The Sun.

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## Two Notable Contemporaries.

WILLIAM WATSON GOODWIN, Eliot Professor of Greek literature at Harvard University, was recently entertained at a complimentary dinner; on that occasion a beautiful silver bowl was presented to him by 150 of his fellow graduates and former pupils, in commemoration of the close of his distinguished career as a classical teacher, after forty-five years of active service.

Graduated at Harvard in 1851, GOODWIN thereafter studied several years in Germany, mainly at the Georgia Augusta University at Göttingen, where, at the age of twenty-four, he received his doctor's degree in 1855.

During that year many Americans were students at Göttingen, many of them Harvard men, for whom the university has been a favorite resort ever since the days when EVERETT, BANCROFT, TICKNOR, LONGFELLOW, MOTLEY, LANE and CHILD studied there. In earlier years the special attractions of Göttingen were for students in philology and letters, but, later, the teachings of GAUSS, WÖHLER and other eminent scientists brought many students of mathematics, chemistry and natural philosophy. During the past fifty years hundreds of Americans have studied there, and among them many who have since achieved high distinction in their several careers, mostly as college professors and teachers, but, also, notably in the learned professions, in engineering, geological exploration, chemistry, especially the practical applications of science in commercial and industrial pursuits, and, most eminently, in finance.

JOHN PIERPONT MORGAN began his student life at Göttingen just when GOODWIN, having received his degree, was about to return to Harvard, to enter upon the career which he has just now completed with such eminent success. MORGAN, then about nineteen years old, had been for some time at school in Switzerland, and visited Göttingen for the purpose of further study at the university. He remained there during 1856 and 1857. His studies were mainly in languages and literature, history, and, especially, mathematics, in which he excelled with notable distinction as a class student.

An extraordinary reunion of former companions at Göttingen occurred in New York several years ago, when a company of thirty-six men met at a dinner, which was given for the purpose of bringing together as many as possible of the surviving contemporaries of more than forty years before, with some others who had studied there at later periods. The company included many distinguished men, notably college professors, representing ten or eleven universities. On this occasion Mr. MORGAN presided and Prof. GOODWIN sat at his right hand, as the senior guest of honor. Shortly after the event a written address of greeting, signed by Prof. GOODWIN, Mr. MORGAN and several other participants, was sent to the pro-rector, senate and professors of the university at Göttingen, and a gracious response to it was duly returned, with becoming official formality.

Contemporary students at Göttingen forty-five years ago, GOODWIN and MORGAN have since steadily pursued their respective careers and both of them have achieved most eminent distinction, with highest honors. GOODWIN is known to classical students everywhere as a scholar of the first rank. MORGAN is at the head of his class as a financier. Their lines are gone out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world. They are to-day companions in leadership, in their chosen fields of philology and finance.

## The Australian Commonwealth and Great Britain.

It seems to us that London newspapers base on insufficient premises their conclusion that the loyalty of the new Australian Confederation to the British Crown is assured by the two facts that Australian contingents took part in the South African war, and that the first Parliament of the Commonwealth was opened by the Duke of CORNWALL and YORK. Neither of those incidents proves much, and both put together are far more than counterbalanced by the sturdy refusal of the Australian colonies to permit an appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council from the decisions of the Supreme Court of the Confederation.

Relatively to their population, the detachments of soldiers sent from the Australian colonies to help their mother country in her war against the Boer republics were insignificant, compared with the aid furnished by the American colonies to England in her wars with France during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The colonial soldiers who in the course of those contests were placed in the field under English colors were numbered by tens of thousands, and natives of New England took a very important, not to say principal, part in the capture of Louisburg and of Havana. It is well known that the parent State, far from exhibiting any gratitude for the assistance given by the colonies, proposed by the Stamp act to make them pay with treasure as well as blood a part of the debt incurred by England during her wars with her Continental neighbors. Australians, in their turn, will be disappointed, if they hope to receive from England any substantial recognition of the contribution made by them to the success of the South African campaign. Lip thanks and some gewgaws in the way of decorations they will undoubtedly obtain, but, if they count upon securing any preference for Australian food staples in the British market, they will soon be disillusioned.

The Australians have too much common sense to be deeply affected by the circumstance that the first Parliament of their Commonwealth was opened by the heir to the British Crown. What possible difference could it make to a self-respecting and practically independent people whether or no a traditional, but now meaningless, ceremony was reproduced for them at the antipodes? Not on that account would they vote an additional dollar for the representative of the British sovereign who under the name of Governor General is permitted to serve as the figurehead of the Commonwealth's Executive; neither would they bear the cost of transporting a single additional soldier to Cape Colony.

The so-called loyalty of the Australians is a sentiment so thin that the first clash with self-interest would shiver it. That is evident from the shape which they gave their Federal Constitution in vital particulars. The one substantial tie which, until lately, did actually bind the Australian colonies to the mother country, was definitely severed when the organic law of the new Commonwealth was reluctantly accepted by the British Parliament. If, on questions involving conflicting claims of power between the Australian colonies on the one hand and the new Confederation on the other, an appeal had been permitted from the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth to the Privy Council of the United Kingdom, there would have been at least one tangible bond of connection between the Australians and their parent State. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, the British Secretary for the Colonies, earnestly advocated the insertion of such a provision in the Constitution of the proposed Confederation, but the Australians turned a deaf ear to his plea. Therein they showed themselves far-sighted, and much more stalwart than are the inhabitants of the Dominion of Canada in the assertion of self-reliance and in the resolve to repudiate even the semblance of dependence. By firmly rejecting Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S request, the Australians made it evident that they regard professions of loyalty as the empty mouthings of an idle day, which they must not be called upon to translate into acts as a matter of obligation. When the whim takes them, they may send a battalion or two to aid Great Britain, but they by no means recognize that such assistance would be a duty.

Of all the considerable factors of England's colonial empire, the Australian Commonwealth is the most remote, the most isolated and the most detachable. Already independent in fact, the new Confederation will become independent in name likewise the moment its interests shall come into sharp conflict with those of the mother country.

## Russia and China.

In its issue of Feb. 5, 1888, THE SUN published an article on "Manifest Destiny in Asia," in which we gave an historical résumé of Russia's conquest of Siberia, the Khanates, Turkestan and the Valley of the Amur. We called attention to the portentous fact that the giant of the north had by its unbroken conquest of nearly three hundred years annexed over one-half the continent of Asia, and was on the one hand steadily pressing toward British India and the Indian Ocean, and on the other, against the defenceless borders of China and the ice-free coasts of the north Pacific. We pointed out that this wonderful conquest, followed by the incorporation of the annexed regions, with their native tribes, into the Russian Empire, "must perforce beget a far reaching policy not only for the defence of its conquests, but for their further extension." At that time railroad connection with these outlying regions had already been opened from Ekaterinenburg toward Tobolsk and Omsk, and was fast reaching out toward Lake Baikal and the Far East, while another line was being pushed out from the Caspian Sea through the Khanates and deserts toward Merv, Bokhara and Samarkand. We also pointed out then that the Trans-Siberian Railroad would doubtless be extended around the Chinese border to Kiachta and ultimately to Pekin or down the Valley of the Amur River to the sea.

Since then the work of construction has progressed steadily until there is unbroken railway connection from St. Petersburg through Moscow, Tomsk, Tobolsk and Lake Baikal to Blagavestchensk on the Amur River, and by the Amur River to a junction with a cut-off line through Manchuria to Port Arthur, and also Vladivostock. Several sections of this great line of transcontinental communication require yet to be completed, but it is sufficiently far advanced to justify the belief that at an early day it will afford Russia an unbroken line not only to its terminals on the Pacific, but also, by its connections, to Tientsin and Pekin.

All military men who consider the geography of that section and the vast stretches of impassable mountains and dreary deserts which separate the line from southern and southeastern Asia will recognize the fact that it cannot be assailed or broken by any civilized Power; that it connects Russia with a safe base of operations on the Amur River and in Manchuria, thus making her absolutely independent of Great Britain, of her sea power, and equally of any other national combination which may be formed against her. It enables her to concentrate her troops and munitions entirely at her leisure; and, whether it takes months or years to bring her army from Russia, she may make her own opportunity and choose her own time for such operations as she may decide upon. As Gen. WILSON well suggests in his recent book on China:

"This is a momentous fact which must be considered in every aspect and in connection with every suggested solution of the Chinese question. Although Russia is one of the poorest countries in the world, when the per capita value of her productions is considered, she is absolutely independent of all the Powers of the earth. In dealing with China neither sea power nor land power can disturb her directly. The nations of Western Europe might combine to attack and cripple her European possessions, but they could not assail her anywhere in Siberia or along the northern borders of China, nor for a day interrupt her communications with the Far East. All the navies of the world united could not disturb the concentration or supply of her troops in Manchuria, while she would only have the deserts and barren steppes to cross to reach Pekin or other vital points, but even that she could do by throwing out branch lines from her great railway, as circumstances might appear to require. She may therefore take as much or as little of China as she wishes, and choose her own time for doing it. So far as the other Powers are concerned, they may hold on to what they have already acquired, but they have only the moderation and poverty of Russia to depend upon for the present to restrain or minimize her desire for the further extension of her dominion in the Far East."

Much criticism has been directed against Russia, especially by the English newspapers for her peaceful attitude towards China and for her continued occupation of Manchuria. Apparently every effort has been made to prejudice her in the minds of the other Powers, but it is only fair to call attention to the fact that her occupancy of Manchuria is under the provisions of a treaty which was negotiated during his attendance at the coronation by LI HUNG CHANG directly with the Czar. It was approved through the cable at the same time, item by item, by the Chinese Government, and was afterward duly ratified by both Governments several years before the outbreak of the Boxer disturbances or the invasion of China by the allied Powers.

It is an interesting circumstance that this treaty, an abstract of which, obtained from an authentic source, was published in THE SUN in March, 1897, was carried to St. Petersburg by Count CASSINI before the world at large knew it had been negotiated. It was perfectly well understood by those who were in the secret at the time that its real purpose was to protect China from any foreign aggression in return for the grant of the right of way for the trans-Siberian Railroad across Manchuria. It bound China to make a connection with that line, and to deposit five million taels in the Russo-Chinese bank as a guarantee that she would do so. It authorized Russia to take charge of Port Arthur should war threaten with any foreign Power, to exercise all necessary police powers over the railway line and adjacent country, and to hold the same indefinitely under the lease for her own advantage.

This treaty was subsequently modified through the action of Russia, France and Germany in shouldering Japan out of the Regent's Sword and Port Arthur, but the details of this modification have never been made known. It is obvious, however, that it did not in any way weaken the right of Russia to operate its railroad in Manchuria, or to exercise police control and jurisdiction in the region through which it passes. This being the case, it will be seen that Russia has been within her treaty rights in maintaining order and holding on to the territory occupied by her in Manchuria, and clearly it is no offence against the other Powers for her to continue to do so, nor should it subject her to unfriendly criticism or to the charge that her course is in any way in violation of the concert of the allied Powers.

So far as the public despatches from Pekin have made it known, Russia has acted in strict harmony with the considerate policy laid down by our own Government. She seems to have been moderate in all her demands against China, and conciliatory toward all the Powers, not excepting even the Japanese, who are so jealous and watchful of her.

It is an open secret that shortly after the relief of the legations at Pekin by the allied troops Japan became alarmed at the attitude of Russia and sounded the Powers in reference to the advisability of a campaign on her part to drive the Russians out of Manchuria. The crisis passed away evidently under the friendly assurances and action of Russia, aided no doubt by the hesitation of the other Powers, and this is a fortunate circumstance tending to the peaceful completion of the settlement by the allied Powers with China. It is probable that Japan unaided by any of the others could have driven Russia back to the Amur River, but it must have been at a tremendous expense to an already overburdened treasury, and might finally have resulted in a serious disaster to Japan, if not in a general war between all of the Powers, at the end of which China would probably have been dismembered.

Again the moderation of the Russian Government and the security of her ultimate possessions were doubtless the controlling factors in preventing war and averting the unfortunate conclusion which must have followed it. Judging from the course of events during the last year, China is in far greater danger from the rapacity of the other European Powers, especially when they come to the collection of the indemnity to be paid by China, than she is from Russia, who is under treaty obligation which more or less clearly defines the course she is to pursue in Manchuria. In connection with this subject it is worthy of note that her obligation to protect China from foreign aggression was doubtless not sufficiently broad to cover the Boxer outbreak and the unfortunate series of circumstances which followed it, but it may in some degree further explain the moderation of her course.

As pointed out in these columns thirteen years ago, it seemed then to be the manifest destiny of Asia that Russia and Britain, the two great Asiatic Powers, should divide China as they had already divided the rest of the continent, but through mutual jealousy and antagonism, which are apparently as active to-day as ever, they lost their opportunity. Since then Britain has abandoned her aggressive Asiatic policy, while Germany has gained a safe base of operations in China, and France has greatly strengthened hers; Japan has become a great military power, the United States have acquired control of the Philippines, with an increasing interest in Chinese affairs, while Russia has moved to the front, and may now be regarded as without rival and easily the first Asiatic Power. In view of all of these circumstances, the partition of China may be fairly considered as indefinitely postponed.

## The Limestone Age.

The number of new buildings projected for construction this year in New York is considerably augmented by the desire to take advantage of the new law relating to the building of tenement houses. It is twice as large as a year ago, as shown by the reports of the Department of Buildings. In all other American cities building operations are going on actively. It is remarked that in contemporary construction more limestone and marble, and less brick and brownstone than heretofore, are being used.

By the census of 1890, it was shown that granite and limestone were the chief building stones in use in the United States, the amount of limestone quarried being about 50 per cent. greater than the amount of granite; and sandstone, marble, slate and bluestone following in the order named. During the five years following the census of 1890, there was a general depression in the building trade, as in other branches of American industry, and a falling off in the amount of stone quarried. Since 1896, however, there has been a large increase in the demand for building materials and it has been supplied largely from two sources, Indiana limestone and Georgia marble.

Indiana limestone, quarried in steadily increasing amount, is shipped to other States, one of the Indiana railroads deriving more revenue in a year from limestone than from any other item of freight income. Kindred stone is found in other parts of the Union. Georgia marble comes chiefly from the counties in the northern portion of the State near the Tennessee border, Fannin, Gilmer, Pickens and Cherokee. A vein of marble extends from Georgia into North Carolina.

Among builders, a "mile stone" in respect to the use of materials was the Chicago fire in October, 1871, when 17,500 buildings were consumed, having, with their contents, a value of $200,000,000. In that fire the various building materials were put to a severe test. Marble and granite stood the test poorly; limestone and brick sustained the intense heat, and iron warped, twisted and became displaced. From the Chicago fire has dated the general retirement, until recently, of marble as a building material except for ornament.

## The Moral Purity of the Christian Ministry.

The counsel of BARKER declared in summing up in his behalf that "no American jury ever convicted a man for killing the ravisher of his wife," and, so far as our remembrance goes, the facts sustain his declaration. In the trial of BARKER, however, no direct evidence of such conduct on the part of the Rev. Mr. KELLER was allowed by the Judge, and none of that introduced indirectly or by inference was considered by the jury. The conviction was simply of an assault on the clergyman, of the making of which there was no denial by BARKER.

The question of the guilt of the clergyman of the atrocious offence of which he is accused in a circumstantial statement from Mrs. BARKER, the authenticity of which is apparently unquestionable, still remains open. The Rev. Mr. KELLER denies the accusation in a published card "to the press." But, obviously, it must be investigated thoroughly and judicially, for now we have only the mere word of the clergyman pitted against the word of the woman. It is understood that, accordingly, he will demand such an investigation. A minister of religion cannot afford to rest under an accusation of the sort, and the Church in which he holds holy orders suffers grievously from the division of opinion which exists so long as the charge remains untried.

We observe a disposition on the part of some of the friends of the Rev. Mr. KELLER to condemn Mrs. BARKER on mere presumption. They assume that her story is impossible. Unhappily, experience shows that it is not impossible. The history of our courts contains conspicuous instances of like assaults made by Christian ministers; and, usually, the women concerned have been subjected to the discredit of such an assumption.

BARKER having been convicted of the assault committed by him, there now remain, first, the accusation of assault made by Mrs. BARKER against the Rev. Mr. KELLER and, second, the inferential accusation against her of having falsely accused the clergyman, contained in his published denial of her story. On the one side is required a suspension of judgment by the public because of the unproved accusation against a minister of religion, to whom, of all men, any suspicion of gross impurity of character is most damaging, and, on the other, it is demanded by respect and honor for womanhood, so that by no possibility shall there be added to an atrocious crime against a woman the farther outrage of subjecting her to the outrage of a mere assumption that she degraded herself by making a false accusation. That would be to make her doubly a victim. Nor is there any justification in any evidence produced in this case for assuming that the circumstances Mrs. BARKER relates existed only in her morbid imagination. That such an accusation as hers may be the product of a hysterical condition is unquestionable; but so also experience indicates that it may be in strict accordance with the facts.

The Rev. A. P. DOYLE, one of the Paulist Fathers, argues in the course of a recent article on the Roman Catholic Church, that that Church, "by singing the praises of the state of virginity, by encouraging her priesthood and thousands of her cloistered men and women to the highest practice of it," "has maintained the highest ideals of chastity." That such has been the result actually has been denied, but that the practical exemplification of the highest ideals of chastity by a Christian minister, married or celibate, is necessary to protect the Church against ruinous reproach and the Christian ministry from destructive hatred and suspicion, more especially in a religiously sceptical period like this, is undeniable. In the interests of religion, an accusation like that brought against the Rev. Mr. KELLER must be met, investigated thoroughly and disposed of finally.

Nothing has done more harm to the Christian ministry than the persistence of suspicions of it not removed in trials where similar offences against women have been charged.

## "Fads" in Education.

The Superintendent of Instruction of the St. Louis public schools sends us this letter:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* At the next meeting of the National Educational Association, which will take place in a few weeks, one of the topics appointed for public discussion is the question, 'What Is a Fad?' It would be of great interest to learn what some representative citizens and teachers have to say on the subject. If you can find the time to write a few words in answer to the following questions you will confer a favor:

"1. What do you consider the meaning of the word 'fad' in educational matters?

"2. Can you give an illustration of some educational 'fad' that has come to your notice?

"ST. LOUIS, June 17. F. LOUIS SOLDAN."

One educational "fad" is the cultivation of superfluous studies at the expense of the essentials. It seems to be getting the fashion to depend less and less upon good, honest hard work in the rudimentary branches. There is an immense parade of elaborate new systems. Fantastic pedagogy plays queer pranks. Elementary education has been made more difficult by the laborious effort to make it easier. The poor little heads of the children are stuffed with queer stuff. Crank notions, crank systems, a fanatical desire for novelty, a singular deficiency of the sense of proportion and the total absence of the sense of humor usually characterize the devotee of educational "fads."

Some of the Chicago public schools are museums of "fads." Take the "visualized action" method, for example. "JOHNNY, get your gun!" says the chart on the blackboard; and JOHNNY gets his gun. "Hop, skip and jump" are impressed upon the youthful mind by actual hopping, skipping and jumping.

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Two distinguished firms of clothiers have commented recently in their advertisements upon the present "military style" of clothes worn by men. One of these firms remarked: "Buttoning only the last button of a sack coat has its reason in the resultant broad-shouldered effect, the desire for which comes from the present enthusiastic love for everything military." About the same time the other firm advertised in these words: "Hung to stay, will not fall down—whether buttoned, unbuttoned or one-buttoned—our sack coat in the popular military fashion."

Of course, these great tailoring firms are all right: there is nothing the matter with them. The trouble is with the men who imagine that they can get a military effect, even with broad shoulders, if they wear their coats unbuttoned. An unbuttoned coat cannot be military, however it is cut. No soldier on duty ever wears his blouse or coat unbuttoned: no old veteran, even off duty, wears it unbuttoned. In citizen clothes he may unbend enough to open his coat, but never in uniform. The "military style" which depends for its effect on artificially broadened shoulders in a coat buttoned only at the last button is a grotesque counterfeit.

If the men who wear these "military cut" coats would only stand up straight and walk like men—head up, shoulders back, body erect—they would gain the military effect which is said to be desired, even with unpadded coats buttoned up all the way. An observer watching the passers-by in the street will soon spot the man with the real military effect; and it will not be the man who depends on the cut of his coat to obtain it.

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A "Constant Reader," who unfortunately does not indicate himself more particularly, found in THE SUN the other day a reference to CHARLES RUSSELL LOWELL as one of the Harvard men of the Civil War era, and calls our attention to the circumstance, remarking sardonically:

"Shades of JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL!"

"Constant Reader's" reward for vigilance is that which presumptuous ignorance usually obtains. JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL did not die fighting for the Union. Brigadier-General CHARLES RUSSELL LOWELL did; he fell fighting at Cedar Creek.

## *CHIMING BELLS AT GREENWICH.*

### Wealthy Residents Putting Up the Chimes Near Their Suburban Homes.

GREENWICH, Conn., June 22.—Costly chiming bells are the fad with the wealthy owners of extensive estates here this season. Commodore E. C. Benedict was the first of the millionaires to have the silvery-toned bells near his home. He located them at the water's edge at Indian Harbor, where Tweed and his happy companions of the Americus Club landed when going from the Metropolis to their favorite outing place. Commodore Benedict's bells are tuned to the key of C, and every half hour of the day and night are heard far away on the Sound or miles inland, as the direction of the wind may be.

Workmen are busy putting up the chimes on other places, the most extensive on the beautiful suburban home of J. Kennedy Tod at Sound Beach. Mr. Tod's home is one of the most attractive and delightful on the north shore of Long Island Sound. The grounds are laid out with exquisite taste, with artificial lakes and a unique bridge to complete the parklike scene. Wild fowl and birds add a charm to the picturesque place, and the Innis Arden golf links afford ample opportunity for the owner's many friends who are votaries of the sport to display their skill. For several weeks, under the direction of J. H. Kaiser, a New York architect, men have been employed in putting up a tower, fifty feet high, of Oriental design, for the chiming bells that Mr. Tod has just received from London. It is expected that on the Fourth of July the chiming bells, which are said to be exceedingly beautiful in tone, will ring out patriotic and other airs. The tower is located close to the shore and opposite Indian Harbor. There are fifteen of the bells, the largest being 3 feet in diameter and the smallest 16 inches. The chimes will be rung by eight-day clockwork machinery, and the repertory to be given includes many Scotch airs, patriotic airs, melodies and hymns. These chimes can be heard for ten miles or more, and the notes of "Annie Laurie," "Bonnie Doon," "The Stars and Stripes Forever" in the soft tones of the bells will be wafted on the breezes over sea and land.

### Trolley Riding for Insomnia.

*From the Philadelphia Times.*

"There is a great deal of sound sense in persons suffering from insomnia taking rides on the trolley car to make them sleep, as I know from constant experience," said a conductor on an Overbrook night car. "Men who ride only occasionally after midnight, and get on the car quite chipper, after Eighth street, are sound asleep before they reach the Schuylkill River. It is only men who are accustomed to work after midnight that can keep awake for a long ride. It is a common thing for me to see twenty men in a late car, all asleep. If I know where they want to go I wake them up, but they don't always tell me.

"The other night a man who lives near Fifty-second and Jefferson streets boarded a down car after midnight, saying that he could not sleep, and he thought a trolley ride would do him good. He kept awake all right until we got to the ferry, but on the up trip, after 1 o'clock, he fell asleep with the rest of the men in the car. I forgot all about him when we reached his street and carried him to Overbrook. Well, what's stranger, I forgot him again on the down trip and he slept all the way to the ferry. He made an awful row. On the up trip he slept all the way again, but it was daylight when he got to Fifty-second street. The policeman on that corner was waiting for the car. The man's wife had been out to look for him."

### Suicides and Congress Gaiters.

*From the Philadelphia Times.*

"It is a queer thing," said a policeman from one of the districts which embraces the Delaware riverfront, "that over half the number of river suicides, which it is our duty to take care of when found, wear Congress gaiters. You can walk along Chestnut street in its most crowded part and not see one man in a hundred wearing the shoe with the elastic sides, but when we find a body floating in the river we have almost come to expect the gaiters, and in as many as three of four cases in succession we have found them."

### A Jerseyman's Doubts as to the Common Sense of Legal Procedure.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is said that "law is the perfection of human reason" and farther, it is the popular impression that law and truth are synonymous, or, at least, that truth is the ultimate object of law.

In view of the above saying, can you explain to an unenlightened and possibly thick-headed farmer out here in the wilds of Jersey, why our courts so hedge themselves about with objections and precedents that it is only with the utmost effort on the part of counsel that the truth can be brought out at all?

In the Barker case why not have heard both sides in full, allowing Mrs. Barker to make her charge and giving the Rev. Mr. Keller a chance to refute it by alibi testimony or evidence as to his general character? Of course, I realize that Mr. Keller is not on trial, but the whole case is so interwoven that even the astuteness and acumen of law cannot separate it into two disconnected and distinct fabrics. The jury knows about the alleged outrage. Why not have let them hear the truth about it, and instead of sending them to their deliberations with a hazy idea that perhaps the Rev. Mr. Keller is a guilty man, give him a chance to clear himself of the charge? An innocent man is not afraid of the truth, and justice demands that it should be brought out in the case of a guilty one. Why does the law so enclose itself with a fence that while ripe fruit of truth hangs close by—from the trees of wisdom, it is just out of reach of the owner, namely, the law, who contents himself with an occasional glimpse of the same through the fence and dies happy?

I hope you may pardon the painful metaphor above, and will read this letter in the same spirit that it is sent, which is not as an example of elegant diction, but as a request for some light on a dark subject.

DENVILLE, N. J., June 22. C. H. MILLER.

### Honorary Degrees.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Referring to your editorial article on the honorary LL.D., it seems to me that there is a point which the Committees on Honors would do well to consider. These higher degrees are conferred on the Continent by examination. The honorary degree is simply an acceptance of a foregone conclusion. Prof. James Bryce, for example, would not be expected to submit a thesis to obtain an LL. D. from those who had read his "American Commonwealth," any more than His Holiness, if the degree were for Latin poetry. In my case, I found that as an honorary member of various societies, African, American, Asiatic and European, the absence of a doctorate appeared to my colleagues to show that my university career had abruptly terminated. Unlike *Faust*, I was "Master" and not "Doctor." We should be allowed to proceed to the higher degree in America, also, by examination. Columbia University, for example, would thus give increased value to the honorary degree, conferred when the examination was dispensed with, on account of acknowledged merit. M. A., COL. COLL.

NEW YORK, June 21.

### Price Fruit of Spokane.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I submit proof of the eligibility of Mr. Price Fruit of this city.

SPOKANE, Wash., June 17. B. G.

### Greek Met Greek, and Got Away.

*From the Baltimore Sun.*

Antone Hangakos, indicted jointly with his brother, George Hangakos, for the murder of their cousin, Philip Pappadakos, was acquitted in the Criminal Court yesterday.

## *ADVICE TO MR. VREELAND.*

### The Possible Utilization of Street-Car Conductors as Sure-Enough Conductors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Mr. Vreeland is reported to have said that no law can be enforced which is designed to prevent passengers standing between seats on open cars. There is one much-needed reform that Mr. Vreeland can put into immediate effect by a stroke of his pen. The so-called conductors are merely fare collectors and car starters. Not one out of a hundred among them performs any other service for the passenger. The peremptory "step lively" command is always on tap, but the conductor does not assist the passenger to find a seat. Passengers, especially women, are flustered by the necessity of hurrying, and crowd into a fully occupied seat when the next seats are very often only partially occupied.

Let Mr. Vreeland direct his conductors to point out vacant seats to those who are entering a car, and the present exasperating state of affairs will be mitigated to some extent; and when a woman gets into a fully occupied compartment let the conductor be instructed to assist her to a vacant seat. When a man stands up in front of passengers make it the conductor's duty to at least request him to seat himself in another part of the car.

In short, if conductors were instructed by Mr. Vreeland to regard the passengers as guests on their cars, whose comfort must be considered, as far as possible, a better state of affairs would quickly and easily be attained. It is in some instances unfair to criticise a passenger who stands in front of another when every seat is occupied, but it is a severe trial to one's patience to have a fat person make use of the space another has paid for when there are plenty of vacant seats in the car.

The impression I have gathered from reading about Mr. Vreeland is that he is a good citizen of strong common sense and anxious to serve the public well, and I hope this suggestion will be accepted by him and that its enforcement will give the public further cause to applaud him. He has created a splendid system of surface transportation, and doubtless his ambition is to make it perfect as fast as circumstances will permit. H. L. BULLEN.

NEW YORK, June 22.

### Women and the Mormons.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A woman asks in THE SUN this morning why, "if Mormonism is so bad, and the practice of it so deplorable, the Mormon women do not in some way rebel?"

Mormonism was founded by Joseph Smith in the year 1820 at Manchester, Ontario county, N. Y. He asserted that God the Father and Jesus Christ, His son, appeared to him while he was at prayer and informed him that all religions then existing were wrong, and commissioned him as the inspired agent of God to proclaim Mormonism to an unbelieving world.

On Sept. 22, 1827, he announced to the world that an angel of the Lord had given him some metal plates engraved in reformed Egyptian characters, containing a history of God's dealings with the prehistoric inhabitants of America. He published this history in 1830 in a book entitled "The Book of Mormon," ever since held by the Mormons as the inspired word of God in a much greater sense than Mrs. Eddy's "Science and Health" is so regarded by the Christian Scientists.

Now, any man could pretend that he was inspired of God and get credulous people to believe him. Any man, capable of writing a book, could assert that the book contained the revelation of God to the human race; but all we would have would be the man's word for it. Is it conceivable that an all-wise God would choose one man of all the millions of this earth to make a revelation to him, and deprive all others of a like revelation?

Mormon women, no doubt, are devout believers of their faith, false though it may be, and abide by its commands. Having no desire to think otherwise, they must be satisfied with their lot. From outside appearances we are led to believe that there no longer exists among the Mormons the polygamous marriage, but is this so? From time to time cases become public showing plainly that polygamy is still practised by the Mormons, to what extent we are unable to tell, though unquestionably it is the hope of every true Mormon that Mormonism shall conquer the world; and after Mormonism, what? Polygamy, with the consequent destruction of our civilization, the triumph of savagery over it and the degradation of both woman and man. Polygamy is the usurping of man's higher faculties by his lower nature. No man can love two women at the same time and love each alike. There must be some preference. If a man has the right to have two wives, has not a woman the right to have two husbands? Right and wrong know no sex.

Is it any wonder that Mormonism is hated by all men and women who wish to preserve the best traditions of their race? Is it any wonder to find condemnation of the acts of Mormon missionaries who descend like vultures upon the homes of honest men away to earn their daily bread? I believe in freedom of religion, freedom of conscience and freedom of thought; but they must stop when the rights of man are trampled upon and our civilization is attacked at its very source.

NEW YORK, June 21. F. X. MCCARTHY.

### The Case of Trolley Conscience.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In your issue to-day "J. M." asks whether, if a conductor on one of the surface cars neglects to demand a fare, a passenger is justified in not volunteering to tender it to him? My religious training tells me he is not. He has no more right to steal a ride on the cars than to pick his neighbor's pocket; and the reasons he offers for "getting even" with the Metropolitan company would be as valid if written by the pen of a burglar, highwayman or sneak thief after a successful operation.

Stealing is stealing, no matter from whom. Every one understands he has to pay his nickel for a ride in the cars. No one is forced into an overcrowded car by the Metropolitan company. If I do not want to be jammed, or pushed, or squeezed I will wait till a car not so crowded comes along, or take "shanks' mare" to where I want to go. But having gone aboard, and even though like "J. M." I might recall the Metropolitan's "little courtesies," still if the conductor forgot to collect my fare I would regard myself as a very mean thief, indeed, not to hand it to him before getting off the car.

As to seats being taken up with bundles and valises: Well, I have ridden downtown and uptown and crosstown, at all hours, as often and for as many years, perhaps, as "J. M." and never saw a man compelled to stand "because other passengers" (women, I suppose,) "placed a bundle or valise beside them." Suppose on getting aboard a car I found a passenger in every seat but one, on which, instead, was a large valise belonging to the woman sitting in the next seat. On my coming in she makes ready to move it, but seeing at a glance the carrying of it in her lap would be inconvenient and discomforting I signify to her not to stir it and I elect to stand. Now, has any man, even "J. M." who might come in after me, a right to insist that the woman must remove the valise that he may have that seat? I reckon his insistence would amount to naught while I was on the car.

If the rule some clamor for, no seat no fare, prevailed, the jamming and squeezing would be but greater. The only way to prevent it is to raise the fare to ten cents and abolish transfers. Would "J. M." like this? If he knowingly and deliberately evaded paying his fare he is in conscience bound to make restitution. "Thou shalt not steal" admits of no exception.

NEW YORK, June 21. OLD TIMER.

### Reducing Trouble.

*From the Rochester Herald.*

Julian Paczoch and Jozefa Jacobowska, Stanislaus Kott and Katarzyna Snjdak, and Wladyslaw Koronkowski and Josefa Koscielska have been married in Chicago. This is reducing trouble to a minimum and ought to be encouraged.

### Man's Egotism.

*From the Baltimore American.*

"According to physiologists, a man's brain weighs more than a woman's. The reason? Man's brain is composed of cells of egotistical matter which expand with age and in proportion to the thoughts which he bestows on himself. Hence, we have the equation, man equals egotism. By transposition, man minus egotism equals nothing. Tap your heads, all of you, and see if you can judge their brain weight. If it is over the average, you may know that you are suffering from an attack of the ego."—Extract from a graduating address delivered at the Academy of Music by a young lady.

What is it keeps man at the plough
From dawn of day till dark?
What is it furrows up his brow
With toil's deep seated mark?
What impulse moves the silly fool
To give his wife more ease,
To send his daughters off to school,
And buy them fineries?
Egotism.

What is it binds man to his chair
In office, bank or store,
That wife's life may be more fair,
And she have joy galore?
What is it bids the lawyer plead,
The farmer till the soil,
The statesman strive to take the lead,
The workman ever toil?
Egotism.

Then tap your brains, you foolish men,
And take your ego out,
And never put it in again,
But all advancement flout.
For all that makes the simple man
Exert to beat the band
That he may do the best he can
Is lovely woman—and
Egotism.

## *THE AQUARIUM'S BIG STURGEON.*

### Wont Eat; Wants to Get Out—Odd Ways of Big Fishes in Captivity.

The big nine-foot sturgeon at the Aquarium has eaten nothing since its arrival there, now nearly three weeks ago; but that doesn't worry the Aquarium people, for this sturgeon's eight-foot predecessor in the same pool didn't eat anything for two months after it came in.

Notwithstanding its continued abstinence from food the big sturgeon is to all appearances well and hearty. It spends its time mostly in moving very slowly about the pool, trying to find a way out. Of course it hasn't found a way, but it has found the pool intake, the pipe opening through which the water supply flows in. The intake comes in at one end of the pool, near the bottom. At first the sturgeon went by it, but it soon discovered the incoming current and now it often halts at it. Possibly it hopes to find there an avenue of escape.

It has tried once to escape by jumping. The sturgeon, as everybody knows, is a high and powerful jumper. This sturgeon could easily jump up over the railing around the pool and out, if there was depth of water enough in it to get a start in. There isn't, but the sturgeon has to find that out by experience. The other sturgeon tried it, first and last, a number of times; this one has so far tried it once. It started up and raised about a third of its great body out of water in the effort, its powerful tail going down at the same time for hold and thrust. But the pool has only about four feet of water; not nearly enough to give the sturgeon the hold it needs for such a jump. Almost at the very start of its jumping effort its tail brought up against the bottom of the pool, and that ended it.

The sturgeon is now quite alone in its pool excepting for one little hake, and that will be taken out; so that there shall be nothing in the pool to disturb or irritate the big fish. Before the sturgeon was received there was in this pool a happy family of common sea creatures, including skates, dogfishes and anglers, with a number of smaller fishes. But any small fish swimming in the pool and running into the sturgeon might so startle it as to make it start up and bunt its head into the wall, and so injure itself. So the sturgeon is to have the pool to itself.

In seeking the intake the sturgeon is doing only what fishes almost without exception do when placed in captivity in pools or tanks; and in abstaining from food in its earlier captivity it is also doing only what many other fishes do. Seeking the intake at first with a hope of escape at that point, fishes continue to seek it for the grateful life and freshness of the new, living water that there comes in.

As to their abstinence from food when first taken into captivity, other fishes vary more or less, according to their kind. There are some bottom feeders, common fishes, that will eat as soon as they are put into a tank, but they wont all do this and some can with difficulty be brought to feed in captivity at all. Game fishes, free swimmers, that take their prey as they swim, are more than likely to decline food at first. The sturgeon is a bottom feeder, but, for all that, it is sensitive about eating in captivity, and it takes the big ones, anyway, a long time, calm as their movements may seem, to get sufficiently accustomed to their environment so that they will feed, and fortunately they can go for months without food.

## *BRYAN VISITS THE EXPOSITION.*

### He Declined to Enter the Cage of Lions—Saw the Bullfight in Streets of Mexico.

BUFFALO, June 22.—To-day's distinguished visitors to the Exposition were William J. Bryan, Minister Conger and C. Arthur Pearson of London. Mr. Bryan, Mrs. Bryan and their two children are the guests of National Committeeman Norman E. Mack. Comptroller Coler and Mrs. Coler took breakfast with them this morning. Mr. Bryan and his family were escorted to the Exposition by Mr. Mack. Mr. Bryan was the object of general curiosity, and was followed from place to place by a small crowd of people. He witnessed the bull fight in the Streets of Mexico, and was introduced to all the braves in the Indian Village. The invitation to him to enter the cage with Bostock's twenty-seven trained lions was firmly declined. Mr. Bryan will go to the Falls to-morrow, returning to Buffalo to study the Exposition until Tuesday, when he will start for Watertown, where he is to speak.

This was Smith's College day at the Fair. The alumnæ and undergraduates were entertained by the Board of Women Managers.

To-morrow the Midway restaurants will be open and the sale of beer will be allowed on the grounds. This is the beginning of a more liberal Sunday show.

The use of women in the Ballyhoo has been forbidden by the directors. It has been customary for some of the concessions to pose their women on a platform in front of the show, causing offence to some who do not like the open-air boldness of it. The Midway dances and posings have been tamed down considerably.

## *WONT BE FILLED UP.*

### An Insatiate Sink Hole That Bothers the Pennsylvania Road.

*From the Indianapolis Journal.*

HARTFORD CITY, Ind., June 18.—The Pennsylvania Railway Company, which is engaged in making extensive improvements in this vicinity, has encountered a phenomenal difficulty about two miles east of this city, with which it had much trouble, and by which it was caused much expense nearly thirty-five years ago, when the road was first built. It is a sink hole which has swallowed up an incredible amount of filling. Many hundreds of the old timbers, stone and earth were dumped into the place, only to gradually sink away. Finally a roadbed was established over the hole, about one hundred and twenty-five feet in width, which, to all appearance, was substantial. Now, after thirty-five years of sustaining hundreds of heavy trains, the spot has begun to sink again and promises to be as troublesome as in former years. While the working crew was engaged in raising the track at this point a few days ago and dirt was being dumped into the place a gradual subsidence was discovered and when a big mogul engine pulled up and stopped on the "sink" the ground under the track sank almost twelve inches and the big machine almost toppled over before it could be pulled off. Workmen say that the rails over the place in one night sank below the level of the road-bed more than two feet and when trains pulled over it the rails yielded like rubber. A watchman is kept at the spot night and day and all trains are required to cross at a low rate of speed.

### Hoodoo Farm Sold for $13,000.

*From the Detroit Journal.*

METAMORA, Mich., June 18.—Dr. D. F. Stone of Bay City has sold his beautiful Riverdale farm here for a consideration of $13,000 to a Mr. Lindsay of Cleveland, Ohio. It is a beautiful home, but it has been one of many heartaches because of the number of accidents occuring to people who lived there. Mont Wickham was injured 14 years ago and has never recovered. William Merryweather was kicked by a horse and died of his injuries. Frank Arnold also received fatal injuries while working on the farm. D. F. Campbell lived there at the time of Saginaw's terrible street car disaster, in which Mrs. Campbell and three children were drowned.

### Qualified.

*From the Indianapolis Sun.*

"But mamma," said the beautiful South American heiress, "do you believe I will have any trouble in being received in society in the United States?"

"I don't see why," answered her mother. "You have plenty of money and you can make the best of them look like small change when it comes to being a daughter of the revolution."

### Missouri Gets Ahead of Delaware.

*From the Kansas City Times.*

Residents of Kansas City will pay fancy prices for canned tomatoes this winter. The tomato crop is a failure. There are no peas and no beans for the thrifty housekeeper to can. Everything will have to be bought of the factory and will be correspondingly high in price.

### Just a Sample.

*From the Atlanta Constitution.*

On a sweltering Sabbath, in a little church in the backwoods, the perspiring minister, instead of preaching a long sermon, called the attention of the congregation to the figures on the thermometer. "Just study those figures," he said. "It ain't half as hot here as you'll find it hereafter if you don't mend your ways."

### Worthy.

*From the Indianapolis Sun.*

"And did you find the Chinese a brave nation?" we asked of the returned soldier.

"Indeed," he replied, casting a sidelong glance at the wagonful of loot which was being unloaded, "they were foemen worthy of our steal."