The Sun.

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Boat Whistles.

The collision between the Northfield and the Mauch Chunk luckily missed being one of the awful horrors that are remembered for generations. It happened, of course, from a failure to understand or to heed the signals exchanged between the boats. We suppose that one captain must have been wrong and the other right. But the accident illustrated a fault in navigation upon these waters to which THE SUN has frequently called attention, namely, that on board many steamers there prevails an inexcusable amount of indifference to the answering of signals.

The way in which signals are exchanged indicates both laxity and carelessness on the part of the pilots in a matter where invariable promptness and absolute precision are imperatively demanded. New York ferryboats carry too many lives in them to permit the thought of carelessness in whistling.

The Issue for 1904.

Mr. BRECKINRIDGE, formerly a Democratic Congressman from Kentucky, suggests an issue for his party in 1904. It being impossible to win without holding the Bryan or regular Democrats and at the same time bringing back the revolters of 1896 and 1900, he would have a brand-new issue which bears no relation to the currency question or any other which has been productive of Democratic discord.

This issue, he thinks, should concern "our relations with our new possessions," on the sensible assumption that these will be retained as a matter of course and that of a certainty "the principles promulgated by the Supreme Court in the late opinions will be accepted by the people."

Undoubtedly, Mr. BRECKINRIDGE proposes a step ahead for the Democratic party which would keep it in pace with the progress of enlightened public sentiment and rescue it from a futile struggle to keep alive dead and buried issues. But, so far as we have seen, he does not define the issue he proposes to make. If there is to be a contest over "our relations with our new possessions," it must be over something more than a mere pretext for difference trumped up in order to pick a quarrel. It must be a principle regarding which there is a natural and radical division between the two parties; that is actually in broad public sentiment.

At present, no such issue has crystallized, and none appears to be in process of crystallization. Nor is there now any more indication of unity and homogeneity in the Democratic party concerning the question raised by Mr. BRECKINRIDGE than there was over the issue of 16 to 1 raised by Mr. BRYAN in 1896 and 1900. The stronghold of the Democracy at this time is the Southern States, but it is manifest that in them a large part of the most intelligent and enterprising Democrats are practically in accord with the McKinley Administration as to the policy to be pursued toward our new possessions. The South is eager for the progress which will come to it from the extension and development of our Oriental commerce, and, obviously, BRYAN's issue of the "consent of the governed" cannot appeal consistently or in any way reasonably to States which have united in disfranchising their own negro citizens. Moreover, the new manufacturing development of the South has created there notable sympathy with the old Republican tariff policy of protection.

Meantime, Mr. BRYAN denounces "the principles promulgated by the Supreme Court in the late opinions" and still clings to his "Anti-Imperialism," though, obviously, Mr. MCKINLEY's positive refusal to take a third nomination, even if it should be offered to him, has made that humbug issue impossible. He also declines to surrender the leadership of the Democratic party, and seems to be cherishing a purpose to resist to the last any attempt to depose him from it made by Democrats who revolted against his candidacy in the campaigns of 1896 and 1900. Whatever shall be the Democratic issue in 1904 Mr. BRYAN, it may be assumed, will insist on shaping it.

He must be regarded as still a prime factor in the Democratic problem, and more especially since there has appeared as yet no other man with any peculiar title to leadership because of his distinction as the representative of a restored unity of Democratic sentiment.

Nor is there any probability, nay, any possibility, of the uprising of a new leader representative of a new issue, Mr. BRECKINRIDGE's or another, until the next Congress meets. Unless the Democratic Representatives then make a definite issue which shall harmonize and unify the party in the Congress elections of 1902 it is not likely to be together in the Presidential campaign. Not until those elections will there be a practical test of public sentiment.

As it is now, there cannot be said to be any organized opposition to the policy of the Administration relating to our new possessions or to any other question. Such political controversy as there is goes on languidly only, and it is rather within the parties than between them. What the issue of 1904 is to be, so far as concerns the Democracy, certainly, is still as much in doubt as it has been at any time since the last defeat of Mr. BRYAN, and there are no indications of any precise drift of public sentiment to suggest what it will be.

The Third Naval Power.

A table recently drawn up by the Naval Intelligence Office in Washington gives the tonnage afloat and on the stocks of the six principal navies of the world, and makes it appear that the United States have attained a higher position as a naval Power than at any previous time since the introduction of iron vessels. It places us certainly no lower than fourth in the list, where formerly we stood fifth; and it is possible that changes made since the table was prepared may place us actually in the third position.

The table was prepared in October of last year. In it, nine classes of vessels are considered; namely: first-class battleships; second-class battleships and coast defence armorclads; armored cruisers; protected and unprotected cruisers of over 3,000 tons' displacement; cruisers, 1,000-3,000 tons; cruisers below 1,000 tons, and gunboats; destroyers; torpedo boats; and training ships. Great Britain, as might be expected, still heads the list. She had 569 vessels of these various classes built, with a displacement of 1,448,360 tons; and 77 vessels building, displacing 347,000 tons. Since the publication of the return some half-dozen battleships have been launched, four of them at one time, besides other vessels; and new vessels have been laid down. Great Britain's hold on the first place upon the seas is still so good that the real interest of the table lies in the positions of the other countries.

France stands second, with 400 vessels built, of 588,580 tons' displacement, and 28 vessels building, to displace 125,610 tons. Her recent launchings have been principally of smaller vessels, though she has laid down a number of large vessels. The British total is 646 vessels, built and building, displacing 1,795,410 tons; the French is 428 vessels, with a tonnage displacement of 714,190 tons; that is, France has 218 fewer vessels, and more than a million fewer tons. The very great discrepancy is even more apparent in considering the strength of the nine classes. In all of the more important, France is far behind its chief rival; where England has 45 first-class battleships, France has 19; Great Britain was building 11, France was building 1 battleship. Only in the now discredited torpedo boat class did France approach England; there she had 228 vessels to Great Britain's 167. But England had 108 torpedo boat destroyers, with 42 building, while France had but 55, and was building none.

Germany in October had 235 vessels afloat, displacing 358,000 tons and 18 ships building, displacing 88,040 tons. Russia had 204 ships afloat, with a displacement of 420,440 tons, and 38 ships building, to displace 149,140 tons. England's idea is to have a navy larger than the navies of any other two countries. France and Russia are always considered as the two possible countries; but the figures show that even their combined tonnage, afloat and building, was only 1,283,770 as against England's 1,795,410.

The other Powers considered are Japan and the United States. The former country had 124 ships afloat, displacing 209,680 tons, and was building 14 ships, to displace 41,190 tons. The United States had 151 ships in being, displacing 302,650 tons, and 53 vessels under construction, to displace 217,420 tons.

This return, as we have said, placed the United States in the fourth place among naval Powers, the first three countries being Great Britain, France and Russia; we surpass Germany, so long ahead of us, and Japan. Considering the countries in the order of their existing tonnage, England stood first, followed by France, Russia, Germany, the United States and Japan; in the order of tonnage under construction, the list ran: Great Britain, the United States, Russia, France, Germany and Japan.

Since the preparation of this table, however, we have launched three first-class battleships, the Illinois, the Ohio and the Wisconsin, and some torpedo boats, a total of more than 33,550 tons; and have begun to build warships of 185,800 tons, so that our figures are: built, 336,200 tons, building, 369,670 tons, a total of 705,870 tons. Since last October France has increased her fleet in being, as well as her construction, and so still remains in second place. No other country appears to have increased its fleet, either in being or under construction, to the same extent that we have; Germany would have to increase hers by 258,000 tons to equal ours; but her increase is in armored cruisers and smaller ships. Russia could equal us by building 136,290 tons; but her increase is in armored cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers. Japan is behind us by 450,000 tons. It appears, therefore, that our place among the navies of the world is third, rather than fourth.

Interesting News From Manchuria.

We find in a late number of the London *Times* a remarkable account of the state of things in Manchuria, by a gentleman who has just returned from that country to accept the appointment of professor of Chinese in a leading Continental university.

According to this correspondent, China's recent refusal to sign the treaty giving Russia large rights in Manchuria was a farce, another, but secret, treaty, ceding Manchuria outright to Russia, having been concluded not long before the attack on the foreign legations in Pekin. In order to obtain a pretext for exercising the rights acquired under the last-named treaty, Russia sought to convince Europe that an acute state of war existed on the Russo-Chinese frontier. The course pursued was to bribe the so-called Honhouses, or brigands, who infested northern Manchuria to cross the Amur near the town of Blagovestchensk, and to sack the peasants' hovels on Russian territory. This, according to the correspondent of the *Times*, was the incident which was described at St. Petersburg as an attack upon Russia by Chinese Regular troops acting under official orders, the fact being that neither Chinese troops nor Boxers have at any time during the last year existed in Manchuria. The pretext served, however for the mobilization of the Siberian army, while, by a secret ukase, the army of Poland was also mobilized.

An official telegram was sent to Blagovestchensk: "Fling the Chinese across the Amur." Gen. GRIBSKI and his Cossacks took the telegram literally. Instead of repelling the few hundred Honhouses, they sacked the property of all peaceful Chinamen dwelling on the left bank of the Amur, and literally flung 4,800 men, women and children into the river. Only the severe punishment of GRIBSKI prevented the interruption of the friendly understanding between Russia and China. Meanwhile, Europe having been persuaded that Russia was constrained to make an energetic war on China, Governor General GRODEKOFF proceeded peaceably to traverse Manchuria. The Honhouses withdrew southward, and, again, according to the *Times* correspondent, were instigated by the Russian engineers partially to destroy the Manchurian Railway, and thus to thwart the investigation which already had been ordered for the purpose of uncovering the gigantic frauds committed in railway construction. Ultimately hunted out of Manchuria, the Honhouses, reaching the only practicable outlet of the country on the south, fell on Shanhaikwan and caused a fresh outbreak of outrages throughout the northern part of Chili.

In the meantime, the Russian colonization of Manchuria has been prosecuted on a vast scale. We are told that, as early as last summer, some 80,000 emigrants were collected at Stretensk, the terminus of the trans-Siberian railway. In November they were transported to Harbin, and have since received concessions of land in central Manchuria, especially along the Argun. For the purpose of exercising fiscal and administrative authority without attracting too much attention in Europe recourse was made to the Russo-Chinese Bank, which was created with reference to the trans-Manchurian railway, and which is now acting as the unofficial political agent of the St. Petersburg Government. Its great resources and the facility with which it grants discounts have secured for this institution widespread influence throughout Manchuria.

The deliverance of the province from the Honhouses, or brigands, is appreciated by the law-abiding inhabitants, and the *Times* correspondent assures us that the Chinese in Manchuria already seem to prefer the Russian *régime* to that which it has supplanted. It appears that one often hears such remarks as this: "We Chinese have nearly always had foreign dynasties. Whether we have a Russian Emperor or a Manchurian Emperor is a matter of no importance. The only question is, Under which of them shall we be the happiest?" The assertion is confidently made in the *Times* that, if the people of Manchuria were called upon to decide by vote between a Russian and a Manchu dynasty, the decision would certainly be favorable to Russia. In a word, Russia, by a secret treaty, and by the exercise of a policy, which, except in the case of GRIBSKI's blunder, has been pacific and sagacious, has quietly won a great province.

Deep Calls to Deep.

From the rollicking chorus raised by the corporation chasers and the Octopus hunters over the triumph of the Hon. TOM JOHNSON of Cuyahoga, one good, loud, hearty, well-remembered voice has been wanting. Single-taxers, double-taxers, income-taxers, Dollar Dinner economists, cranks of many kinds and SUCKER ROD SAM JONES, a crank of all kinds, howled deliriously and couldn't shake big TOM's hand hard enough. But where was an earlier friend of man and three-cent fares, as stout a foe of all corporations in which he is not himself interested, the Hon. POTATO PINGREE? Where was the terror of railroads? He went abroad after he ceased to be Governor of Michigan. He longed for a place where there was no Supreme Court. He sought the Nile, which runs over like himself, and unlike himself sometimes dries up. The Sphinx winked at him. The Bedouins amerced him as he loves to amerce corporations. Several bulls and bull-headed gods in the Ghizeh Museum reminded him of the Michigan Legislature. Crocodiles made him homesick for his usual exercise of clubbing the Octopus. From yonder summits forty centuries looked down upon him and grinned.

The meeting between withered Egypt and the freshest of the sons of the West was affecting. 'Mid pleasures and pyramids he did not forget the troubles in South Africa. Thither he went. Thence as soon as he heard of THREE-CENT TOM's election he sent a letter of encouragement. There's no Beira on the map of South Africa, but the Kaffirs are a guarantee of local color and good faith; and the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* prints the letter:

"I have just received newspapers for the first time since I left home, from which I learned of your victory. I congratulate Cleveland and the State of Ohio more than I do you. Right will win in the long run. Your election is a vindication of right. In this town, Beira, they have municipal ownership of tracks and individual ownership of cars, with Kaffirs for motive power. Will return about the 15th and hope to see you.
Very truly,
"H. S. PINGREE.

"P. S.—There are no oxen or horses in the town and everything is propelled over these tracks."

There is no fleck of envy on the POTATO's polished poll. He exults in the glory of TOM JOHNSON. Soon he will be back to see if Detroit needs him as Mayor once more. He has already promised to deliver a lecture in Battle Creek on "Municipal Ownership and 6-Kaffir Cars in Beira." With TOM and POTATO tugging at it, Municipal Ownership will soon be a choice specimen of rapid transit.

To the Rescue of the Soft Clam!

Is this to be a soft-clamless nation? In a pamphlet recently published by the New York State Museum this startling possibility is bared by the author, Dr. J. L. KELLOGG. He asserts that the New England coast is already nearly depleted of its clams; he puts before the citizens of the State of New York a statement of the condition of the clam population of Long Island which cannot but bring a shudder to those who have innocently supposed that the gentle quahaug was there as plentiful and inexhaustible as the sands of the sea. But the learned author asserts that there is hope. It is not yet too late to stay the destroyer's greed, and to show him the ways in which his goose may be saved for the laying of golden eggs for many a year.

The disappearance of the soft clam—the steamed clam of commerce—the *Mya arenaria* of the scientists—is like to come upon us with shocking swiftness. It is shown that in the unhappy places where the soft clam has already disappeared, and where now are mere barren wastes of sand, which were but a few months ago latent with juicy leathery-necked fatteners of the human frame and whetters of the appetite, that when they show signs of beginning to go they are almost gone. In the effort to rouse sympathy for the mollusk, Dr. KELLOGG reviews its life history.

For the first few weeks of its life, your baby soft clam, which is of microscopic size, swims with the tides. Of millions that are born only a few hundred swim with luck. The rest perish in deep waters or are cast up to die upon the sands. As for the survivors, they grab grains of sand with long feelers, and anchor themselves to await an increase in their size. But the baby clam lacks patience. It is ever breaking off its rope and floating into new pastures, to tether itself again. Perhaps it thus hopes to avoid the notice of the buccaneer starfish, which prowls abroad under the waters, seeking infant clams and oysters. But this vagrant practice leads to much loss of life by violence and exhaustion.

When at last the Mya has reached the dignified proportions of a human baby's shoe button, it settles down to the business of life, to attaining sufficient size and flavor to be worthily cooked and eaten. The youthful Mya is not provident nor does it gain wisdom from the experience of its forbears. All too often it chooses an abiding place merely for pleasure of the society of others of its kind. So comes it to pass that thousands gather in a small space, crowded so that their shells grate one against the other as they grow, and all of them starve. Thus it happens that many of the worthiest soft clams, the most modest and tenderest of their race, come not to their highest usefulness, but perish untimely, while their tougher and less delicate and more adventurous brethren go out and wax fat.

It is in these beds—sets, the clam diggers call them—of clams that are doomed to perish by the very fact of their too great numbers that Dr. KELLOGG finds the salvation of the steamable clam. It is a comparatively easy matter, he preaches, to take a few bushels of these overcrowded little ones to a devastated clam bed and there to scatter them widely that they may come to proportions becoming to them and pleasing to the cook. Without such artificial aid the ravenous attacks of the demand upon the visible supply will soon make the haunts of the Mya vacant.

Let all friends of the soft clam arise! Let them form clam-planting clubs; let them make their outings by the shore useful; let them impose heavy fines, equivalent say to the restaurant price upon a peck of steamed clams, upon any of their number who pass an overcrowded clam bed without transplanting at least a hundred of its members. It is time for action.

The Battle in Pennsylvania.

Despite the immense party majority, politics in Pennsylvania, Republican factional politics, have been for several years past more than commonly interesting. There has been a Republican boss, the Hon. MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY, whose authority was almost as complete as it was masterly; and the Hon. JOHN WANAMAKER, whom the late Gen. HARRISON, no friend of QUAY's, made Postmaster-General, led the opposition.

Two years ago the Wanamaker faction gained sufficient power to defeat QUAY's reëlection to the Senate, but last year, fighting the battle of his life, QUAY swept his enemies aside and regained his seat. It was a striking victory, apparently making the victor more absolute in control of the political machinery throughout Pennsylvania than he had ever been before, and his opponents more insignificant.

It seems that the situation has been modified through the very exertion of this great power. The Legislature passed a bill for the award of street railroad franchises, and, leaving out operations in other towns, the Mayor of Philadelphia, in confirming franchises for that city, has given Mr. WANAMAKER an opportunity to put him in the wrong in so startling a manner that the consequences may be serious.

Whether the Hon. MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY has indirectly created these franchises in return for the assistance of his friends, or as vengeance upon his enemies, those residing in Philadelphia particularly, it was an act of deplorable judgment, for to-day the Hon. JOHN WANAMAKER, holding in his hand his rejected offer of $2,500,000 for the Philadelphia franchises, must be stronger than he seemed weak on the day of QUAY's triumph. It is a sensational chapter in a long and exciting story.

Folks who go down to Staten Island in ferryboats have not been in the way of regarding the deckhand with any particular respect. To them he has been merely a rather clumsy person who is useful as a piler up of camp stools, and as a none too gentle awakener of those who go to sleep on the benches on "the last trip down." But the behavior of the deckhands on the ferryboat Northfield while she was sinking after her collision with the Mauch Chunk off the Battery Friday evening was of the very highest character possible to the situation, it was brave. The deckhands acted like men in succoring the passengers down to the last moment of danger. They did splendidly.

Two hundred arrests in a year is the average in New York of persons accused of violating the Sanitary Code as to the sale of milk. The Code provides that any milk found to be adulterated, either by the addition of water or by the removal of cream, may be seized and destroyed by the Board of Health if it contains, under lactometer test, more than 88 per cent. of water or fluids, or less than 12 per cent of milk fluids, from which the cream has been removed. In the case of condensed milk, if the amount of fat is less than 25 per cent., or any foreign substance whatever has been added, excepting sugars, the law is violated. No milk shall be received, kept, offered for sale or delivered in this city without a written permit from the Board of Health.

New York is one of the greatest milk-consuming cities in the world, if not indeed the greatest. The dairy region tributary to it, and from which its vast daily supply is drawn, includes not only twenty up-State counties, but the whole of Long Island and several counties of New Jersey. The means of enforcing the law with 50,000 milk inspections made annually, and a large staff of public employees engaged in the work, would seem to be adequate, but the sale of adulterated milk, especially in the poorer sections of town, appears to proceed with very little serious interruption.

Here now is a glorious opportunity for Mr. WILLIAM WALDORF ASTOR! He is able and willing to buy the estate known as the Schrivelsby Manor, which will give him the right to appear at the coronation of EDWARD VII. in a grand suit of armor and mounted upon a caparisoned steed. That ought to tickle his tory tendons. But, in addition, he can bring his horse to the banquet at Westminster Hall, ride boldly up to the King, fling down his gauntlet and challenge any man to mortal, or rather immortal, combat who may dare to question the King's right to the throne. We say "immortal" because if ASTOR should fight the combat would be bound to remain in story and song as long as the Anglo-Saxon race cherishes the memory of Jack o' the Beanstalk.

A young man of London who has been ephemerally successful there in establishing a newspaper which imitates the methods of our "yellow journalism," with Cockney modifications, is signalizing his visit to this country by passing judgment on our newspapers as a profound and an unquestionable authority on the subject. As an expert in vulgarizing the newspaper he may be entitled to pose as an authority in that special field, but not before his exemplars or those who first worked it here. They discovered the trick he is playing. Cheap printing paper has brought many advantages to mankind, but with them has come the possibility of a press so cheap in both a material and a moral sense that it is questionable if the gain to the public counterbalances the moral loss by which it has been accompanied. At any rate, a Cockney imitator of some of the more degraded features of our catchpenny newspapers is not a philosopher to whom it is profitable to listen as he discusses the variations from his American model which London circumstances have induced him to adopt in the course of his chase for gain by vulgarizing a profession, of the dignity and high responsibility of which he exhibits not a glimmer of perception.

TOLSTOI'S APPEALS TO THE CZAR.

Peasants to Be Relieved From Oppression—Abolition of Extra Judicial Police Action—Equality in Education and Religious Toleration.

From the London Times.

We have received from St. Petersburg the following translation of an appeal which, it is stated, has been addressed by Count Tolstoi to the Czar and his Government on the present situation in Russia:

TO THE CZAR AND HIS ADVISERS:

More assassinations! More street riots! Again there will be executions, while panic and exasperation, giving birth to threats and false accusations, prevail on the one side, and the other is animated with hatred the desire for revenge and the spirit of self-sacrifice. Once more the Russian people are divided into two hostile camps, and preparations are being made to commit the greatest crimes.

It is possible that the present movement, like those which have preceded it, may be suppressed by the employment of military force. But even if this agitation is temporarily put down, it cannot be completely stifled. It will continue to spread under the cover of secrecy, and, sooner or later, it will inevitably break out again with redoubled energy, and will lead to more suffering, and to crimes greater than those which we now deplore.

* * * * * * *

The following measures should be adopted without delay:

In the first place, the peasants should be placed on an equal footing of legal equality with other citizens; for which purpose it would be necessary:

(1.) To abolish the absurd institution of rural administrators (*zemsky natchalniki*), which has no *raison d'être*.

(2.) To repeal the regulations governing the relations of master and man, which would then be subject to the ordinary law of the land.

(3.) To liberate the peasantry from all oppressive impositions, such as the necessity of obtaining passports in order to move from one place to another, the duty which falls solely upon the peasants of billeting soldiers and providing country carts for purposes of transport, and the obligations connected with the rural police.

(4.) To abolish the unjust system of collective responsibility of peasants for each other's debts, and to remit the land redemption payments, which have long since covered the real value of the land; and, above all,

(5.) To do away with corporal punishment, which is useless and degrading, and which is now retained only for the most industrious, the most moral, and the most numerous class of the people.

It is especially important that the peasantry, constituting the vast majority of the population, should have the same rights as other classes. There can be no strength or durability in a social organization when the majority of the citizens are not on a footing of legal equality with their fellow countrymen, but are kept in the position of slaves bound by special laws. It is only when the laboring majority has been emancipated and invested with the same rights as those which are enjoyed by the other citizens that a stable social organization becomes possible or conceivable.

In the second place, it is necessary to cease to apply the so-called reënforced measures of public safety, which destroy all existing laws, and place the people at the mercy of stupid, cruel, and, for the most part, immoral officials. The abrogation of these extra measures of public safety is important because they suspend the action of the ordinary law, promote spying and secret denunciation, and cause and encourage the frequent employment of brutal violence against workmen who have disputes with their employers and landlords. Nowhere is there so much cruel persecution as in the districts in which these special regulations are in force. It is owing to them that capital punishment is coming more and more into use and that the authorities are, to an increasing extent, having recourse to that demoralizing punishment which, forbidden by God, is the greatest of human crimes, which is contrary to the Christian spirit of the Russian people, and which was previously unknown in our jurisprudence.

Thirdly, education and teaching should be freed from all obstacles.

(1.) No differences should be made between people of different social stations with regard to facilities for education, and books which are allowed to be read by others should not be forbidden to the common people.

(2.) Teachers in schools should not be prevented from giving instruction in the language spoken by their pupils, and it is supremely important that

(3.) All persons who have not been deprived of their civil rights, and who are desirous of undertaking educational work, should be permitted to conduct schools of all grades.

It is important that the education, training and teaching of the young should be freed from all restrictions which now hamper them, because it is by means of these very restrictions that the laboring classes are kept in a state of ignorance, and it is this ignorance which at present serves the Government as an excuse for placing these obstacles in the way of education. The emancipation of the working classes from Government interference in these matters would enable the people to acquire far more quickly the education which they really need, instead of that which is forced upon them. To permit private persons to open and conduct schools would put a stop to the continual agitation among the young men who are dissatisfied with the arrangements in the establishments in which they at present pursue their studies. If there were no difficulty in the way of establishing private schools, both for the lower and higher courses of instruction, the Russian students who are dissatisfied with the order of things in the Government educational institutions would leave them for the private establishments which answered their requirements.

Fourthly, all restrictions on religious liberty must be abolished.

(1.) All laws should be repealed which provide punishment for any withdrawal from the Established Church.

(2.) The establishment and the opening of chapels and churches for the Old Believers and of houses of prayer for Baptists, Molokani, Stundists, and other sectarians should be freely permitted.

(3.) Permission should be given for holding religious meetings, and for preaching all forms of belief, except those which teach men to commit unnatural crimes, such as castration, murder and suicide, and

(4.) Persons of different religious beliefs should be allowed to bring up their children in the form of faith which they believe to be the true one.

The abolition of all restraint on religious freedom is absolutely necessary, because it is universally admitted—and the fact is attested by history and science—that religious persecution does not produce the effect desired by those who practice it. On the contrary, it only strengthens that which the persecutors seek to destroy. Moreover, the interference of the authorities in religious matters produces hypocrisy, which is so strongly condemned by Christ as the worst and most pernicious of vices, and it prevents the attainment of that unity which is the highest good both for the individual and the community at large. This unity can never be attained by using violent means to compel people to observe the outward forms of a religion which has once been adopted and is regarded as infallible; it can only be attained by the unfettered progress of humanity in its search after the truth.

These are the very modest and practical desires of the majority of Russian society. The application of the measures above described would undoubtedly pacify the people and save them from terrible suffering. It would also prevent the crimes which will inevitably be committed on both sides if the Government endeavors only to suppress the agitation without seeking to remove the causes that produce it.

We appeal to you all—to the Czar, to the members of the Council of State, to the Ministers, to all persons near to the Czar, to all persons having power to aid in pacifying society and preserving it from suffering and crime. We appeal to you, not as members of the opposite camp, but as colleagues and brothers. It is impossible in a society of people, whose interests are bound up together, that some should be happy and contented and the great majority be compelled to suffer. People can be happy only when happiness and contentment are enjoyed by the strong working majority which constitutes the foundation of the whole of society. Help to improve the position of this majority, and above all, to promote its freedom and enlightenment. Then only will your own position be free from care, and then only will you be truly happy.

LEO TOLSTOI.

MARCH 15 (28), 1901.

No Standing Room in Open Cars.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: Not knowing where to make a complaint, I ask you is there anything that can be done to prevent people from standing up in a crowded open car? Sunday last in a Gates avenue car, Brooklyn, I sat in the front seat where ten people were seated, when four women and a man stood between us people. They had no place to hold on, so jabbed our hats, caught hold of our shoulders, and trampled on our shoes and dresses. Then refused to step out when I wished to get off. I could not pass them and the conductor, being angry, gave the bell and I was carried three long blocks out of my way to walk back. Something should be done for such is an outrage.

MRS. CHERRY.

NEW YORK, June 14.

Something can be done, something must be done. Something will be done. Rules forbidding people to stand up between seats in open cars should be made and enforced.

WOMAN AND PUBLIC LIFE.

Woman Suffrage Advocated by an Eminent Roman Catholic Priest.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: Society is as a rule purer and better where men and women live, move and work together. Men I know degenerate and in fact lose all civilization where the gentle, refining influence of woman is wanting. See the effect of woman's presence on the German beer garden, where husband and wife enjoy themselves together in a temperate, Christian manner, and contrast the latter with those drinking places where a woman is never seen.

It is evidently woman's sphere to soften the wild rough ways of society, as far at least as she may without detriment to her special duties. Should she decide to take part in politics, she will help to purify these, and then the vast number of men of intelligence and refinement who now avoid the polls will take a practical interest in good government. I hope that women will consent to vote, as they do in England, for public officers. For the life of me I never could see that Blanche of Castile, or Matilda of Canossa, or Victoria Guelph were less exemplary as women for their being all their lives mixed in politics, and I think that "a great onward step in the progress of mankind will be made when every adult person shall take active part in the government" of our country. There is too much materialism in these days, men are as mad as March hares in the quest of money, they need morality and religion, outside the temple door as well as inside, and it is by woman's aid the needs of society will be met.

So, all the while that we claim home as the province of woman, we hope she will help us in political matters generally, for that home is now coextensive with the city, nay, with the country, with the world; women can not only go alone in the streets and parks, but can even cross the ocean and make a tour of Europe. Hence woman has a right to see that the streets are clean and orderly, the police respectful and efficient, objectionable resorts properly controlled, ferryboats safe and clean—in fact, that every department of the government is properly carried on. To give a respectable opinion on all these she should be educated, and it is chiefly to women of education that these remarks are addressed.

Of course, there may be some excitement, talk, alarm, at first, just as there was when Vassar College was first started, as there was and is still about our Catholic colleges for women. That's always the way when something new is advanced; there would be a tremendous protest in France to-day if unmarried girls went out for a walk without a chaperon, as they do without remark in New York and Baltimore.

I have no fear that any of these changes will do permanent harm, and look upon them as natural results of Christianity, of education, and of rational human liberty. Let us trust the instinct of sex. The true husband, father and brother will always retain his wife's, his daughter's, his sister's respect and deference, and they will aid the men by the superior insight which they are often found to possess.

We who have sustained these views for many years are naturally gratified at the advance in the education of Catholic women, and at the prospect of their using the ballot. Society we think will be out of joint until *das Ewig Weibliche* is associated with the masculine element in government, and we read with satisfaction in THE SUN of May 12 last, how that great champion in the episcopate of Catholic education, the Bishop of Rochester, had said in his cathedral on May 10: "It fills me with joy when I think of the many changes that will be brought about when women have the right of suffrage. Then they will defy the politicians and vote as any Christian man should and would vote if he had the moral courage. All men are not loyal. The Catholic men dare not assert their rights." But the women dare. God guide them!

EDWARD MCSWEENY.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S, Md., June 13.

Our Flag.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: In your issue of to-day's SUN I notice a few lines by William Henry Haworth of Brooklyn in honorable eulogy of the American flag, on this, the anniversary of the birth of the Stars and Stripes, June 14.

Many studied lines of praise of the flag's beauty I have heard uttered and read of, but your correspondent has produced the key of simple truth in these when he says:

"Man never made and nature never produced anything more beautiful than the American Flag."

This utterance will bear any analysis that the critic may probe it with, and the more he or she does, the more will be seen and felt its truthful glory.

Every G. A. R. post and every public schoolhouse should post on its walls these simple lines.

SIMON S. TURNBALL,
A G. A. R. Veteran of the old Eighth N. G., S. N. Y.
120 MONROE ST., New York.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: The glorious and happy thing to remember about the flag is its universality. Though the local peculiarities of every section, of every corner of its wide dominion, however small, however backward, are nourished and protected under its benignant and far-reaching folds, there is nothing local about it because it is local everywhere. In the hills of New England, in the gardens of Mississippi and Louisiana, under the sequoias of California and the palms of Florida and the Philippines, amid the glaciers of the St. Elias Alps, the flag is equally and always at home. The Creoles of Louisiana, the Spaniards and natives of the Antilles and the Pacific, the other races and tongues everywhere in the Union are equally near to it. The law of Louisiana, the Code Napoleon, Porto Rico and the Philippines administer the Spanish system of jurisprudence; and elsewhere prevails the common law of old England, all represented and protected by the flag.

American Territories in spite of their backwardness or smallness, which keeps them such, enjoy the same largeness of autonomy as the mature and developed countries of Canada and Australia. On the other hand is it realized that the Constitution of the fathers has contrived to combine this diverse material into an indestructible union of indestructible States; that is, that the American Constitution is an invention which has made universal empire, (which is universal peace and civilization) possible, and consistent with undisturbed and undiminished localism?

There is no reason in the Constitution or out of it, practical or theoretical, why Tibet for instance, or Argentina, or Congo Free State or the Scandinavian peninsula, or any other region under the sun, should not become a State or Territory of the Union, supposing it were the will of its people and ours that it should so be; and the process of so-called annexation would leave intact every attribute which such country enjoys now, not repugnant to civilization.

Oh, that men would read history and geography, as somebody said, with their eyes and not with their prejudices, and rise to the majestic conception of a United States of America curved upon the seas from the polar ice to Cape Horn, built upon Magna Charta, a government of the people, by the people, for the people, the nucleus of a universal State which is peace!

The seeds of all this are in the Constitution of the fathers, the supreme law of the sovereign people whose symbol is the flag.

HOWARD M. CANNON.

FLAG DAY, June 14.

The Temperature and Religion.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: Is there any scientific or spiritual law to explain why changes in the thermometer produce changes in religious belief?

The case of Mr. Parsons in passing over to a prelatical from a Presbyterian Church when the thermometer rises is not peculiar. I have noticed that many Presbyterians do the same when the warm weather sends them to the country, more especially if they are rich. Even when a Presbyterian church is handy they go to an Episcopal church.

If there is any neighborhood in this country whose associations would seem most to stimulate a believer in the Westminster Confession to stand by his faith it is the neighborhood of Lenox. It is a region made famous in religious history as the home of Jonathan Edwards, as the prime seat of Calvinism; yet even there a Presbyterian elder turns from the church of Edwards to a prelatical church, which is an exotic in that religious atmosphere.

Why should the rising of the temperature produce a change so remarkable?

A BERKSHIRE PURITAN.

BROOKLYN, June 15.

Oil in Williamsbridge.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: In looking over the daily papers I am duly impressed with statements of oil being found in California, Virginia, Texas, and other places where it was thought never to exist, but it would surprise a great many to know that oil is to be found on the Arden property if they will only go down deep enough in Williamsbridge and vicinity. I remember my grandfather saying his father found indications of oil when they were digging for a well.

M. SCHNUGG.

WESTCHESTER ROAD, June 14.

TO ABOLISH SLAVERY IN MINDANAO

Gen. Bates Says the Reported Action of Datto Mundi Is Very Important.

WASHINGTON, June 15.—Gen. Bates, who recently returned to the United States from the Philippines, where he commanded the Department of Southern Luzon, was in Washington to-day. In an interview in regard to the conditions in the Philippine Islands he referred to recent reports from Manila, that Datto Mundi, the famous Moro chieftain of Zamboanga, had decided to abolish slavery. Gen. Bates said:

"I had not expected any such favorable action, though I have the highest respect for Mundi. It seems to me that it is expecting almost too much; it seems to me people ought to be paid something for these slaves. My agreement with them, in order to abolish slavery, was that a small amount should be paid for the slaves. I wanted to fix an amount, and they asked that it be the market value and I agreed to that. My idea was that the slaves might pay a small amount and I supposed the United States Government would foot the bill finally. Their market value was about $20. No census having been taken, it is impossible to tell how many slaves there are. They can hardly be regarded as slaves anyway, but that has been so generally discussed that it is well understood. They are mere retainers and very often voluntarily so, because they wanted the protection of a powerful datto. Mundi has been pronounced in his American sympathies ever since I have known him. He asked for an American flag at once and put it up, and in many places where it would incur antagonism, but he cared nothing for that. He said he had always been faithful to Spain while Spain had control, but when the control changed he wanted to be an American citizen. He offered to bring his people to fight alongside of our soldiers and said if I was ready he would at once go along and attack the Insurgents at Zamboango. I told him I was not ready to occupy the island then, and he said: 'I will do just what you say.' He did join our troops when Zamboango was taken. This action of Mundi is very important, indeed, because he is the heir-apparent to the Sultan. He was nominated by the Sultan of Mindanao, Rajah Muda, as his heir-apparent."

CUT THE WILD CHERRY TREES.

A Suggestion as to Combating the Forest Tent Caterpillar.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: Several days ago you published an item of news from Poughkeepsie, telling of the great loss through the ravages of the forest tent caterpillar. And it was said "that the worms had a great fondness for wild cherry trees." That one sentence tells the whole story, and suggests the cure. Cut down the wild cherry trees as fast as they appear. If every farmer and fruit-grower would make it a personal matter, and follow it up persistently, they would save their orchards from ruin, and also save themselves from a world of extra labor and much expense.

I opened one of the ripe tents taken from an apple tree last Saturday while looking through the orchard. There were easily three hundred worms in a disgusting undulating mass just about ready to come forth, and destroy the tree to which the tent was attached. I was greatly disappointed, as I had said so much to warn the men in advance. It behooves every farmer and every fruit grower, as well as every man who loves fine trees and foliage about his place, to watch carefully every spring for the slightest growth of wild cherry trees, which, when found, should be uprooted, or cut off and burned utterly.

The pest will trouble but little in a country void of wild cherry trees. That tree is where the tents are first set up. The propagators of the pest seek a wild cherry tree every time. When they become numerous, they strike at everything. As soon as the tents are formed and before active life shows saw, or cut off the supporting twigs (being careful not to open the tent) and drop the whole thing into the fire. There is no other way to be free of them. Don't let it germinate.

When on the road, if you see a growth of wild cherry starting up, get right out of your wagon and cut it down. No matter where you see a tent, get it, and get it quick.

BROOKLYN, June 14. F. J. GREENE.

A Loud Blast by an Agnostic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: What a curious fact it is that the church people and all their kin insist, in season and out of season, in forcing their notions, whims, superstitions and prejudices upon their fellow citizens who differ with them upon all sorts of subjects. The public does not interfere with them, but when a corporation of intelligent business citizens, at vast expense, organizes and operates a great educational concern like the magnificent World's Fair at Chicago, or like the Pan-American Exposition now open at Buffalo, they hold up their hands in holy horror and demand that the gates shall be closed on "the Sabbath."

The plea they make is that this is "a Christian country" and that it is abhorrent to the doctrines of the Christian faith to "desecrate the Sabbath," and that keeping the Buffalo Exposition open on Sunday is "desecrating the Sabbath," but it is a plea that will not stand, for the reason that this is not "a Christian country" at all; that the churchmen are in the minority; that the Government of the United States does not recognize any religion, and that the Constitution does not recognize any God. A citizen has as good a right to be a Buddhist, or a Mohammedan as to be a Christian, and he is entitled to believe all he pleases, or nothing at all if he likes; but this does not warrant him in forcing his notions on others.

The various arguments for and against Sunday opening of libraries, museums, art galleries, parks, &c., have been long since threshed out, and there seems no need to repeat them here. The Sunday open door of the Buffalo Exposition is in the same category—is solely a business proposition—and as such can be safely determined by the managers of that exposition. It is their business solely, and it is equally certain that it is the business of no one else, whether he be Jew or Christian, Buddhist or Mohammedan, Christian Scientist or Faith Curist or any other inspired or non-inspired believer or unbeliever. We have already seen the mischief done by these cranks in abolishing the army canteen. Will they ever learn to mind their own business and let that of other folks alone? The only reason they don't burn us at the stake as their ancestors did ours is because the law does not recognize the *auto de fé*.

The courts at Yonkers have had the nerve to say we may play golf on Sunday. Perhaps the Buffalo courts will say we may go to the Exposition on that same day. At any rate, the threat of one crank published yesterday, that the 30,000,000 Christians in this country (the figures are his, not mine) will boycott the Exposition unless the gates are closed on Sunday, will doubtless be disregarded by the managers, who will probably be quite willing to leave the fate of their show in the hands of the other 50,000,000 citizens who are not Christians and don't want to be.

AGNOSTIC.

NEW YORK, June 12.

David Kennison, Patriot—His Grave in Chicago.

From the Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Chicago societies of the Sons and the Daughters of the American Revolution are about to erect a monument to the memory of David Kennison in Lincoln Park. Who was David Kennison, and what did he do to make his memory deserving of a monument?

But few of the millions who have visited Lincoln Park have been aware of the fact that one of the graves in the southern part of that pleasure ground untouched when the old city cemetery was removed years ago contains the remains of the last survivor of the "Boston tea party," which ushered in the Revolution and the independence of the thirteen colonies. Yet such a grave is there, not far from the Couch tomb, and but a short distance from the Lincoln statue.

David Kennison was over 30 years of age when the first mutterings of discontent with the policy of the mother country began to make themselves heard in New England. He was one of those who attended the indignation meeting of blessed memory in Faneuil Hall and one of the party who afterward, in the disguise of Mohawk Indians, boarded his Britannic Majesty's merchantman and deliberately dumped its cargo of high-taxed tea into the harbor.

David Kennison enlisted in the Continental Army and fought through the war. He was doing garrison duty at Fort Dearborn when the War of 1812 began, but escaped the massacre, being at the time on the march to Fort Gratiot under transfer orders. It was 1846 when he again came to Chicago, and "Long" John Wentworth, hearing the story, took pains to have it either verified or disproved.

The result of "Long" John's inquiries, as well as that of a similar investigation carried on by the historian Lossing, established Kennison's claims, and when he died here on Feb. 24, 1852, at the remarkable age of 115 years 3 months and 15 days there was no question as to the fact that he was the last survivor of the "tea party."

A Prophet on Presidents.

From the Denver Christian.

Theodore Roosevelt will be the next President of the United States. He will serve two full terms. His immediate successor will be a Republican and will serve one full term.