lovely and Inexplicable Womanhood Does Not Lack Defenders.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Well, well, a letter such as that written by your "fat and fifty" friend "Arizona" certainly calls for a reply. One pictures a genial old fellow of fifty years, fat enough to enjoy the comforts of life and to overlook, with a sort of fatherly indulgence, the short-comings of the youth of his own sex, but with a strange aversion, either natural or acquired, to almost all the members of the opposite sex. It is with this last trait of our friend that I wish to deal.

It has been conceded by man, since the days of Eve, that woman is inexplicable. She used to do awful things in the olden days—after the manner of Eve—and she still continues to do them with impunity. How she stands in front of a ticket window and asks all manner of foolish questions, while a crowd of men folks, eager to get to business or home, as the case may be, are waiting to buy their tickets; how she will persist in entering by the left door and walking on the left side of a crowded thoroughfare; how she delights to stand in the doorway of an elevator, making it extremely difficult for persons to enter therein; to say nothing of countless other awful things she does—the wearing of high hats in theatres (against which mild man has at last had the courage to declare war); the taking of squalling babies and troublesome Tommies to places of amusement and other public places (against which he hasn't); and even the annoyances which "Arizona" himself mentions—all these things are matters of every-day knowledge and experience to the New York man, and most of them to the men of the other parts of the world.

Nevertheless, we must offer a strenuous protest against our friend's sweeping assertions. We are forced to the conclusion that a piece of bad pie, or a large millinery bill, or, perhaps—the reason most generally given for such an unhappy state of mind—a disappointment in love, is responsible for the mischief in his case.

But, if it were not for the ladies, where would we be? Who would help us on with our overcoats in the morning, brush our hats, and give us a parting kiss? Who would be ready with a welcome for us in the evening, on our return—with a bright fire in the parlor and a delicious fat roast on the table, and a little recital of all the day's joys and griefs? Who would nurse us so tenderly through weary sickness? Who would keep our spirits up with a word of cheer and comfort when things went wrong? Who would continually inspire us to better things, and, in the midst of the rush and bustle of life, compel us to give thought to what is noblest and best?—were women all taken away? No, sir. With all their faults, we love 'em still, and say heartily, "God bless 'em." J. H.

NEW YORK, April 3.

TO COMMEMORATE PERRY'S LANDING.

American Association of Japan to Erect a Monument at Kurihama.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The Department of State has received from the Consul-General at Yokohama a circular issued by the President of the American Association of Japan, who is the Japanese Minister of Justice, relative to the proposed erection at Kurihama, of a monument commemorative of the arrival at that place forty-eight years ago of Commodore Perry, U. S. N., as the American envoy for the purpose of concluding the first treaty of commerce and friendly intercourse between the United States and Japan. The circular says in part:

"This visit of Commodore Perry was in a word the turning of the key which opened the doors of the Japanese Empire to friendly intercourse with the United States, and subsequently to the rest of the nations of Europe on similar terms, and may in truth be regarded as the most memorable event in our annals—an event which paved the way for and accelerated the introduction of a new order of things, an event that enabled the country to enter upon the unprecedented era of National ascendancy in which we are now living.

"Japan has not forgotten—nor will she ever forget—that next to her reigning and most beloved sovereign, whose high virtues and great wisdom are above all praise, she owes, in no small degree, her present prosperity to the United States of America, in that the latter rendered her a great and lasting service already referred to. After the lapse of these forty-eight years, her people, however, have come to entertain but an uncertain memory of Kurihama, and yet it was there that Commodore Perry first trod on the soil of Japan and for the first time awoke the country from a slumberous seclusion of three centuries—there it was where first gleamed the light that has ever since, illumined Japan's way in her new career of progress.

"Last fall we had the pleasure of meeting Rear Admiral Beardslee, U. S. N., who as a naval cadet and a member of the crew under Commodore Perry, landed at Kurihama on the historical occasion, and who after these forty-eight years came back once more to pay a visit to this country. We were greatly moved by his account of his second visit to Kurihama, and we immediately set on foot a movement to erect a fitting monument which may perpetuate the place in question in the memory of our posterity. We have since made such progress with this movement that a site for the monument has already been selected. BARON KENTARO-KANEKO,

"President Bei-Yu Kyo-Kai"

American Association of Japan.

The Great Commercial Struggle.

Charles S. Conant in the International Monthly.

Important changes in the economic relations of the leading countries of the world are threatened during the twentieth century as the result of new routes of communication and the discovery of new sources of raw materials. One of the most important elements in the economy of the future will be the ability to obtain cheap fuel supplies. If it becomes increasingly difficult to extract coal at a reasonable cost from the mines of Great Britain, Belgium, and other European countries, those countries will face the possibility of disasters extending beyond the limits of a temporary crisis and reaching the point of final economic collapse.

Economic changes of a similar character in routes of communication, supplies of raw material, or the sudden rise of more efficient rivals have repeatedly in the history of the world shifted the centre of exchanges and transformed a great commercial city into an almost deserted village. To economic causes of this character may be ascribed the fall of Tyre as the mistress of the Mediterranean, the decline of the power of the Greek cities of Asia Minor, the transfer of the seat of the Roman Empire from Rome to Constantinople, and in more modern times the successive rise and fall of Venice, the ports of Spain, and the busy maritime cities of Flanders.

Changes in routes of communication contributed in many of these cases to cutting off economical supplies of goods or raw material and making it cheaper to manufacture in rival ports. It is worthy of serious consideration whether Europe is not now approaching a catastrophe of this sort in the competition of the United States, and whether both Europe and America may not face potent rivals in Central Asia when the trans-Siberian railway has linked the Baltic to the Pacific and branches have been extended to the Caspian Sea, into the heart of India, and across the fertile and populous provinces of China. It is perhaps impossible for the most comprehensive and accurate judgment to anticipate with precision the nature and direction of these future changes in the axis of the world's exchanges. It is obvious, however, that if centres of trade are to arise in Central Asia, if plentiful raw materials are to be found there, and if virgin coal supplies are to contribute to cheaper production, the United States cannot afford to be excluded by the political policy of other powers from a proper share in these opportunities.

Second Wives.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Second wives certainly have a good deal easier time of it than first wives. The first wife scrimps and saves and denies herself in every possible way to further her husband's fortunes. She works with him, and puts up with everything and asks for nothing that she can do without. And in due time the husband comes to take all this as a matter of course and he never gives voluntarily, but only when requested, and then as sparingly as he can.

There is none of this scrimping on the part of second wives. They do not, as a rule, marry to make slaves of themselves; they insist on adequate supplies of money, and they get it, and the husband gives and becomes accustomed to giving, and expects to give. He never thinks of scrimping the second wife as he did the first.

Surely, second wives have an easier time of it than first wives do. A FIRST WIFE.

HOBOKEN, April 3.

No Spitting in New Bedford.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I think it is in New Bedford that the anti-spitting notice runs as follows:

"Spitting on the floor of this car is punishable by a fine of $100, of which half goes to the complainant."

The cars are clean. Perhaps this plan might work automatically here. G.

NEW YORK, April 3.