The Sun.

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Columbia—Constitution.

The choice of the Columbia as the Cup defender against Shamrock II. is beyond our understanding, especially after the comparison of the two American boats afforded by the race of Wednesday. Constitution crossed the starting line 21 seconds after the end of the interval allowed, and so was recorded as starting 21 seconds sooner than she did in fact. So she began the race the leeward boat. Before very long she had to luff to clear a coasting schooner. Notwithstanding, she beat the Columbia in beating to the mark 1 minute and 15 seconds. Running home the Constitution's spinnaker having fouled in the jib stay, dragged in the water for nearly a minute. Something more than a mile from the finish her balloon jib topsail blew to ribbons. And yet, with all these mishaps, she actually beat the Columbia, with time allowed, 4 seconds. As the Constitution's crew showed the very best of skill and promptitude in the handling of her sails, the charge of bungling cannot be properly made against them.

As to Constitution's changes of form, the mystery about them has been slowly but surely driven away. In her first races, in light airs she won. In the first strong breeze she lost, and those who saw her gaff swing out under the wind's stronger pressure saw an easy explanation. Her mast was heightened and the gaff better held in place; and at her first meeting with the Columbia, in a strong breeze, she won. On the shorter courses in the Sound, where advantage of the start had more effect upon the result, fortunes varied until she got a mainsail that was heavier than any ever set. With that she lost. But with her old and lighter sail restored she wins again. With a lighter sail as good as Columbia's, there is no valid reason for thinking that she is not the faster boat; and faster she is even as she stands.

One word as to the man at the wheel. BARR has won the advantage of the start the majority of times over RHODES. But the latter has been handicapped by the fact that the Constitution's skipper, Mr. DUNCAN, has labored under a very proper sense of responsibility as the manager of the defender, and risks were not wisely a part of the game for him. BARR, while a clever man, is one of the most reckless that sails. Once this season he has rightfully lost the race by a foul, and twice, we believe, the foul was deliberately avoided by the other boat. We think that in choosing the Columbia the committee was wrong, and that the decision should be reversed.

Another word as to the gentlemen upon whom disappointment has fallen in a peculiar degree. First come Mr. DUNCAN, who has given his summer to the preparation of the Constitution, and Messrs. BELMONT, STILLMAN, PAYNE, BOURNE and WALTERS, by whom collectively about a quarter of a million dollars has been expended, only to fail of winning the prize they coveted, namely, the honor of defending the Cup. Last, but not least, the owner of the Columbia herself, Mr. PIERPONT MORGAN, whose sportsmanship is known to be of the quality that could see in HERRESHOFF's failure to improve upon the Columbia chagrin as keen as that of any other good American citizen.

Of course as to another Cup victory the chance has been diminished to an unprecedented extent. According to the judgment of the committee, our march in boat-building has stopped. We are where we were two years ago, while the challenger has taken a step forward that is believed to be long. Fate alone knows whether it is long enough to close the gap that the Columbia made between herself and Shamrock I. We don't believe it is; but we are constrained to advise the American people to enter the contest with greater expectation of seeing a race more glorious for its closeness than for its triumph. That it will be close we may be sure. That it will be triumphant, we confidently hope.

New Law of Alfred the Great.

Mr. ALFRED AUSTIN, the English J. GORDON COGGLER, has made a new and severe rule as to his productions in verse. To his stanzas "To 'England,'" printed by the *London Times*, he adds this stern footnote:

"This poem, provided it be reproduced in its integrity, may be published in any newspaper in the United Kingdom, the British Dominions or the United States of America."

It is natural that Mr. AUSTIN should guard his treasure jealously and try to keep the chipper's hammer from the entire and perfect chrysolite. But isn't he carrying his passion for "integrity" to excess? The rule "take all or none" of a poem would work hardship to the makers of books of quotations, and lay too great a weight on the human memory, already much weakened by centuries of printing. The law of the impenetrability of matter will sometimes stand in the way of Mr. AUSTIN'S by-law. It may not be possible always for the newspapers to reproduce the Laureate's lays with not a single line left out. Other things, less beautiful but more instant, may have the right of way.

For our part we shall strive to bear manfully the deprivation. We cannot undertake to store Mr. AUSTIN'S whole annual crop of metre or to exhibit it undiminished, unimpaired, in all its perfection and at full length. We can't treat Mr. AUSTIN better than we treat J. GORDON COGGLER of South Carolina or JAMES BYRON ELMORE of Indiana, the immortal author of

"Sassafras, O, sassafras,
Thou art the stuff for me,
And in the spring, I love to sing
Sweet sassafras, of thee!"

Mr. AUSTIN is on the footing of the most favored poet; and he has no right to ask for more. But has he no compassion on his readers in the United States, the United Kingdom, the British Dominions beyond seas? Can he bear to shut the gates of mercy on mankind? A precious stanza or two, even one lonely, lovely line, might cheer many a heart. We hope that Mr. AUSTIN will relent and hearken to the imperative voice of his admirers in distant parts.

Buckeye Oyster Democrats.

The Democratic Executive Committee of Ohio has decided that the Democratic campaign in that State shall begin at Bucyrus, Sept. 28. That town of extraordinary name was founded and named by the paternal grandfather of Col. JAMES KILBOURNE, the Democratic candidate for Governor. It is in a district where specimens of the rock-ribbed Democrat may still be found. Apparently Mr. KILBOURNE'S managers are superstitious or anxious to court fortune. They hope that it will be a good omen for him to begin his canvass in his grandfather's town. They had to find a good Kilbourne town and they have done it.

The remarks in the Ohio platform about imperialism and the suppression of Trusts seem to strike the Kilbourne people as too bold or utterly superfluous. They are determined to have a severely local campaign as befits a severely local party. According to a Columbus despatch to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, "no foreign orators will be invited to deliver speeches, the committee feeling that it would be a stultification of the action of the State Convention, which pronounced for a battle on State issues alone." The committee "feels confident that there is enough talent within the ranks of the party to furnish all the necessary oratory and argument." No doubt. There is home talent enough to furnish all the unnecessary oratory and argument. The Ohio Democrats may not have very much ballast, but they are never out of wind. The importation of distinguished speakers would be dangerous. It takes wary walking for any two Democrats to agree as to national issues. The safe way is to forget that there are any such issues.

The Ohio Democrats are called upon to think off the map all the rest of the United States. They are to play that there is no such place as Washington, no such body as Congress, no such person as the President. The Philippines are to sink out of sight. Porto Rico and the imaginary woes which the Democrats have found there are to disappear. Even the wickedness of the Administration in all but killing off the yellow fever in Cuba will not be mentioned. There is an Ohio Democratic party. For the present it does not look beyond Ohio. It doesn't dare to.

The Democrats of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia show the same courage and breadth of view. Doubtless the Democrats of New Jersey and New York will do the same. The national Democratic party is not visible anywhere save faintly in Iowa and Nebraska.

The Independence of the Church.

Bishop MCQUAID of the Roman Catholic diocese of Rochester is notable among the prelates of that Church for his long and enthusiastic efforts in behalf of distinctively Catholic education. Accordingly, as usual, he devotes his pastoral letter for this year to that subject and, more particularly, to an appeal for the support of the St. Bernard's Theological Seminary in that western New York town.

During the last year a "Hall of Philosophy and Science" was added to the buildings of the seminary, and a Pontifical brief has granted to the Bishops of Rochester in perpetuity the power of conferring academic degrees in philosophy and theology. This recognition by the Pope of the importance attained by so young a seminary, for the power granted is seldom bestowed on any except the most venerable houses of theological study, Bishop MCQUAID attributes to the knowledge of the Vatican that "the cause of Catholic education stood well in the diocese of Rochester; that everywhere our children were gathered in schools distinctively Catholic" and that "zeal, generosity and loyalty to the principle of Catholic education" distinguished "priests and people."

It is demonstrated at Rochester, therefore, that the Roman Catholic Church of itself alone is able to provide and is providing the religious education for its children which it demands so strenuously and against the absence of which in the schools supported by the State it protests so stoutly. On its theory, education without religion is only a snare for the soul rather than a benefit to society. Accordingly, consistency compels the Roman Catholic Church to support schools of its own; for, of course, religious education is impossible in the public schools.

The introduction of such instruction into the public schools would destroy a system which is of fundamental necessity in this Republic of government by universal suffrage. The citizen must receive school instruction in order to be fitted to bear the great responsibility of sovereignty imposed on him. If to this merely secular education any Church feels obliged by its faith to add religious education no sound objection on the ground of public policy can be made to its obedience to the obligation, provided it provides and pays for the instruction itself. It may either supplement the public education with the religious education for the benefit of its own children or it can provide wholly separate schools for them. That is its right.

The State can compel children to go to school as a necessary preparation for the duties of citizenship, but it cannot force them to go to its own schools alone. If the Catholics, the Baptists, the Methodists, the Presbyterians, the Episcopalians, or the Jews want their children to attend schools in which they shall be taught their respective religious doctrines, or if infidels want to teach infidelity, they have the liberty to set up distinct schools of their own for the purpose, and by admonition and example they are free to try to draw off to them pupils for whom the State provides secular education only. That it is possible for a Church to do this and to pay the cost is demonstrated in the Roman Catholic experience at Rochester. In many dioceses the parochial schools of that Church have been developed into a great system. The cost of it is large, but it has been provided by voluntary contributions.

At any rate, that is the only way in which in this Republic "the cause of Catholic education for Catholic children," to use Bishop MCQUAID'S words, can assert itself. You might as well ask the State to support churches as to expect it to support any theory of religious education in its schools. Our whole political system, our Constitutional prohibitions, forbid it.

The Roman Catholic Church will have come on an evil day in this Republic if it ever ventures to make anything like an organized and well-recognized effort to break down that fundamental principle of our democratic government. Instead of gaining strength it will lose the advantage it now has as a voluntary and self-supporting institution wholly apart from the State. The precipitation of a fight for the estrangement of the public school funds for any distinctively partisan religious education would be the precipitation of a violent revolutionary contest. Nor does the Roman Catholic Church in America need any State aid, even if the grant of it were not in defiance of the principles of our whole political system. Where else in the world is that Church getting on better than here, where else so well? Its strength is in its complete independence of the State, as also is that of every other Church in this Republic.

Josiah and Gamaliel.

The Hon. JOSIAH QUINCY is home again in Boston from a foreign shore. With a glad heart and hand we greet him as he smiles frostily once more from his genealogical tree. No smoother piece of goods than JOSIAH has ever been exhibited on the Democratic counters of Massachusetts.

It seems to be settled that Mr. QUINCY will be the Democratic candidate for Governor. He cannot expect to be elected, for the Republican majority is large, and W. MURRAY CRANE is an exceptionally strong executive. Weaker men may follow. The plan of promoting the Lieutenant-Governor may be used once too often. Some day there may be hope for Mr. QUINCY, although it is hidden as yet. Meanwhile, his party seems to be grateful to him as a man upon whom it can depend for oratorical and even skilful management. Wandering in the wilderness with the Hon. GEORGE FRED WILLIAMS is hard labor.

The Hon. GAMALIEL BRADFORD is not pleased, because "Mr. QUINCY has made his appearance from England, somewhat like Mr. CROKER in New York." In Mr. BRADFORD'S view, Mr. QUINCY represents nothing but the Boston machine, whereas Mr. BRADFORD represents the people. "Somebody," says Mr. BRADFORD, "must take the lead and say to the people 'Follow me!'" Clearly, Mr. BRADFORD is the man. It is his duty to say to the people, "Follow me." If they refuse, then they don't know a good thing when they see it.

The friends of Mr. LAWSON of Boston ought to take the trouble to see that he makes a good job of getting rid of the Independence. We notice that she has been dismantled. Her sails have been taken off and stored, plainly to be preserved. Her spars also have been removed, together with her other paraphernalia. To sacrifice the hull alone would be a miserly proceeding, pretentious and halfway. Breaking her into little bits seems petty when we think of the glorious drama possible to enact with her.

Let the Independence be taken out to sea with everything she ever owned upon her. There, where the water is deep enough to avoid any obstruction to navigation, carrying her fullest suit of canvas, her greatest club topsail towering over balloon jib and spinnaker, let her be solemnly sunk while the band plays

"Down went McGINTY to the bottom of the sea,
Dressed in his best suit of clothes,"

and a select bevy of elocutionists recites the late EUGENE FIELD'S

"There, there, little girl, don't cry,
You have broken your doll, I know."

Since the first high-spirited child in its nursery smashed the plaything with which it was dissatisfied, there has been nothing so majestic as Mr. LAWSON'S wrecking of the Independence. Proper ceremonies should attend it.

On Sept. 16 there will be unveiled at Gettysburg a monument to JENNIE WADE, the only citizen of Gettysburg who was killed during the great fight. The monument has a broad substantial pedestal, upon which rests the figure of a young woman. JENNIE WADE was 20 years of age when she was killed.

During the progress of the battle many inhabitants of the town fled to safer neighborhoods, but JENNIE WADE remained at her post to nurse a sick sister, Mrs. MCCLELLAN. She was engaged in making bread when a sharpshooter's bullet, after passing through two doors, struck her in the back and killed her instantly. The monument to the brave girl was raised by the Iowa Branch of the Ladies' Relief Corps. It is situated in the City Cemetery.

While there cannot be any direct connection between lynching and the avoidance of liquor, they certainly keep company. The record of lynchings in the South, now as for several years, shows the States in which they are most frequent to be Mississippi, South Carolina, Arkansas and Georgia, and it is these States in which summary prohibition is carried to the furthest extreme. Thus in Mississippi, most noted for lynchings, sixty-nine of the seventy-five counties, as described in THE SUN of Tuesday, are under prohibition law; South Carolina is a prohibition State, and even the limited and restricted sale of spirits is a State monopoly under the "dispensary system;" Arkansas has fifty prohibition counties out of a total of seventy-five, and in Georgia prohibition is general except in four cities, and the proposition to abolish liquor selling in these cities was very nearly adopted in the Atlanta Legislature a few years ago.

SUES THE CENTRAL FOR $10,000.

Owner of the Pacing Mare Dower Demands That Sum for Injuries to the Horse.

ROCHESTER, Sept. 5.—W. Martin Jones, a prominent lawyer and once candidate for Governor on the Prohibition ticket, is plaintiff in an action against the New York Central Railroad for $10,000 damages for injuries to his pacing mare Dower, 2:14¼. Mr. Jones valued Dower at $10,000, and says that in October, 1899, he held her at that price. She was entered in the Circuit races at Columbus and Lancaster, Ohio, for Oct. 14, 1899, in the 2:12 class.

Mr. Jones's driver, Lewis A. Spence, started from Rochester on Oct. 11, via the New York Central, with the pacer in a box car. At Cleveland they were sent to Toledo, where they lingered for twenty-seven hours before Spence, who was angrily demanding the reason for their detention, was informed that the shipping bill was missing. They were finally sent by a circuitous route over the Hocking Valley Railroad to Columbus, and on the way there Dower, made fractious through long imprisonment in the car and by reason of the fact that the car was next to the engine where the noise frightened her, tore things loose, injuring her leg. When they got to Columbus Dower was in no shape to race for many months.

Mr. Jones was trying to sell Dower, and he expected to pull her record down to the 2:07 mark, which she has made on local tracks, at the Columbus meeting. She has now recovered her old form. The railroad company denies that it is liable for more than $100 damages, but Mr. Jones says he is confident that this defense is not a good one. He will test the right of the railroad company to fix a limit of liability, and will carry the case to the Court of Appeals if not awarded as much damages as he believes he is entitled to.

From St. Lawrence to Hudson.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your paper has been whacking at the danger of the lower St. Lawrence route, that it is unsafe and should be abandoned or made safe.

The only sensible solution for the continental basin in which lie all the Great Lakes not only for Canada, but ourselves, and to insure the commercial supremacy of New York, is a deep waterway from the St. Lawrence to the Hudson. By our effort we have now detailed surveys of such waterway, which involves from the St. Lawrence (Lake St. Francis) to Lake Champlain, forty-six miles of canal, and two locks, and from Lake Champlain to the upper Hudson, thirty-five miles of canal, mainly in twenty-eight miles of the divide cut. This is all down hill and has ample water supply, and about half a dozen locks altogether.

A spur waterway down the St. Louis or Chateaugay River Valley, about ten miles, would make a waterway from Lake St. Louis and the mouth of the Ottawa, of direct connection with the proposed Georgian Bay-Ottawa Ship Canal, partially surveyed by an incorporated company which is now financing it and which has been recommended for action by the Dominion Government by Minister Tarte of Rails and Canals. Such a waterway's two sections are less than other ship canals existing in the world to-day, and the under-water excavation below Troy to Coxsackie, to which point thirty feet extends in Hudson profile, is no more than has been done by our neighbors in Canada below Montreal to bring thirty feet to that point.

Such way not only avoids the dangers of the lower St. Lawrence, but affords a way from Montreal to New York of about 350 miles against 986 miles to the Straits of Belle Isle. It will be safe navigation, and being in a lower latitude, will have a longer open season, of which we have charts for years, and it is the most direct route for South American, West Indian and Atlantic coast trade from Canada and the basin of the Great Lakes.

An appreciation of the trade possibilities and value of such commercial channels by us on this side of the border, equal to that of our Canadian cousins, would insure the construction of such waterway and make New York the port of all America and of this great business within a decade.

JOHN A. C. WRIGHT.
ROCHESTER, N. Y., Sept. 3.

Servants Who Have Not "Lived Out."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Sometime since some one commented upon the difficulty of keeping servants in a fashionable place near New York. Probably all of these servants had come from "offices," where because they had "lived out" they could get any situations they applied for, but let any woman go to an office who has not "worked out" and hear her answer from the office: "I am sorry I have nothing for you; employers do not want to hire persons who have never lived out. I have orders from several rich employers not to send them any one who has not been employed previously or has no references." And this from one of the best offices in New York city.

What are references good for? Many employers give them because they fear the tongues of the departing servants, and as many times little in them is accurate, as to capacity and character. This grievance is about a respectable, capable, well-born, middle-aged woman, who is a good housekeeper, a good manager of servants, very energetic (although she has never been "hired") who is suddenly reduced to need, and would be able to earn a living by efficient service as housekeeper or companion. She has lived well, knows how to do everything in a well-kept house, though she has always had servants, and were a reference or two necessary, some guests could testify to much in her that is desirable in a housekeeper, and several faithful servants (of the good old sort) could give references if required.

Offices have no places for such, advertising is expensive and unsatisfactory. What is such a woman to do? INQUIRER.
ALDER CREEK, Oneida Co., N. Y., Sept. 3.

The World's Largest Ink Pot.

From the Indianapolis News.

The most unusual curiosity in this strange, uncanny land by the Colorado River is what the naturalists in California call a lake of ink. The scientific journals of Los Angeles and San Diego have discussed time and time again what the lake of ink really is. It is a great pool of a black fluid that resembles black writing ink more than anything else. It is about an acre in area. The surface of the lake is coated with ashes from the volcanoes to the thickness of about half a foot, and the explorer in these parts, who is not looking out for this freak of nature would be very apt to walk into it.

Surveyors have found that the lake is some three hundred yards deep in some places, but no bottom can be found in others. There is nothing but theory as to the source of the supply of the lake, but no one seems to know the component parts of the acre of black fluid. The Indians say it is composed of the blood of bad Indians, who are suffering in their hell amid the volcanoes. Samples of the lake have been brought to Yuma and Los Angeles for tests and examination. It is good for common marking purposes. Cotton goods that have been soaked with the strange black fluid keep their color for months, even when exposed to the sun, and the goods have a stiffness that is somewhat like weak starch. A gallon of the lake fluid was sent to the Smithsonian Institution the other day for analysis.

Letter of Frederick the Great for Sale in Maine.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have been advised to consult you concerning a document which I have had for five years in my possession, having obtained the same by a curious circumstance while in Berlin, Germany. It is a letter written by Frederick the Great to the Empress of Russia, in the year 1770, and bears in the water mark of the paper the date 1771, also a curious stamp of the time, and Latin motto.

The purport of the document relates to the sending of an Ambassador, Count von Goertz, from the court of Frederick to his cousin, the Empress of Russia, for the purpose of promoting the most amicable relations between the two courts.

This fact is exactly verified by history and encyclopedic account (as in Meyer's Konversations-Lex ikon and others.

The letter has been examined by a professor of Yale University, also two chief librarians, a manuscript expert in New Haven, Conn., and the chief of the Manuscript Department of the Library of Congress, Washington. It is believed by all to be genuine, and invaluable in historic significance.

I have only recently decided to sell the letter provided I can obtain the price at which it is valued, viz., $1,000. ELLEN C. ABBOTT.
YORK VILLAGE, Me., Sept. 2.

THE ART OF CONVERSATION.

A Contribution to the Discussion of Speech and Taciturnity.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The discussion provoked by the question of the lady if taciturnity is due to an oversupply or an undersupply of thoughts is very interesting. In England it would be called an incident of the "silly season," but such discussions are not at all silly. The interest they arouse shows rather that newspapers, by going outside of the rule of perfunctory treatment of perfunctory public questions and turning their attention sometimes to themes which furnish material for the ordinary conversation of intelligent people, may make themselves more entertaining than—than, for example, the *Evening Post*, so heavily oppressed by the consciousness of its awfully serious moral mission.

The most delightful thing in life is the clever conversation of clever people who in apparently and casually skimming many subjects as they are brought up, can send down incidentally a quick plummet into deep thought without making a great to-do over the operation. One of your correspondents to-day rather prides himself on his knack of telling apt stories for the delectation of any company in which he chances to be. I do not despise that gift, though I am obliged to say I find it often abused by such proficients. They may be too slow in getting at their point, so that the interlocutor arrives there long before, and the polite necessity of laughing with them may become a little burdensome. Very few of the men who think they have mastered the art of story-telling are really able to recall or manufacture a story which is justified by its singular patness as an illustration. The gift of sending out a sudden and momentary ray of illuminating humor is far rarer and higher—the play appears on the surface of a mind which the very trifling indicates has deeps below. I think it was Sidney Smith who said that if such play is not recognizable as the sportiveness of a mind capable of serious thought, it is the mere laughter of the fool.

Another of your correspondents speaks of big men of affairs as almost invariably taciturn. So they may be in general conversation, but their taciturnity there is attributable usually to scarcity of ideas on the subjects talked about rather than to any wise philosophy of reserve in them. Their expression, habitually restrained by business prudence, has lost elasticity and spontaneity, so that they are dull company for freer spirits. So also a man may be very learned yet because of his habit of interesting himself only in a special range of subjects, he may be impossible in general society, he has not the art of touching lightly the themes that come up in conversation and of passing them by quickly to turn to others. That is why the society which seeks only pleasure in intercourse is accused of barring out the intellectual as necessarily alien to its superficiality. The intellectual would be welcome enough to it if they made any contribution to its enjoyment, but usually they shut themselves out by their bare deficiency in the social art. They haven't learned the trick of making themselves agreeable.

It is not true, however, that wisdom and taciturnity are cause and consequence. Capt. Bunsby was not wise because he said so little, but he said so little because he was not wise. Was Goethe taciturn? Macaulay's flow of language at the dinner table was as extraordinary as his marvellous memory. Thackeray was a good talker, so was Gladstone, so was Lowell, and Holmes was a master of the art. Croker is called a silent man, but when he has horses to talk about I will wager he is fluent enough. Of course, he does not spill about his political secrets any more than Pierpont Morgan gives away his great financial projects to every chance listener. Lincoln knew how to conceal his serious thought and purpose without damming up the fluency of his speech. Talleyrand, as we all know, was famous for the brilliancy of his conversation and Bismarck could make himself entertaining in any society.

Now as to the "silent ones." I have found many of them in New England, where also, however, I have met the most delightful conversationalists it has been my fortune to encounter anywhere in the world. I have observed a variety of the Bostonian who always seems to be afraid to give himself away, to be always on his guard lest he should be buncoed by his companion, and over against him is the Bostonian whose notion of the great function of conversation is to give you valuable information and enlighten your presumed ignorance. Then, again, I have met an intelligent man—for example, one with whom I walked in the country for hours together without his saying a word, who seemed so oblivious of my presence as to suggest my utter insignificance in his estimation, when actually I knew that his silence implied a compliment to me, as one who could entertain himself sufficiently with his own thoughts, as he himself did. It was only that the spirit of joyous comradeship was not in him; his breeding, good fellow, was deficient.

Such taciturnity is a great misfortune, to the man himself and to those with whom he is brought in contact. It should be the care of parents to overcome any disposition to it in their children as inconsistent with good breeding and a bar to happiness in intercourse with the world. The ability of expression should be stimulated and cultivated. Simplicity and spontaneity are the greatest of charms; habitual self-repression and self-consciousness and self-introspection are social vices which destroy the victim of them as an enjoyable member of society who gets a reflex of pleasure from the pleasure he confers; for of all the arts which make existence desirable the art of graceful and delightful conversation is the chief.

AN OLD NEW YORKER.
NEW YORK, Sept. 5.

John DeWitt Warner for Mayor.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Jo n De Witt Warner, the slanderer of the American soldier boy, for Mayor? Never! Let THE SUN publish the speech he made at Elmira and repeated at Zeltner's Hall, 170th street and Third avenue, during the Presidential campaign, and if there is a veteran of the Civil, Spanish or Philippine wars that can cast his vote for this man let him stand up and be counted. I with others, heard this speech, and it was the most outrageous and untruthful slander that came from the lips of an American at any time. CHARLES E. BEEUM.
NEW YORK, Sept. 5.

Holds That He Has Been Legally Hanged.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Sept. 2.—Lud Madison, who was to have been hanged to-morrow for a murder committed in Fayette county, has been respited by Gov. White for sixty days. He claims that he has already been legally executed, and that it is not lawful to hang a man twice for the same offence.

Two years ago Madison was sentenced to be hanged, but a stay of execution was granted and the State Supreme Court granted him an appeal. By some mistake the records of the court in which he was acquitted showed that he was executed instead of reprieved. Now his lawyers claim that according to the records Madison is dead and cannot be lawfully hanged again.

During the sixty days' respite now granted him Madison will appeal his case to the Supreme Court of the United States. The former respite elapsed and he was forgotten. When it was found that the time had elapsed the Judge who tried him had died and it was thought he would then go free, but a new Judge resentenced him.

The Butcher's Day.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I see in your last Monday's SUN you say the new law to close butcher shops on Sunday is a very bad one for the poor people, but you don't think of the poor butchers who work two weeks in place of one, for any other man. Now a butcher goes to work every morning at 6 o'clock and works until 7 in the evening if he gets his work done, or he will have to stay until he does get it done. Then Saturday he starts at 5 o'clock in the morning, gets his dinner at 4 in the afternoon, comes back and stays until 12 o'clock. Then he goes home to sleep, but before he goes the boss butcher will tell him not to be later than 6 o'clock Sunday morning as there are plenty of others to get up. He works Sunday morning until 12 o'clock, then he can go home to his family. For all this work he gets $12 or $14 a week. When he comes home he is tired to take his family out as he goes to sleep and Monday he starts over the same way. Any other laborer gets more money for less work, and then they say the butcher doesn't need any Sunday. I think they are more entitled to it than others.

You say the poor people have no way to keep their meat till Sunday morning. My mother has no ice box, so she takes a dishpan and gets five cents worth of ice, and she always has fresh meat. If the meat butchers sell is fresh it will keep twenty-four hours without ice, so there is no excuse for not letting the butchers have one day out of seven in the week.

WEST END, N. J., Sept. 4. OTTO KAMPER.

CAPT. FORSYTH EXPLAINS.

Navy Department Declares Incident of His Interview Closed.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—The acting Secretary of the Navy to-day received an answer from Capt. James McQueen Forsyth, U. S. N., to the letter calling Capt. Forsyth's attention to a newspaper interview in which he was quoted as criticising the Navy Department with reference to the Schley case, and asking for an explanation. The Department addressed a communication on this subject to Capt. Forsyth ten days ago and as no answer was received, a second letter was sent. He explains that the first letter did not reach him.

A statement issued by the Navy Department, gives Capt. Forsyth's explanation concerning the interview as follows:

"Capt. Forsyth, while coming East, was detained over Sunday at Kansas City, Mo. He declined to talk with a reporter. It seems, however, that he fell into private conversation with some person at the hotel with no idea that what he said would be repeated in any form. His remarks were distorted and were used to form the substance of the alleged interview.

"Capt. Forsyth has made such disclaimer and has so frankly avowed his deep regret at any indiscretion in the premises, that the Department is satisfied that there was no intention on his part of violating the order of the Department to refrain from public statement.

"No action will be taken by the Department further than to inform Capt. Forsyth that his explanation is satisfactory and that the incident will not be treated as affecting his excellent record."

SCHLEY READY FOR THE COURT.

His Counsel Complete the Preliminary Work in His Case.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—Rear Admiral Schley and his attorneys, Messrs. Wilson and Raynor, practically completed the preliminary work in their case to-day and are now ready to go before the court of inquiry. They will probably not have another conference to discuss the case until next Wednesday, the day before the court meets. To-day they furnished the Navy Department with a list of witnesses in the naval service whose examination by Admiral Schley and his counsel was desired before the formal investigation began, and the Department sent telegrams directing these witnesses to come to Washington and report to Admiral Schley.

GUAM GOVERNOR REPORTS.

Bandstand and Library Built, Now That Hurricane Troubles Are Over.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—The acting Secretary of the Navy to-day made public extracts from a report made by Commander Seaton Schroeder, Naval Governor of Guam, dated July 23, as follows:

"The health of the command is fair, the percentage of sick being at present 10. Several of the civilian employees are also off duty. The trouble is mostly climatic-grip and dysentery; some of the patients will probably be sent to the Yokohama Hospital.

"Three deaths have occurred since last report: L. E. Cabaniss, chief yeoman, U. S. N., of dysentery, at Agaña, June 27; Pio Barrio, Filipino prisoner, of heart disease, at the Presidio of Asam, July 7, and Frank Reynolds, first-class fireman, of grip.

"The Presidio of Asam continues to seem a healthy location. Everything possible is being done to add to the resources for rational enjoyment. An inexpensive but attractive bandstand has been erected in the centre of the plaza at Agaña, so that the excellent little band can perform during the rains, which is a great pleasure. A light and airy post reading-room is approaching completion. With the liberal supply of books received from different sources, this will undoubtedly prove a valuable adjunct. It has been in contemplation for some time, but had to give way to the more crying needs created by the hurricane of last November."

LOVE LETTER OF A CROOK.

One of Several Found Among Effects of Smooth Couple Nabbed in Brooklyn.

Harry Frank, known to the police in various cities as "Chicago Frank," and Irene Frank, said to be the wife of "Jim" McNally, the noted pickpocket, who was recently arrested on the charge of substituting bogus rings for gold ones in a Brooklyn jewelry store, were held for trial in the Court of Special Sessions by Magistrate Tighe yesterday. Among the effects of the couple found in their hotel at Coney Island were several letters, of which this is a sample:

HENDERSON, Ky.

DEAR CHICK: I pen you this letter to let you know that I am all right. But we are having a pretty tough week. Rain and no graft. We are almost crazy. We want no more of Kentucky after this week. More "mobs" came in to-day. Lefty is with Michigan Kid. You know we had a fight. Well, nothing lost. Sheeny Harry is here and acts the part of a gentleman, but at that he is all right. Dolly, I thought that by this time I could be sending some money on, but, Doll, I cannot, owing to wet weather and jumping around. But don't mind, Chick, when Jim gets it you know, Doll, it will go home to you. Chick, this State ain't much. It is only good for fine whiskey, fast horses and pretty women, Chick. It's a fact the most pretty women you ever looked at are in this State, but that is all they can boast of. No money. We will be glad to get into Wisconsin or Missouri, as these are good States for guns. Now, Dollie, take care of yourself and pray, as Jim prays, for you. Good-by. I remain your loving JIM.

With love and kisses, good-by.

Since the arrest of the couple inquiries have been received in reference to them from Chiefs of Police in various Western cities.

TO BAR OUT CHILD LABOR.

Restrictions in Force in Georgia Mills—Free Schools in Some Plants.

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 5. The cotton mills of Georgia have put into effect this week an agreement that no child under twelve years of age, excepting children of widowed mothers or physically disabled parents without other means of support, shall be allowed to work in mills unless he can show a certificate that he has attended school four months in the year. It was also agreed that no child under ten years of age should be allowed to work in the mills either day or night. All cotton mills in Georgia, about 130 in number, have agreed to this course. The following paragraph, added to the general agreement on child labor, was posted in Lindale branch of Massachusetts mills near Rome this week:

"Fifth. The Massachusetts mills in Georgia have built and equipped a first-class school, in which every child in the village can be educated without one cent of expense to the child's family, and although we cannot compel the attendance of children of school age, it is earnestly requested by the management of this company that every such child attend."

Many other mills in Georgia, including the Exposition mills have schools of their own. The agreement to refuse employment to children under 12, who do not attend school four months, will have the effect of a mild form of compulsory education.

Stockholm's Rat-Tail Bounty.

From the Chicago Record-Herald.

Last February the Municipal Council of Stockholm passed an ordinance offering to pay to the about three cents for every rat-tail that was brought to the Police Headquarters. Rats had become so numerous as to imperil the health as well as the comfort of the population, and sanitary officials attributed to them the spread of contagious diseases. Therefore a war of extermination was decided upon, a bounty was offered, and up to July 31, more than 50,000 tails have been brought in by the rat catchers. Several men went into the business and advertised in the newspapers offering to rid premises that were infected by the nuisance for a monthly fee. Thus they doubled their earnings, and made a profitable thing of it. The war is still going on, but the bounty has been reduced to 3 öre per rat, which is about a cent and a half in our money. Even at that price the rat catchers can make a good living.

CHORUS GIRLS ON 'CHANGE.

A Dozen of Them Invade the Financial District With Tickets to Sell.

As a Wall Street messenger boy stated it, "Twelve beautiful actress ladies" went to the Stock Exchange yesterday to sell tickets for a baseball game between actors and newspaper artists at the Polo Grounds, the proceeds to go toward endowing a bed in a hospital. The fair bearers of the tickets were chorus girls from half a dozen local theatres, and they came in three open carriages—four girls to a carriage, each girl wearing conspicuously a blue badge and a smile. They went upstairs to the corridor upon which the entrances to the Stock Exchange floor face, but such a crowd gathered that the doorkeepers asked them to go downstairs again.

This was just before the closing at 3 o'clock, and when that time arrived the brokers as they left ran the soubrette gantlet. "A dollar and a half a ticket and no change," was the price demanded, but the brokers were inclined to indulge in badinage rather than in investment. So far as could be learned, no tickets were sold. It was said, however, that a good many tickets for the game had already been placed on the floor by brokers who had brought the chorus girls to the Exchange.

TORTOISE 400 YEARS OLD.

Zoological Park Folks Underestimated an Acquisition.

The folks at the New York Zoölogical Park in The Bronx find that in estimating the age of their largest giant tortoise received from the Galapagos Islands, they have been entirely too conservative. Its age had been estimated with some hesitation at 200 years. It seems, however, that Walter Rothschild of London, the world's leading expert on tortoises, is of opinion that a specimen apparently younger than the largest one in the Zoölogical Park is at least 400 years old, so that the age of this one is at least four centuries.

The park received yesterday five new monkeys, brought from a zoo at Point-of-Pines, near Boston. Two of them have been trained to do tricks and Assistant Curator Ditmars says he will soon have them eating at the same table as the renowned Rajah, the park's prize ape.

SKIPPER HANSEN'S FAST TIME.

It Is Said That His Schooner Covered Twenty-one Miles in an Hour.

From the Chicago Inter Ocean.

KENOSHA, Wis., Aug. 31.—Sailing with the assistance of a terrific gale, Capt. Ole Hansen, said to be the most fearless sailor on Lake Michigan, brought his schooner, Alice, into the port of Kenosha last night after having established a new record for speed on the Great Lakes. He made a run of 140 miles in a few minutes less than nine hours. It was a wonderful performance, but to-night the crew of the little schooner are exhausted by a nine hours' fight against one of the roughest seas that ever prevailed on the Lake.

In pitch darkness Capt. Hansen found the vessel off Point Betsy on the Michigan shore at 2:30 o'clock Friday morning. He had agreed to be in Kenosha this morning. He realized the danger of the trip, but submitted the matter to the five men of the crew and the two women who were with him. The vote was unanimously in favor of the trip, and the schooner was turned from the land into the storm.

Great waves were already breaking over her, but the cargo of tanbark was safely tied down. Capt. Hansen, sending the women to the staterooms beneath deck, took his place at the wheel and ordered the crew to shake out all the canvas. The waves washed over the decks, and the vessel, rolling in the trough of the sea, seemed in immediate danger of going down. Wet to the skin and almost frozen, Capt. Hansen kept in his place at the wheel and headed the vessel for the Milwaukee harbor. At dawn more than thirty miles had been covered, and the captain was forced to relinquish his hold on the wheel. During the remainder of the trip the men took his place, and each held the wheel until he was forced to leave his place from sheer exhaustion. During the morning hours the rolling of the vessel grew so great that the furniture and dishes in the cabin were thrown from their places, and the deckload was in danger of being lost.

At 11:30 o'clock Capt. Hansen, who had returned to the wheel, steered the boat into the shoal water off Milwa