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WILLIAM M. LAFFAN.

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The McAllister Resolution in Mississippi.

Just before the middle of February the Hon. W. S. MCALLISTER introduced into the Mississippi Legislature the subjoined patriotically conceived and boldly spoken resolutions:

Whereas, In the last two Presidential campaigns the great States of the North and East were solidified against the Democratic candidates, which caused their overwhelming defeat.

In the section east of the Mississippi, and north of the Ohio and Potomac rivers, there is presented a homogeneous population, led and marshalled by the highest types of American enterprise and sagacity; and the most amazing aggregation of wealth and intelligence that has occurred in the whole history of man.

This section has untold millions of idle capital for industrial investment and expansion, while in the Southern States there are boundless natural resources being neglected for the want of ready capital for their development and utilization.

And Whereas, In an advanced state of society, political alliances should have regard for commercial relations, social improvement and industrial growth, but aside from this practical business view of the situation we have not forgotten, nor will we ever forget, the devotion of the glorious Democrats of the North and East to our section in her hours of adversity; and in the years to come we stand ready to march with them in the processions of progress, and in time of national peril assist them in voting down issues calculated to disturb the national peace, and impair public confidence; and maintain at whatever cost the paramount supremacy of the Federal flag, and point with pride to the dauntless valor of the Southern soldiery in the late war with Spain.

Under the beneficent auspices of this fraternal policy, the South will enjoy every possible advantage, and carve out of the future a career of social, material and intellectual splendor that not even an imaginary limit can be assigned where they will come to a standstill.

Compromise and concession being the conservative principle in our system of popular government, it should be given a political turn and applied to the exigencies of our national party organization, as the means of harmony and unity, to the end that our grand old party may present a united front in the next national election. Upon these lines we invite the coöperation of conservative, patriotic men of all sections, that sectional estrangements may be no more, and that the talent, resources and genius of the American people may be applied unhindered and unfettered to the practical solution of social and economic problems, and to the mitigation of the condition of kindred peoples, not yet free.

"It is right and proper," said the *Jackson Evening News*, thereupon, "that the South should lead off and show to the East that it wants to get back to its old moorings, as the South was the one which took up the alliance with the West."

Bryanism galled the old Democrats of Mississippi, so looking again to the country termed by BRYAN "the enemy's," they stretch out an olive branch and their hands. On Tuesday the MCALLISTER resolution was enthusiastically passed by the Mississippi Legislature by an almost unanimous vote. JACKSON became a seat of Government politically sober and industrially alert.

Bryanism, founded on the prophecy of national calamity, has brought calamity to the Democratic party only. The Mississippi men are tired of a theory that takes on practical shape only in so far as it brings political disaster to themselves. So they turn a cheerful, friendly face to the Democrats of the East, to whom the Populistic cries of distress always sounded a little too discordant with the national note for partisan approval.

Reconstruction of the Democratic party gets a powerful push from the new Democratic platform of Mississippi—"the talent, resources and genius of the American people applied to the practical solution of economic problems and to the mitigation of the condition of kindred peoples, not yet free."

May the country enjoy for years to come the national good fortune which, beginning with MCKINLEY'S election in 1896, the Mississippi Democrats now propose to further.

The American Automobile Association.

The American Automobile Association, organized last Tuesday in Chicago at a convention of delegates from eight of the leading automobile clubs in the United States, is the outcome of many arguments and discussions concerning the desirability of forming a national associaton of the chauffeurs.

The problem of how all, or at least, the more prominent of these clubs could be affiliated and properly represented in a national organization, so as to promote the common interests of their members, and at the same time be permitted to enjoy their present distinction individually, has been difficult. Should the Automobile Club of America, because of its size and influence and familiarity with the conditions affecting automobiles generally, assume the leadership in effecting the proposed union; or should the matter be referred to a convention to be composed of several of the larger clubs? This question was finally disposed of at a meeting of the New York club in February, at which it was resolved that a convention—the one held on Tuesday—should be called in Chicago, in order that the best course to pursue might be determined.

Notwithstanding the diversity of opinion heretofore expressed by many of the clubs throughout the country as to the fairness of the claim of the Automobile Club of America that it was entitled to paramount consideration in the proposed undertaking, the action of the convention leaves no doubt that the desires of the New York organization have been duly respected. WINTHROP E. SCARRITT of the Automobile Club of America was elected as the new association's President, while JEFFERSON SELIGMAN, S. M. BUTLER and A. R. SHATTUCK of the same club were elected Treasurer, Secretary and Director, respectively. The other organizations which figure as charter members of the American Automobile Association are the automobile clubs of Chicago, Long Island, Philadelphia, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Utica.

The fundamental purpose of the new body is to assume national control of automobile racing of all sorts, to secure extensive highway improvements, and, also, to suggest such legislation, apart from that referring to good roads, as may seem needful to advance or defend the interests of its members.

No reason is apparent why the combined efforts of the various clubs, as they are likely to be exerted through the American Automobile Association, should not produce good results.

The Last of a Great Race.

BILLY WEST, BILLY EMERSON, BILLY RICE—the stars fall fast. Yet these artists had all but survived their art, for negro minstrelsy seems doomed, nor can even the witty Mr. DOCKSTADER give it a long reprieve. The public taste changed; the minstrels relied too much on their old laurels and wore out their welcome. We know the weakness of the praisers of past time, and we will not say that the theatre at present seems to be intended mainly for the benefit or detriment of girls too young to appreciate it or as a means of passing an evening to well-dressed, well-fed, mostly unimaginative folks to whom it represents a few hours' rest, the interval between dinner and a supper at one of the lobster palaces of which New York will soon principally consist.

It seems, though, as though tastes and times were simpler once. Perhaps people laughed more easily. The generation that felt the death of DICKENS as a personal loss had the gift of hearty laughter. During the Civil War and after, there was a natural reaction toward gayety. The great gods of ennui, the IBSENS and the TOLSTOIS, were not droning as yet. People were willing to enjoy themselves in their own way; and a manager couldn't boost a stick into a star, and a playwright was not a cheap pathologist. BURTON had not long been dead; WALLACK was still in his prime. The name of JOHN BROUGHAM will recall to many not yet decrepit something of the gayety of temper, the high spirits of those not altogether remote days. Mr. JOSEPH JEFFERSON is the one eminent survivor of the eminent actors on whom the patrons of negro minstrelsy in its best estate were brought up. Why, the boys who waited with beating hearts for the curtain to rise, who wouldn't have missed a sound of the orchestra, who yelled so ferociously at the appearance of a "supe," had heard "EDDIE" BOOTH offer his kingdom for a horse, especially of a Saturday night, and felt their hair stand up as "NED" FORREST cursed GONERIL and REGAN with all the wind of those tremendous lungs.

Negro minstresly was no foolish whim. It was a legitimate art in its good time, and Mr. DOCKSTADER and Mr. PRIMROSE have not forgotten the traditions. A long beadroll of names and companies comes to the mind. The rattle of the bones tickles the ear agreeably. The eye of memory sees those preposterously black faces, impossible red lips, abysmal mouths, world-shadowing feet. Where did those monumental shoes come from? The banjo has fallen into the hands of the girls—lucky banjo! —and they play it as if they were petting a canary bird or toying with a caramel. The old minstrels used to whack it, thump it, take it by violence. They were robustious with it, and yet they dragged sweet tones out of it. The dialogues between the interlocutor and Mr. BONES were meatier if less artistic than PLATO'S. The songs, comic or sentimental, were given with an irresistible heartiness, often with a clever art. We can see BILLY EMERSON as Policeman MORIARITY threatening the truckman: "I'll have you off that dray for ogling the ladies:"

> "The girls all cry,
> As I go by:
> 'Are you there, MO-RI-AR-I-TEE?'"

Good Old BILLY! He used to make everybody feel just as happy as a big sunflower. He sang that, and "Love Among the Roses," and "Moriarity" around the world. And he was only one of a jovial crew, high livers, honest and thirsty souls, most of them. Like every honest good fellow, they spent their money free. Rich again and again, and paupers at the end.

BILLY RICE with his stump speech! How many ludicrous monologues, temperance lectures and what-not, punctuated by the thumps from an impossible cotton umbrella, have the minstrels given! The MORRIS brothers; NELSE SEYMOUR, one of the mightiest minstrels of all; Mr. BIRCH, Mr. BACKUS, Mr. BERNARD, Mr. WAMBOLD, all fresh in properly regulated and grateful memories; LUKE SCHOOLCRAFT, the Watermillion Man, and HARRY BLOODGOOD—*claudite jam rivos:* turn off the reminiscences!

They say NEIL BRYANT is lying stricken over in Brooklyn at a hospital, and they say he is more than seventy. LORD, LORD, what a foolish thing Time is! It must be nearly twenty years since NEIL BRYANT stripped off the cork and he is forgotten already. He was in the twenties when he and his brothers opened a theatre on Broadway, somewhere in the four hundreds, three or four years before the war. BRYANT'S Minstrels had their home in Fourteenth street afterward, say, from 1867 or thereabouts, and moved to West Twenty-third street in 1870, perhaps, but we are not swearing to any statistics. Bryant's Minstrels were as well known as the Custom House, and they have chased the blues away from thousands. GEORGE FOX, too soon to become the melancholy figure which used to be led about the streets of Cambridge in the early seventies, was at the Olympia. Mr. BIRCH and his facetious halo were at five hundred and something Broadway. KELLY and LEON'S Minstrels were on Broadway near Eleventh street. HARRY BECKETT was at Miss LINA EDWIN'S theatre—O, yes, there was such a theatre in '70, and near it, we think, was the Globe, where we have had the ineffable pleasure of seeing Mr. JOSH HART in the "Yankee Sea Serpent." Mr. ANTONIUS PASTOR, the immortal, was on the Bowery then. Mr. PASTOR came over with Mr. H. HUDSON, and his hand already grasped that immortal opera hat or "dry hide." May TONY live forever and a day; but most of the theatres and the actors of that time are gone.

The race of negro minstrels will be as extinct as the cave bear or the mammoth in a few years. They gave a good deal of harmless pleasure; and there are many who will join us in kind recalling and remembrance of those noisy, rollicking and sentimental artists. It cannot be denied that there is some selfishness in the regret. The death of the favorites of his youth makes a man feel more keenly that he, too, is growing old. Poor old NEIL BRYANT, and all the rest of that gay company! The Finches of the Grove are silent. The Cave of Harmony is closed.

A Scheme to Clog Our Court Calendars.

The Albany correspondent of the *New York Times* has this interesting statement to make concerning the fatuous policy of the Republican leaders toward the judiciary, now apparently directed towards lessening the number of trial courts which can be held in this city:

"Senator BRACKETT was asked to-day whether his introduction of a bill last night was intended to deprive Judges who may be assigned to the First Department of the extra compensation of $20 a day which they are now allowed, and whether the advancement of a similar bill applying to the Second Department to third reading might be taken as an indication of the fact that there was to be no compromise.

"'The bills mean what they show on their face,' he said. 'So far as I am concerned, I intend to do all I can to pass them.'

"It is not believed that Senator BRACKETT would push these bills unless he had the approval of the Governor, for it is known here that it was Senator BRACKETT who gave the Governor the suggestion in regard to the necessity of some action being taken to remedy the evil of having up-State Judges taken away from the districts for which they were elected when they could not well be spared."

We have already pointed out that there have been very few instances of the neglect thus complained of on the part of out-of-town Judges; and no one has ventured to question the accuracy of the statistics which we have published on this subject.

If the non-resident Supreme Court Justices who now come here to help the resident Judges in trying cases are deprived of their *per diem* allowance for expenses, they cannot afford to come. The effect of the deprivation will be immediate. Five or six parts of court in this county and three or four in Kings county will have to be discontinued, and the result will be a greater clogging of the calendars than ever.

The effect of the enactment of Senator BRACKETT'S measure will be very unfavorable to the Republican party, not only among the members of the bar in this city, but also among the people at large. The Governor seems to think that he can prudently disregard public sentiment of this sort, but we recall a significant remark of SAMUEL J. TILDEN to the effect that emotion plays an important part in politics, and that leader who ignores that fact is blind indeed.

The law which Senator BRACKETT with the sanction of the Governor and the submission of the Legislature proposes to repeal, has worked well for half a century or so; it is highly beneficial to this city and harmful to no one. To repeal it will, under the circumstances, be a use of legislative power too plainly vindictive for disavowal.

The Kings County Sheriff.

It is announced from Albany that Governor ODELL is not likely to remove Sheriff GUDEN of Kings county, because the Attorney-General has announced that he can find no precedent for the removal of a Sheriff on general charges.

The Constitution of the State of New York in Article X, section 1, gives the Governor of the State the power to remove Sheriffs, Clerks of counties, District Attorneys and Registers, subject only to the following proviso, "giving to such officer a copy of the charges against him and an opportunity of being heard in his defence."

The power of removal, therefore, is absolute and complete, it being only necessary for the Governor to go through the forms of serving a copy of the charges on the accused, and of giving him a formal hearing. The charges may be general and loose, or they may be specific and in detail—it matters not; the Governor is his own master in the premises.

We do not remember the exact form of all the charges preferred against the Sheriff of Kings county, but the hearing developed enough facts against the Sheriff to warrant the Governor to order his speedy removal, because it was perfectly clear that a man against whom such evidence could be produced was not the proper Sheriff of a rich and populous county. The announcement of the Attorney-General that he can find no precedent for the removal of a Sheriff on *general* charges must be taken, therefore, as designed to excuse the non-action of the Executive in this particular instance.

The Dooling Boxing bill should be passed without debate. A State without boxing is to hastening ills a prey; its heartiness disintegrates and its men decay.

The British naval estimates call for £31,255,000, as against £30,875,000 allowed for the current year, an increase of £380,000. For new construction, £9,058,000 are asked; £9,003,000 were allowed this year. The programme comprises two battleships, two armored cruisers, two third-class cruisers, four scouts, nine destroyers, four torpedo boats and four submarines; it is less ambitious than that of the present year, which comprised three first-class battleships, six first-class armored cruisers and ten destroyers. The number of officers, seamen, boys, coast guards and marines is increased from 118,625 to 122,500.

The Admiralty intend to take out many 4.7-inch guns now in use in the navy, replacing them by 6-inch guns; and to change the composition of the Home, Channel and Mediterranean squadrons, so that they shall be made up of homogeneous classes of vessels, presumably of battleships and vessels as tenders, instead of being formed, as now, of battleships and cruisers.

Col. FRANCIS W. PARKER, who died the other day at Pass Christian, has left his mark on the common school system of the United States and gained a niche in the educational temple of fame by the side of HORACE MANN. A quarter of a century ago the experiments he made in the Quincy schools, backed by the iconoclastic CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, served to rouse Boston from its scholastic slumbers and to prove that no matter how good a school system may have been it becomes bad if not kept abreast of the times.

Whether the benefits of the "Quincy methods" have been all that their admirers believe may be open to doubt. A flood of German pedagogical philosophy has been poured into unfortunate teachers, to be sure, and the cult of the child carried from the kindergarten into higher grades. That the products of this more rational and considerate training can read or speak or think as well as the rough output of the brutal days of the unspared rod many elderly observers acquainted with both kinds, may not be ready to admit.

Methods of all sorts, we fancy, count little in teaching compared with the teacher's character and individuality. Col. PARKER had enough of both to impress strongly his pupils and much of the good ascribed to his methods really belonged to the man. His influence, diluted in his immediate scholars, is little perceptible in remoter generations of teachers, and one of these days we shall probably have some new prophet proclaiming that the "Cook county" system is mechanical and harmful.

That does not detract from the worth of the original. Col. PARKER was an innovator; he stirred things up and made men think.

Every man has a right to change his name if he can give a reason that the law will accept, and here in New York State hundreds of such changes are made yearly. Many are made by Jews of foreign birth who wish to simplify odd-sounding names for business or other reasons, and these sometimes adopt well-known English names with no Hebraic associations. There has been a run on GORDON, for instance, of late years.

For a Gentile, however, to assume an unmistakably Jewish name is rare, and the instance reported yesterday of a woman and a man who have taken the name ISRAEL is the stranger because these persons seem to be unrelated and unaware of each other's existence. The name selected, too, fine and high sounding as it is, is one by no means common among Jews.

They say now that the McAuliffe case is not dead, but sleeping.

BAGGAGE INSPECTION.

A Card From an Advocate of Home-made Dresses and Things.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN of this morning, there appears a communication from Elizabeth C. Hobson: it is a well-known fact not only to the ladies' tailors and dressmakers, but to the makers of all kinds of wearing apparel for both women and men, that "rich society women" are not, as a general rule, accustomed to the misrepresentation of the contents of their trunks, as wealthy people going abroad rarely act as agents for their friends, or for their "medium circumstances" friends.

There is a class of men and women that are not only clever travellers, but have a large circle of friends and acquaintances for whom they act as "purchasing agents" while abroad, and did, previous to the present practical method of inspecting baggage by the zealous customs officials, succeed in "getting through" enough wearing apparel and other things of value, upon which their commission was sufficient to pay for their "pleasure trip" and very often have a tidy sum left over.

I respectfully suggest to Miss Hobson, that if both the wealthy and "they who had possibly saved a small sum for a European trip," would patronize American industries and buy American goods almost exclusively there would not be so many trunks to examine on the arrival of each steamer from Europe, and thus do away with the present "inquisitorial treatment." G. PINSUTI.

NEW YORK, March 4.

School Work at Home.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I read with the greatest interest the communication signed "Remonstrance," in to-day's SUN, and beg to indorse its contents and to add my protest. I have three children under 12 years old attending school and their progress is most unsatisfactory, notwithstanding the fact that they spend hours in home study. That is, two of them—the third, 7 years old, has been told to do home work, but sooner than permit her to do it, I would keep her at home. The children are expected to do home work in arithmetic, with no adequate explanation of the rules, and are given lessons in grammar, in the abstract, with no application of the various rules, so that when corrected for speaking ungrammatically they do not know a rule which applies to the case in point.

Another very serious matter, to which the attention of the Board of Health should be called, is the carrying of a load of books that would tire a grown person, and which is a terrible burden for a growing child to carry ten blocks twice a day, often making the shoulders uneven and injuring the spine.

There is a great difference in the teachers—my boy has just escaped from one whose language and bearing were such as to justify a great wonder as to how he ever chose to be a teacher or reached that position. There was little teaching done in his class, as he was unable to maintain order long enough to teach anything thoroughly. MATERFAMILIAS.

NEW YORK, March 3.

Thomas C. Beattie Is Dead.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Answering the query of Mary McCombe of County Down, Ireland, "Where is Thomas C. Beattie?" He died at 186 Grand street, Brooklyn, N. Y., about two years ago. He had a pawnbrokers' sales store there. My place of business adjoined his store. I am at 188 Grand street. He left a widow and no children. Beattie's widow continued the business at 188 Grand street for a time, and on Jan. 8 last, she sold out the stock in the store and disappeared. On Jan. 22 last, on my application as a creditor of Beattie, I was appointed administrator.

BROOKLYN, March 4. MICHAEL J. GAYNOR.

Wherein the Naval Militia Was All Right.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Referring to inclosed clipping from THE SUN of March 3, I beg to state:

First, that of the four senior officers of the Naval Militia responsible for the performance of the guard duty at Shooter's Island on Feb. 25, three are graduates of the Naval Academy, and all have served as officers of the United States Navy. It would seem that they should be fairly qualified, even as "amateurs."

Second, Passage through the guard lines was refused by the officers named above to persons who declined to identify themselves save by bare assertion that they were officials, and who objected to producing either card or badge until compelled to do so. If this fact was found amusing, a fund of enjoyment is assured to those who in the future have occasion to witness attempts "to run" Naval Militia guards, for unknown persons will not be passed through guard lines on their unsupported statement that they are the Khan of Kelat, the Dato of Mindanao, or other potentates ranking above regulations governing common officials.

NEW YORK, March 4. NAVAL MILITIA, N. Y.

Paterson.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Who said Paterson was Hell? She ain't. She's full of water. But, you bet, she's afloat all right, and won't go to the bottom neither.

> The fire was rather hot,
> And the water's rather wet,
> But Paterson is not
> Going to holler just yet.

EVERYBODY, per H. G. M.

PATERSON, N. J., March 4.

THE SENATOR'S RIGHT TO VOTE.

The Great Constitutional Question Left Unsettled by the Tillman-McLaurin Case.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Now that the Senate has closed the Tillman-McLaurin episode by a vote of censure on both of the offending Senators, concurred in by a large majority of Senators of both parties, that incident may be considered closed. But the Constitutional question whether the Senate can under any circumstances deprive a State of its equal suffrage in that body by the suspension of its Senators still remains unsettled.

In view of the fact that a similar occurrence may at any time reopen it under circumstances of excitement and passion, it is fortunate that the resolutions offered by Mr. Platt of Connecticut and Mr. Turner of Washington will probably lead to a calm and unprejudiced consideration and determination of this question.

The precedents to which we should naturally turn for guidance in this matter are scarce. The decorum of the Senate has been rarely disturbed by occurrences of this sort. Perhaps the only case in the history of that body at all similar to the recent collision is the altercation that took place between Senators Benton and Foote on April 17, 1850, during the discussion of the bill for the admission of California.

These two gentlemen had previously indulged in frequent recriminations in the Senate, and on that day their antagonism culminated in a recontre that might have had a fatal result but for the interference of their colleagues. Mr. Foote, in the course of his remarks, made use of the term "calumniators" in a way that Mr. Benton thought referred to himself, and he immediately started toward Foote, with the intention of assaulting him. Foote retreated a few steps, for the purpose, as he afterward alleged, of giving himself room for self-defence without injury to third parties, and, as he did so, drew and cocked a pistol. Other Senators interfered in time to prevent a catastrophe, and the combatants were finally induced to return to their seats.

As soon as order was restored the Senate unanimously adopted the following resolution:

That a committee of seven be appointed to investigate the disorder of to-day in the Senate, and that they report to the Senate what befits the occasion, and have power to examine witnesses and take testimony.

Mr. Clay suggested that, in addition to this action, the two Senators should be required to go before a Magistrate and give bonds to keep the peace or, preferably, that each of them should give his word to the Senate to that effect; but Mr. Benton indignantly refused to comply with this suggestion, declaring that he would "rot in jail" before he would give any promise that would imply that he had been guilty of a breach of the peace.

It is to be noted that the Senate in this case did not declare these Senators to be in contempt or take any steps to suspend them from their functions, but merely adopted the resolution for an investigation. In fact both Mr. Benton and Mr. Foote were recognized by the Chair after the resolution was passed, and allowed to make their explanations, and Mr. Foote had the floor for the purpose of continuing his interrupted speech when the Senate adjourned.

This case, therefore, differs from the recent one in that the question as to the status of members after they had been declared in contempt did not arise. In fact, although the committee did not report until June 30, no objection was ever made to the right of these Senators to speak and vote during the interim.

The committee in their report stated that no similar scene had ever been witnessed in the Senate. After giving the facts as shown by the evidence, the committee concluded:

In the present case, under the circumstances, the committee forbear to recommend any action to the Senate.

The records of the House of Representatives furnish a precedent as to the right of members to vote who are under arrest for contempt. On Jan. 8, 1894, during a roll call] Mr. Thomas B. Reed raised this [question:

Mr. Reed—I desire to call the attention of the Chair to a fact just stated to me; that is, that there are a considerable number of members under arrest. Would they have a right to vote?

The Speaker (Mr. Crisp)—That is a question, the gentleman from Maine may recollect, which came up in the last Congress, and it was then held that they might vote on any question except in their own cases; the idea being that there was no power on the part of the House to deprive a member of his right to vote. * * *

Mr. Reed—The Supreme Court of the United States has decided—or has given utterance to a dictum I should say to be more accurate—that the House might imprison a member. If the House may imprison a member, of course it may deprive him of his vote. I can hardly conceive of a member being allowed to vote while he was actually under arrest and in contempt of the House. * * * I should think that the proper course would be now to proceed with the members, dispose of their cases, and then have them vote or not vote, as the punishment of the House might indicate.

The Speaker—The Chair does not see how it would be in the power of the House, even if it were disposed to do it, to prevent a member voting unless it expelled him. You might put him in jail, and of course if you take his body away he cannot vote; but if he were in the House, under any circumstances, I do not see how it is in the power of the House to prevent his voting.

It must be remembered that there is no provision in the Constitution against depriving a State of its representation in the House, while Article V. declares that "no State without its consent shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate."

So that the case of a Senator stands on much higher ground in this respect than that of a Representative. J. S. T.

WASHINGTON, March 3.

BUDDHISM AND THE STATE.

A Famous Buddhist Priest Against the Movement for "Establishment."

From the Japan Weekly Mail.

The celebrated priest, Shaku Shoyen, Abbot of Engaku-ji, at Kamakura, is now in the Sato Hospital. There he has received a visit from seven delegates of the Buddhist sect which recently held a meeting in Kyoto and indorsed the draft of a parliamentary bill for conferring special State privileges on Buddhism. The object of the visit was to obtain Shaku Shoyen's support, for such is his reputation for learning and piety that a movement with which he is associated would at once acquire impetus. Disappointment awaited the delegates, however.

They were told that what they proposed could not be reconciled with the Constitution, which grants freedom of conscience to all; that a religion which requires the support of the law is evidently in a debilitated condition; that if Buddhism once enjoyed official patronage in Japan and even occupied the position of a State creed, it was because the peculiar circumstances of the time dictated such results; that nothing of the kind can be expected now, or would be conducive to the true interests of Buddhism; and that if there is a genuine desire to propagate the faith and develop its useful potentialities, the plain course is for its priests to lead pure lives, to devote themselves to learning, and by examples of piety and erudition to show the wholesome efficacy of the creed they professed.

Missing No Tricks.

Madge—She's a great girl after the fellows, isn't she?

Marjorie—Why, that girl would have a man at her feet even if she had to break a shoestring to do it.

Or Worst.

"When you quarrelled with him, you let him do all the talking. Why didn't you answer him back?"

"He used up all the best language."

Japanning John Bull.

FROM "THE MIKADO" UP TO DATE.

From the London Truth.

> The treaty they now on us spring,
> Tra-la,
> Breathes promise of fighting galore;
> And although the imperialists sing,
> Tra-la!
> They may find as the seasons take wing,
> Tra-la!
> They have banged that renowned "open door."
> Yes, it certainly looks like a hazardous thing—
> This treaty our Ministers now on us spring!
> Tra-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!
>
> The Geisha's a sweet little thing,
> Tra-la,
> But that's nothing to do with the case;
> And to take the Japs under our wing,
> Tra-la,
> And to fight when they tug at the string,
> Tra-la!
> Why, it's certainly quite out of place,
> And that's what we mean when we say, or we sing
> Oh, bother these treaties they sing in the spring!
> Tra-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!

SHARPENING POLICE TOOLS.

Partridge Says He's Preparing to End Blackmail System—Jerome Silent.

District Attorney Jerome refused yesterday to discuss the various rumors extant as to what he intends to do in the excise crusade.

A story was told about a Vice-President of a precinct organization of the Liquor Dealers' Association, who at a meeting declared that he would pay no more blackmail because Mayor Low had said that no more blackmail need be paid. He was arrested the next Sunday. His trial for violating the Excise law is to come up in Special Sessions within a few days.

Another story went the rounds to the effect that Mr. Jerome does not intend to make excise arrests upon the evidence secured by his county detectives and the Parkhurst agents, but simply to use it against delinquent police captains. The story was not true because Mr. Jerome's oath of office requires him to take action whenever a violation of the law is brought to his attention, and his failure to do so would leave him liable to removal by the Governor. It is considered likely, however, that the police themselves will be called upon to make arrests after the evidence has been secured.

"Mr. Jerome and I are working in harmony," said Police Commissioner Partridge yesterday. "I can't tell you my plans and as for what Mr. Jerome is going to do you will have to see him. But there is no trouble between us.

"I am following the same plan that I announced on Jan. 1, that is, to deal with the worst evils first. You must not forget that I am working with the tools that were left for me. Some of these are rusty and others need sharpening. I am going to sharpen those that need it and rub the rust off the others. There are about 7,000 tools. I cannot get them fixed up in a day, nor can I change them except by due process of law. That all takes time. A few changes have been made; others may follow."

"Is it true that Mr. Jerome has furnished you with a list of captains whom you can trust?" was asked.

"You will have to see Mr. Jerome about that," was the reply. Then Col. Partridge added with emphasis:

"I am the Police Commissioner. Mr. Jerome is not Commissioner. Mr. Goddard is not. I am glad and ready to receive information from any one. But I am the Commissioner and under the law I am responsible."

"When Mr. Jerome has indicted all the Captains what are you going to do?"

"I won't cross a bridge until I come to it."

In regard to the charges that gambling houses, poolrooms and disorderly resorts are wide open, District Attorney Jerome said yesterday that so far as saloons were concerned, he knew that they were as wide open as ever, and he did not doubt that the other resorts were as common as report said. The system of protection by which alone this could be, would, he said, eventually be broken up. Measures were being taken to do that.

THE COMMERCE OF CUBA.

Value of Exports to and Imports From the United States.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The following comparative statement concerning the commerce of the Island of Cuba for the nine months ended Sept. 30, 1901, 1900 and 1899, has been prepared in the Insular Division of the War Department.

The total value of merchandise imported during the nine months ended Sept. 30, 1901, was $48,616,814, as against $49,701,998 for the same period of 1900, and $46,833,122 for the same period of 1899; and the total value of merchandise exported during the nine months ended Sept. 30, 1901, was $52,861,672, as against $37,911,367 for the same period of 1900, and $37,435,298 for the same period of 1899. In the imports these figures show a decrease for the period of 1901 of 2.2 per cent. as compared with the same period of 1900, and an increase of 3.8 per cent. as compared with the same period of 1899; in the exports there is an increase of 39.4 per cent. in the period of 1901 as compared with that of 1900, and 41.2 per cent. as compared with the same period of 1899.

Gold and silver were imported during the nine months ended Sept. 30, 1901, to the value of $1,165,275; same period of 1900, $3,406,704; same period of 1899, $7,803,625; exported during the nine months ended Sept. 30, 1901, to the value of $1,884,902; same period of 1900, $2,176,664, and in the same period of 1899 there was exported the amount of $3,610,434.

Of the imports of merchandise in 1901, $20,489,451 came from the United States, a decrease of 4.8 per cent. as compared with the same period of 1900, and 3.4 per cent. as compared with the same period of 1899. Of the exports, $41,773,251 were to the United States, an increase of 50.5 per cent. over the same period of 1900, and 24.8 per cent over the same period of 1899.

The value of imports of merchandise, gold and silver, carried in American vessels in September, 1901, was $1,572,809; in British vessels, $282,017; Dutch, $16,972; French, $80,853; German, $208,851; Spanish, $1,577,928; Norweigan, $925,509; all other foreign vessels, $27,927, and in domestic vessels, $323,234.

The value of exports carried in American vessels was $2,453,032; British vessels, $213,630; French, $393,063; German, $17,476; Spanish, $88,720; Norwegian, $128,044; all other foreign vessels, $8,845, and in domestic vessels, $33,062.

BRYAN ON HILL'S CANDIDACY.

Says the Money Plank of the New Yorker's Platform Is for Artful Dodgers.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 5.—Mr. Bryan gave out to-day an advance copy of an editorial in this week's *Commoner* upon "The Candidacy of Mr. Hill." He takes Mr. Hill's speech before the Manhattan Club of New York on Feb. 22 as a formal announcement of his candidacy for President. Mr. Bryan says:

"He is the favorite son of the reorganizing element in the Democratic party; he is the special representative of those who have so completely forgotten the story of the prodigal son that they would place the parental homestead on wheels and start in hot pursuit of the wayward son, determined to compel the boy to eat fatted calf even if the husks have destroyed his taste for wholesome food."

"The money plank of Mr. Hill's platform is most unique and alluring to an artful dodger. A man could stand on that platform and advocate gold, silver, nickel or copper, and after election declare that 'hard money' simply meant money that was hard to get. As the Republican party does not advocate "irredeemable paper money" it is evident that Mr. Hill is simply trying to get even with the Populists who supported the Democratic ticket when he sulked and skulked. He can forgive the Gold Democrats who voted the Republican ticket and swallowed high tariff, imperialism and the trusts in order to keep the New York financiers in control of the Federal treasury, but he is not willing to forgive the Populists who were patriotic enough to come to the rescue of the Democratic party in its hour of need.

"Mr. Hill's complete subservience to the financiers, his unhesitating obedience to every demand they have made, stamps his pretended interest in bimetallism as hypocritical. Mr. Hill is the leader of those who would make the Democratic platform so nearly like the Republican platform that a Democratic victory, even if possible, would mean nothing, to the people at large."

Struck Oil.

Ted—What's that peculiar odor about Miss Cobwigger?

Ned—I'm not sure whether she's been riding in an auto or cleaning her dress with benzine.

PROF. GILES ON CHINESE.

The English Authority Gives His First Lecture at Columbia University.

The large lecture room in Havemeyer Hall, Columbia University, was crowded yesterday afternoon when Prof. Herbert Allen Giles of Cambridge University, England, began his course on Chinese literature and civilization. Dr. Giles congratulated Columbia on Gen. Carpentier's gift and prophesied that the donor would be amply rewarded in the work the Chinese department would do. The specific topic of the lecture was "The Chinese Language," and the speaker said:

"There are two Chinese languages, the spoken and the written, which are entirely different and distinct. The colloquial language is more easily acquired than French or German. There are no declensions or conjugations, no irregular verbs, and the diligent student can make himself understood in three months. The book language is a study of a life time. Few people can read a Chinese book or write a Chinese letter, and women in particular seem to fail in this.

Theoretically, there is but one Chinese language, but in reality there are eight distinct dialects, any two of which are as unlike as English and Dutch. The dialects fringe the Chinese coast line and end with the Mandarin at Pekin and the interior, which is the official and the great dialect. The Chinese never possessed a grammar. The language is beyond rules. It is always spoken in monosyllables, root ideas, which are adapted to surrounding circumstances and suffer no change.

There is no gender, no inflection. The Chinese idiom for 'does he come?' is 'he come, no come?' Some words change according to circumstances in that they may be both active and passive at once. Sounds to the number of 420 represent 42,000 words. They are distinguished by subtle modulations of tone. The Chinese speak in couplets, thus to say 'eye' they say 'eye' and 'ball', the second word or character tending to distinguish the first, which often means a dozen different things.

The Chinese written language is uniformly understood all over China, and is practically the same to-day as it was 2,500 years ago. It looks like a mass of signs, dots and dashes, but is really intelligible. To express the words 'flattery' and 'treacherous' the Chinese employ the character meaning 'woman' with other characters. 'Friendship' is indicated by two hands; 'greatness' by the sun and moon, and so on. Originally drawings, the characters are now words."

Prof. Giles will give his second lecture in the series of six on "A Chinese Library," to-morrow afternoon.

NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING.

Chairman Mercer of the House Committee Says the Bill Will Be Reported.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The New York city delegation in the House, with the exception of Messrs. Sulzer and Belmont, met to-day and voted to ask the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to report the Cummings bill, appropriating $2,500,000 toward the purchase of a site for and the construction of a post office building in New York. It provides that the selection of the site shall be made by a commission consisting of the Postmaster-General, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Postmaster of New York, and the President of the New York Board of Trade and Transportation and the President the of Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York. This course was deemed preferable to having a paragraph appropriating $2,000,000 for the purchase of a site inserted in the omnibus Public Building bill, which, it is understood, will be reported to the House.

Pursuant to the action of the conference the members went in a body to the room of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds and presented their request. Chairman Mercer said "that the bill, as requested, would be reported." To secure consideration of the measure it will be necessary to have an order from the Committee on Rules or obviate all objections to taking it up by unanimous request.

TO ASK MONEY FOR NEW SCHOOLS

Board of Education Will Make Requisition for $9,000,000.

Commissioner William Lummis reported at the meeting of the Board of Education last night that the Committee on Sites had considered plans for the erection of new schools sufficient to provide 80,000 additional sittings if the Board of Estimate would provide the money for the work. "We would be able to have 26,000 sittings ready in a little more than a year," he declared.

He explained that that number of sittings would be obtained on plans mapped out by the former administration. The money necessary would be $9,000,000. A resolution to ask the Board of Estimate for the money was adopted.

The committee of seven reported a schedule rearranging the salaries in the administrative bureaus in conformity with the new duties prescribed by the revised Charter. The salary of A. Emerson Palmer, secretary of the board, is raised from $4,000 to $5,000 a year. The salary of Charles W. Field, chief clerk of the Brooklyn office, is cut from $2,500 to $1,500 a year. The schedule was adopted.

GOVERNMENT DEPOSITORIES.

Secretary Shaw Will Not Designate Those Banks Which Have Withdrawn Bonds.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—It is certain that, in the event of a further increase of the Government deposits, Secretary Shaw will not designate as depositories those banks which have withdrawn bonds held by the Treasury to secure circulation.

For several months it has been noticed that some of the national banks were withdrawing their circulation each month up to the legal limit of $3,000,000. It soon became apparent that the purpose of the banks was to get back the bonds which they had deposited to secure their circulating notes, the ultimate object being to place the bonds on the market. The high premium prevailing on Government bonds was a temptation to the banks to do this. Secretary Shaw is represented as believing that a further object of the banks which have been reducing their circulation is to make the bonds the basis of Government deposits, which they hope to obtain, but it can be authoritatively asserted that he will discriminate against such banks.

CIVIL SERVICE EXEMPTIONS.

Gov. Odell Approves Resolutions Adopted by the State Commission.

ALBANY, March 5.—Gov. Odell has approved resolutions adopted by the State Civil Service Commission exempting from competitive examination positions in county offices in Kings, New York and Erie counties, as follows: In the office of Surrogate of Kings county, one assistant clerk, one transfer tax assistant, one accounting clerk and one administration clerk; in the office of the Register of Kings county, one bookkeeper, one satisfaction clerk and one chief current index clerk; in the office of Register of New York county, one satisfaction clerk, one superintendent of indexing and one chief record clerk; in the office of District Attorney of New York county, five additional county detective officers, three additional deputy assistant district attorneys, one private secretary and one librarian; in the office of District Attorney of Erie county, one additional stenographer.

Against Popular Election of Senators.

From the Archbald Citizen.

The office of United States Senator is one of the few that are not directly filled by the people, and who will say that the average character of its membership is not as high as that of any other legislative body on earth? It is true that mistakes are made occasionally, as in the case of the present Senators from South Carolina, to cite a very recent example, but would we be guaranteed against them by the contemplated change? The people elect Governors now and do they measure up, generally, to the high standard of the United States Senators? We do not think so nor do we believe that the Senatorial standard will rise by the change so jauntily undertaken by the House of Representatives.

Taking It Easy.

Farmer Skinem—Doin' yer spring ploughin' yit?

Farmer Wiserube—Yep. Hired the oat field to a feller to practice golf.