The Sun.

WILLIAM M. LAFFAN.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1902.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

The Status of Chinese Exclusion.

Ten days ago the House passed a Chinese Exclusion bill that is a much more rigorous measure than the present law. The increased severity was due to the efforts of some of the Pacific Coast Senators and Congressmen, assisted by a so-called Chinese Exclusion Committee, appointed by the Governor of California and sent to Washington to establish headquarters and a lobby.

The intense eagerness of these and other persons to represent the Geary act's provisions as inadequate and ineffective, and to increase the harshness of our treatment of Chinese of all classes, prevailed in the House. The bill that passed that body is simply outrageous. We are not speaking of those sections which are intended to exclude objectionable immigrants, or honest Chinese laborers or artisans who might come into competition with American labor. Assuming that it is desirable for the best interests of the country to shut out every grade of Chinese workingmen and mechanics, the fact remains that the provisions aimed directly at the privileged classes allowed by our treaty to enter the United States, the teachers, students, merchants, travellers, accredited officials, and other Chinamen whom we ought to be glad to admit and to allow to remain here as long as they please, are in this bill unnecessarily and brutally harsh, and in some respects insulting almost beyond belief.

The excuse offered by the promoters of the House bill and of the similar measure introduced in the Senate was, broadly, that the existing Geary act failed to provide sufficient safeguards against personation and other frauds, and consequently did not shut the door close enough. This was knocked sky-high in the Senate by the senior Senator from New Hampshire. Dr. GALLINGER merely pointed to the census of 1890 and then to that of 1900. During this time, with the present law in operation, the Chinese population of the United States has decreased from 107,488 to 89,863, or about seventeen per cent.; while the number of Chinamen in California has decreased from 72,472 to 45,753, or forty per cent.

The discussion in the Senate lasted a week. It brought out very clearly the objectionable character of the proposed legislation, from the point of view of necessity, expediency or treaty obligation. The speeches of Senator CULLOM and Senator FORAKER were particularly impressive, as bearing on the question of national honor and good faith toward a friendly nation. On Wednesday the Senate rejected the Exclusion Commission's measure by the decisive vote of 48 to 33, adopting the substitute offered by Mr. PLATT of Connecticut, which keeps the present laws in force during the lifetime of our treaty of 1894 with China, and, in case of the abrogation of that treaty by China in 1904, until a new treaty shall be concluded. The Platt substitute also provides for the exclusion from our mainland of Chinese laborers coming from any of the insular possessions.

The present Exclusion law expires by limitation two weeks from next Monday. The treaty by which China acquiesces in our exclusion of Chinese laborers runs until December, 1904. The House has passed a bill introducing new, harsh and unnecessary provisions unwarranted by the treaty. The Senate has passed a bill strictly in conformity with treaty obligations, and at the same time amply protecting American labor, as experience and the census figures prove. The Platt substitute should be accepted by the House and enacted before May 5.

Another Attempt at Cooperation.

Out on the big Sioux reservation in a district somewhat vaguely located by the news despatches as lying ninety miles west of Pierre, S. D., forty Chicago men have taken twenty-five quarter sections of land on which to establish a coöperative community. Taxation is to be based on the land used by each man. The tract is to be owned in common and each member will contribute his share in stocking it.

The interest in such attempts to get out of competitive struggle into coöperative life does not seem to be dimmed by the long record of failure running back to the Fourier movement in the early forties. Each new community is launched with aims that are either new or that have been revised by the demonstrated failures of the past. Theoretically these coöperative communities are alluring. They seem to offer a panacea for economical ills, but the difference between theory and practice becomes obvious as soon as they are established. Such few of them as have succeeded have in each case found it necessary either to modify the original plan or reverse it. The Shakers, the oldest, best-organized and most prosperous community in this country, started out as communists in the widest sense of the word, but in practice they have restricted the community principle to the limits of family life. The Amana is the one coöperative society to-day that has kept up a steady increase in population and wealth. This is due to the fact that it has preserved among its people the old pious faith, and it has succeeded in keeping its idea of inspired leadership at the front.

A fanatical form of belief which accepts some leader as supernaturally inspired seems to be the controlling bond in most of the communities which have lived. The average life of the others with a few exceptions has been about two years. As the Rev. ALEXANDER KENT pointed out last summer in his report to the Department of Labor on this subject, these communities die soonest that ought to live longest, and democracy in such experiments has been a source of weakness rather than strength. A controlling central authority seems to be a necessity in the coöperative community, whether its aims are spiritual or commercial.

The tendency of the age is coöperative in all things, but the stumbling block in the path of all these isolated communities has been the difficulty of wise self-government. The most successful compromise with the coöperation plan that has appeared thus far has been the profit-sharing corporation. There are at least twenty such corporations in this country, among them the Nelson Manufacturing Company of Leclaire, Ill., the Pillsbury Milling Company, the Bourne Mills at Fall River and the Columbus Street Railway Company, which have flourished by dividing their profits among their employees. England and Germany have a much larger proportion of such companies than this country and the scheme has passed the experimental stage. Given certain conditions and the proper management its success is assured. It escapes the snare of the coöperative community because in each instance the ability of the controlling interest has been demonstrated before the employees are permitted to share in the profits.

If the Chicago coöperative colony out in South Dakota has been launched on lines that shall lead to success, its growth will be watched with interest by thousands of people who have cherished similar schemes only to see them fail.

Cuba in the House To-day.

It would be a glorious thing if the passage of the Cuban Reciprocity bill by the House of Representatives this afternoon accomplished the full measure of that "substantial reduction in the tariff duties on Cuban imports into the United States" which Mr. ROOSEVELT has described as a vital need to Cuba and to us an obligation of honor.

It would be a fine accompaniment of the independence which this nation has given to Cuba if there was an assurance of prosperity for her in the 20 per cent. reduction which the bill proposes.

"As we have performed the part of a guardian up to the present moment," said the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means the other day, "and are about to send the ward forth into the world, we cannot afford to take the risk of failure, if a little timely aid will insure success." This sentiment of the Hon. SERENO E. PAYNE would shine splendidly on the record, if 20 per cent. were per cent. enough for the need of the situation.

It is not enough.

If the bill passes the House to-day, as it undoubtedly will, the event should be regarded by every friend of Cuba and of justice as a beginning only. It will be a first step in the process of legislation toward the substantial reduction which the President urged. The first step has been taken tardily and with difficulty, but it is sometimes the first step that costs and that counts.

The Temperance Movement.

The modern temperance agitation may be said to have begun in England about a century ago, but it was in this country that the movement first made great headway, and its influence on American society has been far more general and more powerful than on any other. Abstinence from intoxicating drink has become the teaching of the religious communions in which are included the majority of American Christian believers, and in some of them it is enforced by drastic discipline, as MOHAMMED, the foremost temperance reformer, enforced it on his followers.

Hard drinking in the colonial period and in the earlier years of this Republic gave ample reason for the movement, and when it got fairly going in the first quarter of the last century it soon went ahead with a rush, in New England, more especially. Already in 1833 six thousand local societies, with one million members, had been established, and two thousand distilleries had been closed. At that time the agitation, as a whole, did not go to the extreme of total abstinence, but stopped at the use of spirits merely. A few years later, however, this complete abstinence began to be preached and since that time it has become the end to which the movement tends unalterably. Then the famous Washingtonian movement began with a knot of Maryland drunkards determined on reformation. Its distinguishing feature was a pledge to abstain from all alcoholic drinks, and so earnestly was it pushed by public meetings for exhortation that in four or five years three-quarters of a million of people had signed its pledge. In 1830, when the temperance agitation was in its beginning, the population of the United States was less than thirteen millions.

Various temperance movements have been started since by a series of organizations, until finally the Women's Christian Temperance Union, founded in 1874, may be said to have taken the lead in stimulating and directing the agitation. Two years before, however, a temperance movement was initiated in the organization at Baltimore of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union, which in the end may prove far more influential than any other, for this society seems to be receiving great favor from dignitaries of the Catholic Church, while generally temperance is actively and powerfully supported by that Church.

All this is merely introductory to the consideration of an article on the subject of "Temperance Teaching and Recent Legislation," in the *Educational Review*, by Mr. W. B. FERGUSON, Superintendent of Schools in Connecticut. In 1880, the Women's Christian Temperance Union introduced into its scheme of activity a department of "Scientific Temperance Instruction," with the purpose of inducing the teaching in the public schools generally of the ruinous physiological consequences of alcoholic and other stimulation, as the most effective of all methods of promoting temperance reform. These women proceeded at once to press the subject on Legislatures, and so successfully that "a temperance education law, usually of a mild nature, was soon passed by nearly every State and by the national Congress." Temperance was to be taught in connection with physiology and hygiene; and to that end "the next step was to induce or compel publishers to revise their physiologies and incorporate in them chapters on narcotics." To satisfy the women agitators the teaching was pushed beyond the limitations of truth as established by scientific demonstration. The rum devil was painted too black physiologically. Positions were taken which science made utterly untenable, and a spirit of exaggeration pervaded the text books. The temperance object was stuck out too prominently and disproportionately.

Moreover, the point of providing the instruction having been gained, the agitators forthwith went still further and demanded laws requiring that the text books used should devote at least one-fifth of their space to narcotics and that temperance instruction should be given to all the scholars from the lowest primary classes up to the high school. The temperance women fairly bulldozed Legislatures, publishers and teachers, and rode rough-shod over the objections and suggestions of State officers of schools, men of science, and physicians of eminence. The pupils, too, more especially the smaller children, resisted the cramming and took no interest in the subject, learned very little about it, and of that little much that was false. The School Superintendent of Connecticut, questioning teachers, found that generally the children did not understand the text books, and consequently the instruction did not promise to have any influence in deterring them in after years from the use of alcoholic liquors and other narcotics.

The upshot was that after a trial of eight years widespread opposition to the Connecticut law was developed among the educators of the State, and at the last session of the Legislature an act was passed radically modifying the temperance education law. Now temperance instruction is not required below the fourth grade, nor in the high school, and text books are no longer obliged to devote any definite part of their space to narcotics. The new law is of the nature of a compromise with the temperance people, and, though not altogether satisfactory to science, it is a beginning in retracing a false step. The absolute tyranny of the Women's Christian Temperance Union has been resisted successfully, or, at least, it has been weakened. A fetich has been partially overthrown. The theory that children can be made total abstainers by text books which set out to frighten them with false and exaggerated teachings of the physiological evils of alcohol has been shattered. As Mr. FERGUSON says, "Liberty to teach the truth, as the teacher understands it, and to teach it in the way in which he can make it most effective" is what is required for genuine temperance instruction, and in Connecticut it has now been secured, at least partially.

Unquestionably, one of the strongest influences in bringing about the greater temperance in the use of alcohol which now prevails so noticeably among intelligent people has been the spread of knowledge as to the evil physical effects of its abuse; but nothing would tend more surely to check that desirable progress than false and unscientific teaching on the subject, stimulated by a temperance fanaticism which proceeds on the vicious theory that the end justifies the means. The temperance movement is going ahead quietly throughout civilization with an impetus which can be checked only by those too much disposed to meddle with the operation of causes different from those they themselves desire to see working.

Baseball.

The baseball season opened yesterday with brighter prospect of the suppression of rowdyism than has attended any season since the famous personal agreement to that end between the baseball Presidents.

The instructions to umpires issued by the Secretary of the National League this year contain a new scheme for keeping order, which certainly promised to work. The old system of fining players was futile, for the reason that the fines were paid by the clubs; and there being no personal pressure of discipline upon the players, they kept on quarrelling with the umpire regardless of his penalties. Yesterday it was announced, however, that instead of fines upon the man there are to be fines upon the club, in the shape of the player's instant removal from the field without preliminary punishment.

If the penalty of disorder is made the systematic removal of the players, lessening their clubs' strength and attractiveness, the result ought to be the general issuance in good faith of the very simple order that players are to behave themselves. Instead of rowdyism being officially approved and coddled, it would be officially forbidden; and that would end it.

Apparently, it worked. An orderly game, without wrangling or back talk, was played at Mr. FREEDMAN's ball park, and triumphantly for New York. Behold the national game, cleansed and invigorated!

The human element of course is an important factor. "Be strict in what may seem to be trivial matters," says the injunction to the umpires, "thereby nipping in the bud trouble before it fully develops. Do not in any case temporize with the rule breakers."

If the umpire is a spongy weakling, with an inexhaustible supply of "warnings" and an absolute [illegible] of action like the hopelessly indulgent mother, things will remain as they were. If he is a man and understands his business, all should be well.

Ten miles per hour for automobiles in New York—the speed provided for in the proposed ordinance now before the Aldermanic committee—will be [illegible] after the drivers of those vehicles have demonstrated to the public's satisfaction that they appreciate the danger on their part of carelessness or incompetency. If the automobile is to attain the prominence which rightfully belongs to it, its speed surely should not be restricted to less than a mile in six minutes, or, as those professional calculators, the "bike cops," would say, five blocks in a minute and a half.

Strong proof has been afforded, however, in the last few weeks that, among many of the chauffeurs, the quality of caution is deplorably weak; and while this condition exists, there will be little surprise if the request for a ten-mile limit is denied. The real difference, though, between a legal rate of eight miles per hour and one of ten miles per hour is of little importance. An automobilist who can properly control his machine when going eight miles an hour should be as well able to control it when going a mile in four minutes, or fifteen miles per hour. Experience has shown that, as a cause of accidents, high speed is a secondary matter. The trouble comes, primarily, from the drivers' incompetence, thoughtlessness or inattention.

The Appellate Division of the Second Department, in an able opinion rendered by Mr. Justice BARTLETT, has unanimously reversed the decision of Judge GAYNOR at Special Term, which practically nullified the action of Governor ODELL in removing the Sheriff of Kings county from office.

Some time ago, on March 25, THE SUN expressed the opinion that Judge GAYNOR's view was not sound, because the offence for which GUDEN had been removed was directly connected with the office of Sheriff, his removal being based on a corrupt promise made to one BERT REISS, and a corrupt agreement with REISS to appoint him counsel to the Sheriff in consideration of his activity in securing influence and votes for GUDEN.

The Appellate Division holds that if the acts committed before GUDEN entered into office had no direct relation to his subsequent official conduct, a corrupt promise, made before election, to exercise his official powers in a particular way, affords a sufficient basis in law for the removal of the officer by the Governor.

This decision of the Appellate Division is eminently sound. It would seem monstrous that the Governor of the State should have no power to remove a county officer who had sought to obtain his election by means of a corrupt agreement, to be carried out or fulfilled immediately upon his assumption of office. Such a technical construction of the Constitution would assure the long tenure in office of a man who had forfeited every claim to public regard, by his manifest unfitness and by his violation of the provisions of the criminal law.

For some days reports have been running that the trust principle is about to be applied to the great staple of the South, cotton, in respect to the mills already established there in great number for spinning yarn.

Do the Southern newspapers shriek that that Democratic section of the country is to be ruined and the Constitution prostrated? Not much! They seem to think that the Cotton Yarn Trust will be a good thing.

With what a large and understanding eye Mr. ROBERT FITZSIMMONS surveys the country as he invites Mr. JEFFRIES to come and stand up before him in the arena of the gloves! "I am convinced," says he, "after careful investigation, that the only State in the Union for our purposes is California. Nevada's isolation makes it out of the question. Kentucky has declared her opposition to the event." And "South Carolina, through her Governor," with whom Mr. FITZSIMMONS has had "communication by telegraph," expresses her determination to keep him and JEFFRIES without her borders. So, to California!

There is a ring to Mr. FITZSIMMONS's communication which means business.

A PHILIPPINE GEOGRAPHY.

A Score of Lines Covers Its Account of the United States.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Mr. Irving Hancock has lately presented to this library several manuscripts picked up by him in the Philippines. One of them is a treatise on geography. The entire chapter relating to the United States, translated, is as follows:

UNITED STATES.

Q. Where is this country? A. In North America.

Q. What are its boundaries? A. British America bounds it on the north, the Atlantic Ocean and the Bahama Channel on the East, the Straits of Florida and the Gulf of Mexico on the south, Mexico and the Pacific Ocean on the west.

Q. What is its form of government? A. A Federal republic.

Q. How is this composed? A. Of forty different States.

Q. What are its rivers and mountains? A. The most important rivers are the Mississippi, Niagara, Missouri, Colorado and the St. Lawrence.

Q. What is its capital? A. Washington—but New York is the most important city.

N. B.—It is a Protestant country, but there are Catholic Archbishops there.

That is all. Little did the schoolteacher who wrote this in 1897 or so expect the advent of the regiments from North Dakota, Colorado and Kansas and the necessity for a more accurate acquaintance with transpacific geography.

EDWARD S. HOLDEN,
Library United States Military Academy.

WEST POINT, April 14.

Activity of House Thieves.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The houses of several of my friends have been entered by thieves and burglars recently and their silver stolen. These people live on Murray Hill or not far above in neighborhoods whose remoteness from the light and bustle of the town might invite such depredations.

It seems to me that the police could find more important work to do at this time than watching liquor saloons and "jugging" Jew pedlers on Sunday.

MURRAY HILL.

NEW YORK, April 17.

Automobile Dangers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Is there no law to compel automobiles to have bell or gong and ring it at their approach on people? I came near being run over three times owing to silent approach of these [illegible] around town, [illegible] to-day, only an hour before reading of the death of the child on Fortieth street!

If trolleys are compelled to sound gongs how absurd to allow these [illegible] to be on off side of car, ready to spring on anything in their way and give no warning.

[illegible]

NEW YORK, April 16.

[illegible]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* While I fully agree with you in the statement that no automobile should be run past a child unless the driver is sure [illegible]

F. J. F.

[illegible]

From the White Chick's House.

[illegible]

THE BRITISH BREAD TAX.

A Study of the Possible Consequences of This Notable Change of Policy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The British budget carries on its face every trace of its agrarian origin. Profiting by circumstances the landlord party has succeeded in forcing on Parliament the imposition of a bread tax which the British people are certain sooner or later to revolt against. Already the effect of it is seen in the increase of the price of the quartern or four-pound loaf by two cents.

By itself this might be of little consequence, if other articles of common consumption among the masses had remained at their normal prices. The extra taxes previously imposed on their tobacco, spirits and beer have, however, touched their pockets perceptibly and led to a diminution in the consumption of those articles. In the case of the working class this was not an evil, they being articles of luxury; but the same thing cannot be done in the matter of bread. Whatever the poorer people may forego, they cannot go short on bread, for to do so would be to impair their energies and by so much diminish their work power. If, therefore, they do not eat less bread, the difference in price will have to come out of something else, and probably it will be out of articles paying a higher tax, which will react injuriously on the revenue.

But they may fall back on potatoes, as has been the case in Germany; that, however, will be to the advantage of the landlord party, whose rents, besides receiving the stimulus of the grain and flour duties, will be further assured by the increased consumption of potatoes. Should the latter result follow the imposition of the bread duties, then our wheat export trade is bound to be more or less affected.

The idea has been broached that these duties have been imposed in order to afford a basis for negotiating new trade relations between Great Britain and the colonies at the approaching conference of colonial Ministers in London.

There are several reasons why this should not be the case. The principal one is that the landlords' rents in Great Britain have fallen so low of late years that they are not likely to give up right away to the colonial farmer the advantages accruing from the new taxes.

The other is that the Established Church, whose influence is still strong in England, and whose tithe-rent charge has fallen in value from £112 15s. 6¾d. in 1875 to £66 10s. 9½d. last year, the standard being £100, will not be eager to forego the benefit of the new taxes for the sake of the colonial grain grower. They will object to it on the principle that charity begins at home, and if in order to secure the continued adhesion of the commercial imperialists to the new fiscal policy of the Government, some compensation is necessary, it will have to be in another direction. What its nature may be we shall probably have to wait until after the conference with the colonial Ministers in June to see, unless some indication of it comes out in the course of the budget debate.

In connection with the new grain and flour duties in England, it is interesting to examine the fluctuations of the price of wheat in England between the years 1785 and 1863. From the first of those years to 1801, it rose from $10.46 per imperial quarter of 504 pounds to $29.03 the quarter. Between 1802 and 1812 the price fluctuated between $13.93 and $30.73 the quarter. From 1813 to 1848 it varied from $23.53 to $9.55, the average for those years, however, being $14.88, which was high. The first half of the century was a piping time for the landlords and farmers. From that time on wheat varied moderately, except during the Crimean War when it rose to $18.14, the price ranging from $13.68 to $9.35 the quarter. Since 1862 it has been steadily falling, touching as low as $5.54 in 1894. In 1900 the average price for the year was $6.52 per imperial quarter.

It is to be remarked in connection with the foregoing statistics, that the rise of British commercial supremacy was coincident with the fall in the price of wheat; in other words, the resulting cheapness of food with free trade in raw materials built up the enormous reserve of wealth on which the present Government of Great Britain is drawing so heavily in order to prosecute a war of devastation in South Africa—wasting wealth in order to destroy wealth.

What the consequence of enhancing the price of food may be, whether it will result in a loss of trade and whether it will not also lead to some radical change in the land laws of Great Britain that will bring back into cultivation the millions of acres that have gone out of cultivation during the past thirty years, remains to be seen. With the return of peace in South Africa there will necessarily be a cessation of the war expenditure which has stimulated business in Great Britain and been at the bottom of the increased yield of the income tax. The fall in wage payments noted in the first half of 1901, amounting on an average to $150,000 a week, continues and is reflected in the falling off in the yield of the tobacco and spirit duties. There has been an increase of pauperism in London alone, according to the workhouse returns, of about 14 per cent.; the numbers in receipt of indoor relief being the largest since 1873. In 1900, which is the latest date to which the official reports of the Post Office Savings Banks have been issued, the deposits amounted to only $11,475,000 as against withdrawals totalling $191,155,000; and in 1901, toward the autumn, a run began on the Postal Savings Banks, which the Government had great trouble in checking.

From these facts it will be seen that the statement of the British Chancellor of the Exchequer that the spending power of the British people has not been impaired is not well founded. The spending power manifested is of artificial stimulation and at the expense of the savings bank account; and it is so far unsound that it should be a reason for bringing the war in South Africa to a wise conclusion as soon as possible. Meantime, as one of Great Britain's largest customers, we are vitally interested in the new turn of her fiscal policy.

G. F.

NEW YORK, April 17.

Is This a New Democratic Faction?

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

[illegible]

Panama's Two Morgans.

[illegible]

AROUND THE GALLERIES.

Landscapes by Dwight W. Tryon at the Montross Gallery.

Three landscapes by Dwight W. Tryon, representing his latest work, can be seen at the Montross Gallery. One of them, "The Brook," is of considerable size, probably fifty inches high and some sixty in length; very much larger, in fact, than his usual canvases. It shows the bend of a trout stream, the blue-purple water of which sweeps beneath a clayey bank and rushes over little ledges of stone, disappearing below the bank, which one is made to feel terminates the level of the portion of meadow in the foreground. At the back of the water a stone wall with trees and brush at intervals extends across the picture, beyond it being a low ridge, partly of grass and partly of brown soil, fringed with trees; while overhead are flocky masses of warm gray cloud. For a warmish light penetrates the scene, the cheery harbinger of real warmth that fitfully sports with soft shadows under the shifting clouds of a spring day. The focus of light is on the clay bank and water, which shine clearly, while around this centre circle graduated passages of light and shadow; very lambent, transparent and lightly moving. Indeed, the circulation of the light and consequent creep of the shadows form one of the most beautiful features of this picture; the scene is penetrated with lighted atmosphere, that has, too, a distinct quality of light truthfully preserved in its varying relations of intensity throughout the picture.

Equal enjoyment will be derived from a study of the drawing and construction. They are extraordinarily truthful, naturalistic in the highest degree; as, for instance, in the rendering of the lighted bank and in the way in which the foreground is kept above the brook, its drop to the water, though unseen, being indicated with absolute precision, while if you will observe the various objects in the landscape, you will realize with what precision they occupy their particular spaces of atmosphere. Naturalistic indeed, and yet completely regulated to pictorial effect to a composition alike of stirring breadth and simplicity and of artfully contrived unusualness. Certainly it is a noble picture that can scarcely fail to arrest attention upon the first glance and will as certainly win upon one's interest by companionship, revealing in its frank impressionability to the truth of nature no little of her subtle, underlying poetry.

For this represents the attitude of Mr. Tryon's mind, which reaches after the soul of the facts, through penetrating, affectionate observation of the facts themselves. In other words, the poetical feeling is not an antecedent intention, but a result that proceeds logically from the premises of study, and by reason of its logic, which does not interfere with enthusiasm in the artist any more than in the scientist, so much the more convincing.

In the smaller picture "November Morning" there is a similar truth to facts, brought to bear upon a tumbled stretch of country, with interesting diversities of form; and including also a very delicate realization of cool, clear light from a sky in which the bright blue softly filters through gray, hazy clouds; while a special feature of the third landscape, "The Meadow Road," is the silvery effect of dewy sheen upon the fresh tender herbage.

These landscapes prove that Mr. Tryon is in possession of powers that are continually maturing, in the direction both of bigness of pictorial feeling and of a sensitiveness of vision and expression, and that this sensitiveness is treasured less and less for its own sake, but made perpetually more subordinate to the purpose of expressing the larger harmonies of nature. It is the balance of the big and subtle and the fact that it is regulated to the expression of the true significance of truth in nature, that have placed this artist foremost among the landscape painters of America.

Portraits by Julia Haven at Knoedler's Gallery.

At Knoedler's Gallery Miss Julia Haven is exhibiting eight portraits which will no doubt prove satisfactory to some visitors. One may infer it from the conversation, impossible not to be overheard, of two young ladies who floated into the gallery with that happy irrepressibility of interest in everything and anything that distinguishes such sippers and tasters of many kinds of impressions, when they are "doing" the galleries and stores. From the flow of their volubility, unchecked during a visit of nearly one minute and a half, a phrase arose to the surface like a bubble on a brook—"Exquisite; so clear and distinct!" It is the sort of exquisiteness that the fashionable photographer strives for in obedience to the wishes of his client, who desires the face and costume to be distinct and clear.

The phrase was not inapt as regards these portraits; excellent likenesses one feels pretty sure they are, and the features defined with a distinctness that is quite rigorous, but without any feeling for the color, quality and texture of flesh. In the portrayal of the heads a recipe prevails; first as to the gesture, the face a little to one side, the eyes looking in the opposite direction; and then as to the modelling of the features in a sort of pale soapy tone with shadows of warmish brown. As may be divined, the recipe is not an artistic one and its repetition in the case of ladies and gentlemen alike divests it even of smartness; it is so obviously a trick of trade. Really, one cannot consider these portraits from the point of view of art, but rather as another curious indication of what people will accept in the way of "just as good."

Pictures by Ethel Wright at Clausen's Gallery.

An exhibition of pictures, portraits and studies is being held by Miss Ethel Wright at Clausen's Gallery. This lady's manner bears the stamp of South Kensington, having a correctness of drawing rather tame, a color arrangement that is agreeable, but uninspiring, and very little if any thought of placing her figures in atmosphere or of elaborating any scheme of lighting or of studying the varieties of the light's action upon different planes and textures. So her work, notwithstanding much graciousness of feeling, is of moderate interest.

The best things seem to be the little studies, the "Coy," for example, and the heads in crayon, for in these she shakes herself free from the strait influence of her training, sees with her own eyes and puts down her impressions with much vivacity and artistic intuition.

Wade Hampton's Aristocracy.

From the Washington Times.

[illegible]

THE ORINOCO RIVER.

Little Known Out of South America, But One of the Greatest in the World.

From the Caracas Herald.

One of the greatest rivers of the world, the Orinoco, is also one of the least known to Europeans. Its sister, the Amazon, has often been described by Wallace and Bates among others, but Humboldt remains practically the only writer of standing upon the great stream which, rising on the frontiers of Brazil, runs for 2,000 miles through Venezuela, receiving in its course such immense tributaries as the Mela and Apure, and discharging itself by a hundred mouths into the South Atlantic opposite the British island of Trinidad.

The principal entrance, and the only one available for sailing vessels, is the Boca Grande, to the south, into which flow, among other tributaries, the Aratura and the Amacura, the latter almost coinciding in its course with the Schomburgk boundary line between British Guiana and Venezuela. But most of the traffic of the Orinoco passes through Trinidad, where passengers and goods are transferred to steamers almost flat-bottomed, and reach the Orinoco by the mouth known as Macarao, the open sea being avoided. It was by that route that the writer started in the Apure, chartered for the occasion, on a trip of 500 miles up the great river, forming probably the first, and certainly the largest party of tourists which had ever ascended it.

Six hours after leaving Port of Spain the entrance of the Macarao was reached and for fourteen hours we navigated a deep channel, perhaps half a mile wide, whose attractions surprised those who had read of the delta of the Orinoco as a dismal swamp, thousands of square miles in extent, tenanted only by a few wild Indians, who built their houses in among the trees, by wild beasts and by birds. The description is true, though the impression left is not quite correct. Well-nigh impenetrable forests and undergrowth hide ground which is for the most part ooze, covered for half the year by water. The Guaraoan Indians, many of whom paddled out to meet the steamer and beg, in canoes roughly hollowed from the trunk of a tree, and who dispute supremacy of these wilds with jaguars and alligators, are extremely low specimens of humanity, though attachment to their dogs, large, rough-haired and excellent hunters, should be mentioned to their credit.

But the passerby sees none of the horrors of this great swamp. They are concealed by magnificent trees growing to the water's edge, whose branches may sometimes be touched from the steamer, when she is steered close to the shore in order to avoid the current. Sometimes that splendid parasite, the matapalo, has wrapped in its deadly folds several adjacent trees, and, these perishing, it stands alone, showing walls of green and resembling a large ivy manteled tower. Upon this and upon the tops of the tallest trees other parasites fling masses of blossom. A flock of flamingoes makes a brilliant scarlet patch here and there; the sun flashes from parrots of many sizes and various hues; snow-white cranes gaze stolidly from the banks; macaws, green and yellow, or deep crimson on head and breast, fly heavily past; and smaller birds of every color of the rainbow scream or chatter or sing among the trees.

Fourteen Years of Drought.

From the Galveston Daily News.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 11.—Capt. Wash Shely, Sheriff of Starr county, was here to-day and called on Gov. Sayers and laid the details of the distressing situation before the latter.

"There are more than 11,000 people in Starr county and 6,000 in Zapata county," Sheriff Shely said. "Of this number, more than one-half are either in destitute condition at this time or will be very soon. The poor people are flocking into the settlements along the Rio Grande from the ranches. They have absolutely nothing to live upon. No corn has been raised for two years, and in fact it has been that long since any rain has fallen. The drought really began fourteen years ago and has been growing worse year by year. There are probably children several years old in that section who have never seen a really good rain."

Presbyterianism in New York.

From the Christian Intelligencer.

Religious conditions in this city recently called forth from the new pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Dr. J. Ross Stevenson, the following comment as to the Presbyterian Church in the metropolis: "Our Church in this city is not sufficiently progressive or aggressive, and I regret to say has fallen behind the others. Seventy-five years ago the Presbyterian Church had an opportunity to become the most influential organization in America. In fact, it was then the American Church, but we did not make the most of the opportunity presented us. Our Church instead of advancing has held back, and to-day it is not one-tenth what it should be in members and influence."

Reputation.

Mrs. Trout—I'm afraid our little Speckles is small for his age.

Mr. Trout—Don't worry. If any one catches him he'll figure as a pound and a half at least.

Profitable Drawing.

"I understand that they fought to a draw."

"Yes. Each one of them drew about four thousand dollars in prize money and gate receipts."

Without Effort.

From the Philadelphia Bulletin.

"Is he a hard drinker?"

"Indeed, no! It's the easiest thing he does."

Foreign Notes of Real Interest.

A Bohemian couple holds the record for procrastination. Franz Rosner, 100 years of age, was married on his deathbed to Anna Renner, aged 95 years, at Oberpolitz. The groom died two days later. The two had been in love for seventy-five years but had kept putting off the wedding day.

A British childrens' paradise has disappeared in the Lowther Arcade, which has been torn down to make way for the Strand improvements. For seventy years its toy shops attracted young England. On the site Coutts & Co., who have also been crowded out, will erect a new bank building.

It is three hundred years since Bodley built his library at Oxford and the university is going to celebrate the anniversary. The Bodleian is the largest university library in the world and ranks next to the British Museum and the Paris Bibliothèque Nationale in the number of volumes.

Herr Schuch has earned the gratitude of all Germans, according to the London *Daily Chronicle*, by compiling a list of 2,500 classified, insulting expressions. His "Schimpfwörter Lexikon" is arranged in five divisions: terms applicable to men, to women, to either sex, to children and to objective bodies.

Dr. Schubert of Berlin thinks that he has discovered several unknown poems of Sappho in a sixth or seventh century manuscript among the Egyptian papyri in the Berlin Museum. The manuscript is much damaged, but two of the poems showing new metrical combinations, have been deciphered already.

M. Georges Leygues, the French Minister of Public Instruction, having reformed French spelling and syntax by official decree, is going to issue an official French grammar, which will be the only one used in French schools. He has also appointed commissions to revise the Latin, Greek, English and German grammars.

After endless discussion in the newspapers a name has been decided upon for the new street between the Strand and Holborn. It is to be Edward VII. street. The authorities are still divided as to the crescent at the Strand end of the street between "Dance Crescent," on account of the Church of St. Clement Danes and "Gladstone Crescent."

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