The Sun.

WILLIAM M. LAFFAN.

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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 Philippine Bill To-day.

The Senate of the United States will not vote, at four o'clock this afternoon or at any other hour of any other day in the year, to scuttle

It will vote to stay in the Philippines, and to perform to the best of this nation's ability the task of honor and civilization which is appointed for us in that part of the world.

The pending bill, as reported by Mr. LODGE on April 18 and since amended and improved with the assent of his committee, is the first step toward the establishment of local self-government in the islands.

Let the vote show that the shameless defamers of the American army and the American spirit have wasted their time during these weeks of obstruction.

And may it show Senator HOAR of Massachusetts on the right side at last, in spite of himself!

A Good Enough Morgan of a Volcano.

The *New York Press*, a newspaper which avowedly takes its cue on the canal question from Senator MORGAN, recently undertook to offset the numerous and notorious volcanoes of Nicaragua with something of the same sort in the neighborhood of the Panama route. As a matter of fact there are no volcanoes, either active or "extinct," on the Isthmus of Panama, or within a hundred and eighty miles of the canal. Furthermore, the geological conditions of that part of the continent indicate stability as far as anything terrestrial can be established; that is to say, the isthmus was formed in the early quaternary period and has not been modified during the ages since man first appeared on earth.

Desiring, therefore, to exhibit a Panama volcano which should serve to counterbalance the unpleasant reputation of Momotombo, Coseguina, Omotepe and their numerous and notorious companions in Nicaragua, the *New York Press* boldly consulted the Encyclopædia Britannica, where it found, under title "Colombia," on page 153 of Volume VI., this encouraging indication:

"Volcanic forces are still at work, as is shown by occasional earthquakes, and also by such phenomena as those at Batan, near Sogamoso, where the subterranean heat is great enough to affect the local climate."

This passage from the encyclopædia thereupon took form, under the pressure of emergency and the stimulus of imagination, in the subjoined remarkable statement by the *Press* at the culminating point of an editorial article on the volcanic perils menacing a Panama canal:

"In Colombia, however, and right on the Panama canal route, there have been volcanic excitements of much more recent date. * * * And at Mount Batan, near Sogamoso, in Colombia, the subterranean heat is so intense all the time as to affect the local climate."

The words which we have italicized are the contributions of our contemporary's imagination and enthusiasm. The rest is cyclopædia.

Thus "Mount Batan" was born, uprearing its fiery head right on the Panama canal route, and threatening to overwhelm with a torrent of lava or an outburst of scoriæ the channel and locks of that waterway. Here at last was the much-desired offset to the now furiously active Momotombo, and to the continuously active Omotepe.

Unfortunately for the *Press*, however, it failed to consult the map as well as the cyclopædia. No Mount Batan is known to the geographers. Batan is probably a small village in the neighborhood of Sogamoso, which is about five hundred and ten miles distant from the nearest point of the Panama canal.

The phenomenon of the subterranean heat which gives Batan its sole title to distinction is interesting. Similar phenomena may be observed in the Bad Lands of North Dakota and in the Yellowstone National Park. There is hardly any danger that this subterranean heat, which the cyclopædia says affects the local climate at Batan, will set a-boiling the water in the Panama canal, more than half a thousand miles away.

We congratulate Senator MORGAN and the *New York Press* upon their newly discovered Panama volcano. It will probably answer their purpose until after the vote has been taken.

The Giles Geyser.

The Hon. EDWARD EVERETT ESLICK, the Young DEMOSTHENES of Giles county, made the greatest effort of his life at the Tennessee Democratic Convention last week. Even the Hon. JOHN WESLEY GAINES, the great Tennessee traveller, orator and statesman, was impressed by that speech. Col. PETER PIPER PICKARD, Col. PEELER, the Hon. HIP BRINKLEY, the Hon. NOBLE CLODDY, Col. BILL DISMUKES and all the other warhorses and wheelhorses sat entranced, or stamped and whinnied with delight. Mr. ESLICK had the honor of nominating the Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN FRAZIER of Chattanooga for Governor. A hush went over the assemblage when Mr. ESLICK arose. While he was soaring a pin drop could have been heard except when the applause came in; then JOVE'S thunders would have made no audible noise. Mr. FRAZIER, it appears, was born a Democrat, and born, so admirable was the geographical instinct of his parents, in exactly the right spot for a future candidate: and he moved to another exactly right spot:

"If I may speak of this man as a partisan, I can safely say to you that his Democracy he has cherished from his mother's bosom, from the sunrise of the soul at the cradle when the heart beat young. The call of democracy has been to him as the voice of inspiration, and he has responded, bringing the best of his time and talent as offerings to her altars. That he is a strong candidate no man can question, because the people have already rallied to his standard. If geographical location may be looked to, then I answer you that the way is clear, for he was born in the middle division of the State. His present home is in the eastern section, nestling at the foot of her splendid mountains, but a few miles from Chickamauga's historic field, and he commands the confidence, the admiration and love of the West Tennessee Democrats. Yet, above this, the best citizenship grapples him to its heart with hooks of steel. That his nomination means his election is as sure as that the darkness fades before the rising sun."

Mr. ESLICK certified that Mr. FRAZIER is "large in stature, great in intellect, honest in purpose, strong in love, eloquent in speech." Mr. ESLICK has "often thought that GOD twined the strings of sweetest speech about his [FRAZIER'S] tongue, as the chaste and beautiful words rolled from his lips." Mr. ESLICK predicted that Mr. FRAZIER'S administration "will come to the front like an Easter sunrise, rich and rare, beyond description and outstripping criticism." Like Mr. ESLICK'S speech. It is wrong to chip an entire and perfect chrysolite, to take a piece from an oration which is all fervor, peroration and perspiration. Still, here is another fragment for the editors of school speakers and jewels of American oratory:

"The best thought and the best years of his life he offers this Commonwealth; and in the hope of a brighter day and a better future for his people, he looks out upon stars that never go down. He awaits with expectancy when he shall see this Commonwealth stretching from the valley by the broad bosom of the father of waters to the mountain tops by Privel on the line, when he shall see her stand like the Patriarch's ladder from earth to sky, as it were, and every rung shall be jewelled with a promise and every step blossomed with a joy—when hunger shall come to none, and peace shall be in every heart and happiness reign in every home!"

Inevitably Mr. FRAZIER was nominated. We Hooroar. We beg to surround with a rich halo of enthusiastic cheering the united names of ESLICK and FRAZIER. Our fire-tipped and fire-topped friend, the Hon. ED CARMACK, needs to keep an eye peeled for the Giles Geyser.

The Terms of Peace.

The terms of peace announced by Mr. BALFOUR to the House of Commons indicate the complete renunciation on the part of the Boers of the real objects for which the war was fought, the independence of the Transvaal and Orange River republics and the right to determine who should be citizens of these republics and who should share in their government. For England there was besides the broader object of establishing absolutely the British supremacy in South Africa.

For the sake of retaining their independence and of retaining in their own land their power over strangers in race, language, religion and customs the Boers risked their all. After a fight that has excited the admiration of the whole world, they have been beaten and must stand the consequences. Their republics have become British colonies to be ruled by British administrators; their land is open to any one who chooses to enter it under the protection of British law; neither they nor any power to which they might wish to turn can dispute British supremacy south of the Zambesi.

The concessions made in the final capitulation are such as any civilized nation must have made under the circumstances. That the Boer leaders should have been reluctant to accept them save at the last extremity is comprehensible; if British officials have hesitated to offer them sooner or to comprehend their necessity, it is a mark of incredible blindness.

The combatants are to be restored to their home; the Dutch language is to be used in schools and courts where necessary, and every one knows it is necessary; the Boers are to retain their rifles, for the English have finally got it into their heads that the country is a frontier country that has to contend with black savages and with wild beasts; the Cape rebels who joined their Boer countrymen are to be tried by the civil tribunals and not by court-martial. That military occupation shall cease as soon as possible is more ardently wished in England itself than even in South Africa.

What the promise of self-government means probably neither Mr. BALFOUR nor any one else can tell. It is an ambiguous phrase that may make as much trouble as the famous "suzerainty" clause. It may mean no more than the restricted privileges in the Crown colonies; it may mean as wide a measure of power as is possessed by Canada and Australia. The British negotiators probably have the one extreme in view, the Boers at least the hope of the other.

For two years and a half, against the whole power of the British Empire, the Boers have made the most heroic struggle in the records of patriotism. If the peace is observed honorably they may win as great a measure of individual independence under the British flag as the Canadians or Australians have, and South Africa may become in time great enough to break away from England should the occasion rise. The difficulties that must arise after the peace will call for wise and considerate administrators, and England has so broken with her old traditions in the conduct of the war that it is not safe to surmise what she will do now that the Boers have yielded themselves into her hands.

Men of Conviction.

A despatch from Pittsburg, yesterday, announced that the United Presbyterian General Assembly, in session in that Pennsylvania town, had defeated attempts to "liberalize" its peculiar communion by postponing the whole subject. It was a result which might have been expected, for this branch of Presbyterianism, throughout its whole history, has been stubborn in its resistance to everything savoring of religious "liberality." The very reason for its separate existence is that it is not "liberal."

The United Presbyterians are one of the twelve separate bodies into which American Presbyterianism is divided. They number something more than one hundred thousand members, and only a very close acquaintance with the hair-splitting religious controversies which succeeded the Reformation would be able to discover and describe the shades of difference between them and other bodies of the same general school, so far as concerns their creed, for they accept the Westminster standards; but in their practice they have distinguishing features readily explained.

These are unrelenting opposition to human slavery and to secret societies, and strict adherence to close communion. As early as 1800 their Pennsylvania Presbytery denounced slavery as a moral evil and unjustifiable; and in 1831 the Synod went to the extreme of excluding slaveholders from its communion. That was a great sacrifice to conviction, for it was made at the cost of the loss of all the congregations in the Southern States, in which region the United Presbyterians had obtained their first foothold in this country. Their position as to secret societies is not less determined in its hostility than that of the Roman Catholic Church. Besides practising close communion, they make a strong point of singing the Psalms exclusively.

The attempts rejected at Pittsburg were to wipe out these peculiar features and thus bring the body "up to date," after the fashion of the Presbyterianism represented by the General Assembly lately held here in New York; or, as one of the conservative leaders remarked at Pittsburg, "to forever dismiss the great principles that have distinguished the United Presbyterian Church from its very foundation."

Naturally, so subversive an effort provoked bitter resistance in a communion which those very features have held together for centuries against prosecution and ridicule. Without them they would have no reason for keeping up any distinctive existence. If their Church should set about readjusting its doctrine and practice with a view to making them more popular, all the fire of zeal which has burned in it for centuries would be quenched, and, in the end, they would not get the popularity they catered for. The sort of people who have held to such teachings as a foremost religious obligation can never make themselves popular. They are not built for assimilation, but for opposition. Their very restrictions and peculiarities are essential to the life of their Church. Independence is a necessity to them. Only because they are unyielding in their peculiar convictions are they now apart.

It is no wonder, then, that their General Assembly has kicked against a scheme to strip their Church of the very features which give it distinction; for they are not men of the broad-minded sort, not compromisers with the world, but men of inflexible consciences. For the very reason that their creed is narrow they are the better able to comprehend it. They are akin in spirit to that other branch of Presbyterians, called the Reformed Presbyterian Synod, a little body, who cling to belief in a theocracy, and will not identify themselves with the State in any way, because the Constitution of the Union does not recognize GOD specifically. They will not become citizens, will not vote, will not enlist in the army or navy, serve on juries or accept places under a Government so ungodly.

The manifestations of the religious conscience are many and curious; but this is a free country and independence in thought is the birthright of us all.

Reduction of the Army.

The order of the Secretary of War, issued on Saturday, by which a reduction of nearly 11,000 men is made in the strength of the army, is proof positive of the improved condition of affairs in the Philippines. The order cuts down the army from its present strength of 77,287 men to 66,497. The reduction is to affect all three arms of the service, but will apply less to the artillery than to the infantry and the cavalry. In the last-named arm, the number of enlisted men in a troop will be reduced from 85 to 75, the total reduction thus being 1,800 men. In the infantry, the total strength will be reduced from 35,520 to 29,880, a diminution of 5,640 men, by cutting down the enlisted strength of each company from 104 to 80 men. The garrison or coast artillery will not be affected by the new order, but the strength of the field artillery will be reduced by making the number of enlisted men in a battery 120 instead of 160. Only two batteries will not be reduced; they are the siege batteries, which will retain their present quota of 160 men each. The battalions of engineers will not be reduced.

The present strength of the army in the Philippines is about 31,700 men. The changes made by the order will reduce it to about 25,000 men, or rather more than one-third of the entire army. Regiments now there are to be brought home shortly, however, so that the strength in the islands may be placed at about one-third of the forces.

In December, 1900, while the Volunteer regiments were serving in the islands, our forces there reached the maximum, about 75,300 men. The reduction since then is highly significant.

What Mr. Jerome Has Done.

Whether District Attorney JEROME prevails in his conflict with Mayor LOW and compels the latter to change his policy of non-enforcement of the Excise law, is for the future to determine. The Mayor holds the post of power. He possesses immediate control of the police, whereas Mr. JEROME can only influence them through penalties, which, at best, it is very difficult to inflict.

Mr. JEROME'S actions in the matter of the excise, however, have been invaluable in the instruction they have afforded to the public. He has shown plainly that the present Excise law is enforceable, inasmuch as under enforcement no one need go thirsty on Sunday.

To obtain an Excise law which accomplishes this is an achievement in legislation, and is also most wholesome discomfort to the Tammany policy of non-enforcement which Mr. Low has carefully maintained.

Among the young architects of the day there is admirable training and an immense amount of talent. The one who at his age attains the distinction gained by the late JAMES BROWN LORD, will be worthy of congratulations indeed.

Whether the trouble is with the man himself or with his surroundings we don't know, but something is wrong with Mr. FRANK P. SARGENT, formerly best known as the head of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen. We assume that he is still a member of that labor union, as he is also a member of the arbitration committee of the Civic Federation. But at present he is a servant of the country at large, Commissioner of Immigration. Yet Mr. SARGENT is going around expressing the opinion that the anthracite miners are all right, and, further, is endeavoring to persuade the bituminous miners to join in the strike.

If Mr. SARGENT has not learned before, he should learn now that a Federal officer has no business to promote strikes, or publicly to take sides in an issue between employers and employees. How would it look to have a fellow employee in Mr. SARGENT'S department, or, to make the point clearer, a member of the Cabinet, declare that the operators were right and the miners were wrong?

That would be a scandalous piece of interference with a matter of business, against which, we have not the slightest doubt, Mr. SARGENT would protest with indignation.

Of the comparative standards of honesty of the Tammany administration which would not enforce the Excise law and of the Low administration which refuses to enforce the law, we will say nothing at present.—*Rochester Herald.*

Naturally. There is nothing to be said.

The British apologies to the American team for the Earl of SHREWSBURY'S proceeding against the spurs of a member of the American team were extremely polite. The best response possible would be a statement that the spurs were all right, according to the rules of polo.

Theology and Martinique.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—*Sir:* In reading Charles Fiske's communication in your edition of May 30 I was struck by the childish ignorance displayed of the creation and works of intelligence by the great Creator whom we know and worship as GOD. The Martinique disaster, as he calls it, is only a confirmation of the existence of GOD, and a proof of the inexorable rules of science. To make my meaning plain, the planet which we call the earth was thrown from the sun as a gaseous body, hung in the immensity of space millions of years ago, and whirled around the sun in its process of cooling and formation; the explosion of Mont Pelee was a part of that continued cooling of the interior of our planet, and the people were destroyed only because they happened to be in the path of one of those vents for the explosion of those gases.

"In the presence of these appalling catastrophes," says Mr. Fiske, "many have asked, perhaps, if there is a GOD, after all." To the men of science, these things prove it. They not only acknowledge it in their innermost thoughts, but fall down on their knees and worship Him.

Of the eight planets which were thrown from the sun ages ago, Neptune, the most distant, was the first, and it takes 164 of our years in going round the sun, and Uranus, next, is 84 years in making the same revolution; then come Saturn, Jupiter, Mars and the Earth, with Venus and Mercury inside of the orbit of the earth. When the great Creator caused these bodies to be thrown from the sun He so fixed their orbits by the laws of gravitation and attraction that they make their revolutions around that luminary to the exact minute. He placed the inclination of the earth's equator for the wise purpose in preparing this world for the existence of various kinds of life, with its changes of seasons and climate, and so long as the earth remains the inclination of its ecliptic will be maintained, because the promise is that seed time and harvest, the summer and winter, or the seasons of the year, shall not cease.

Mr. Fiske says: "In the presence of widespread evil we have no possible pledge of the love of God unless we hold something more than the bare belief in the divine existence. There seems to be no real answer to the problem of suffering and sorrow in the world except a steadfast faith in the divinity of Jesus Christ."

If Mr. Fiske will simply take up any work upon astronomy, even an elementary work on that subject, and grasp and comprehend the creation of the planets, of which this earth is one, and the inexorable and perfect laws in which they are held in space and their motions regulated, with the great vault of fixed stars or worlds beyond, he will find a God and Creator to worship.

The earthquakes in South and Central America were predicted last November by those who study the marvellous works of the Creator. One of them, not far from us, wrote: "On the 7th of May there will be an eclipse of the sun, being total to those on the ocean between South America and Australia. This eclipse will bring the vast solid body of the moon between the earth and sun, and the usual accompaniment of electric storms, seismic shakes, and abnormal tides will rise to their maximum in many sections of the world."

Did not just such things occur at Martinique?

The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork.

TRENTON, May 30. JOHN PIORASCO.

To Prevent Riots at the Mines.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—*Sir:* To one familiar with labor troubles in the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania for more than a decade, indications are that, if the temper of the men has not been exaggerated by newspaper correspondents, rioting will have been commenced within a week, and that possibly troops may be called out during the next fortnight.

Irrespective of the labor discussion itself, the highest aim of all good citizens is the preservation of law and order. The quickest and easiest way to secure this to-day is for the Sheriffs of Lackawanna, Luzerne, Carbon and Schuylkill counties to swear in as deputies John Mitchell, John Fahy, and all other of the "District Presidents." I am informed that no legal obstacle is in the way of compelling these men to serve as deputy sheriffs unless they leave the counties aforesaid, in which case there would be no rioting, for the strike would be broken the day the leaders fled.

If Mitchell and the others should refuse to serve as deputies, I am informed that every man of them could be jailed instantly. And if, as law-abiding citizens, they should serve as deputy sheriffs, the members of the National Guard of the State of Pennsylvania could continue to go about their daily duties without being in expectation of a call from the Governor.

The time to prevent a repetition of the Lattimer battle is now, not to-morrow, nor next week, but to-day. HENRY EDWARD ROOP.

MAGNOLIA FARM, Pleasantville, N. Y., June 2.

Not to John Adams.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—*Sir:* In your issue of Thursday, May 29, you copied from the *Cincinnati Commercial Tribune* a letter from the Rev. George A. Thayer, a Unitarian clergyman of Cincinnati, which embodied an autograph letter written by Thomas Jefferson on Jan. 18, 1824, which letter from Jefferson, framed under glass is affixed to the walls of one of the rooms of the Unitarian Building, 25 Beacon Street, Boston. Mr. Thayer says that this letter from Jefferson was written "to John Adams, who was an active Unitarian." The letter, however, was not written to John Adams, but to John Davis, and, correctly given as having been written to Davis, is to be found on pages 267 268 of Volume 10 of Paul Leicester Ford's edition of Jefferson's works. Europe had not come into use in 1824, and, accordingly, this letter, folded and sealed went through the mail, like other letters at that time, without being enclosed in anything. The superscription of the letter, which is in clear, legible chirography, is "John Davis, Worcester Mass." C. W. L.

BOSTON, May 31.

THE SUN expresses its regret that it was misled into printing on Sunday morning, upon what appeared to be substantial basis, a story relating to the supposed candidacy for membership in the Union League Club of this city of Messrs. John W. and Charles S. Gates. THE SUN is now trustworthily informed that the story was without foundation.

COLUMBIA GETS FELIX ADLER.

Makes Him Professor of Political Ethics—Chinese Department Organized.

The trustees of Columbia University at their final meeting of the academic year yesterday announced seven money gifts amounting to $10,925; organized the Dean Lung department of Chinese and appointed Prof. Felix Adler to a newly-created professorship of social and political ethics in the department of philosophy.

Gifts aggregating $5,500 were added to the Dean Lung Chinese department which already has a fund of about $215,000. One gift of $1,000 came from Mah Jim, a Chinese merchant in this city. A sum of $4,000 given anonymously for the running expenses of the new department was added to the fund. The donor was rumored to be Gen. Horace W. Carpentier. Dean Hoffman of the General Theological Seminary added $500 for the department of Oriental languages.

Prof. Friederic Hirth of the University of Munich, Germany, was appointed head of the Chinese department. He will spend the summer in St. Petersburg cataloguing an enormous collection of Chinese manuscripts captured by the Russian soldiers at Pekin, and will come to Columbia in the fall. Prof. Hirth is about 53 years old. He entered the Chinese Customs Service in 1870 and later was engaged upon statistical work relating to the commerce of China. He is considered one of the best authorities on the commerce of China, and his knowledge of the history of Chinese art is unsurpassed.

The new professorship to which Dr. Adler has been appointed is established on funds provided for the purpose by a group of members of the Committee of 15 represented by Messrs. W. H. Baldwin, Jr., R. Fulton Cutting, Robert W. De Forest, George Haven Putnam, Bishop Potter, Isaac N. Seligman, Charles Stewart Smith and Carl Schurz. Dr. Adler will begin his formal instruction in February, 1903. He was graduated at Columbia College in 1870, being a member of the same class as Mayor Low.

Among the other gifts announced was $3,500 from F. Augustus Schermerhorn for the department of architecture; $1,200 from a former student of the college in return for free tuition received in his undergraduate course; $650 from Mrs. Herbert Parsons, Mrs. Elizabeth Billings and the New York City Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution to establish an annual fellowship in American history open to women students; $75 from James Loeb, for the purchase of books on labor; a life-size bust of Benjamin Franklin in bronze from Dr. J. Ackerman Coles and a manuscript petition of the class of 1811 in regard to the commencement exercises of that year, from Mrs. Isaac N. Dyckman.

Dr. Abraham Jacobi, who has been for more than thirty years clinical professor of the diseases of children in the College of Physicians and Surgeons resigned his office. He was appointed professor emeritus and Dr. L. Emmet Holt was designated to succeed him.

Other faculty appointments were: Dr. L. E. Lefetra to be instructor in the diseases of children; Dr. A. E. Schmitt to be assistant in operative surgery; Dr. Joseph H. Bair, to be assistant in anthropology; Dr. R. E. Buffington to be assistant in normal histology; Dr. Russell B. Gpitz, to be demonstrator in physiology; Dr. Heinrich O. Hoffman, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to be non-resident lecturer in metallurgy; Miss Jeanne A. Broadhurst, to be assistant in botany at Barnard and Dr. Rudolph Tombo, Jr., to succeed Dr. George Balthasar Germann, as registrar of the university and instructor in Germanic languages and literatures.

CENTRAL PARK LAWNS CLOSED.

May Parties Have Hurt the Grass and Must Now Stay Off of It.

Secretary Terry of the Park Board announced yesterday that no more children will be allowed on the lawns of Central Park at present, because the May parties during the past month have inflicted a great deal of damage to the grass and the shrubbery. The thousands of children and grown people have trampled the grass so thoroughly that the roots have been destroyed and bare spots have appeared in many places on the lawns.

Park employees report that children have flocked to the Park on Saturdays and holidays in far greater numbers this year than in any previous season. It has been customary to permit children's parties to go upon the lawns on Saturdays during May and June, but all applications for such permits for next Saturday were refused at the Arsenal yesterday.

AUTOMOBILES.

Widespread Public Indignation—Offenders Must Be Punished.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—*Sir:* Your editorial of yesterday, May 31, does not touch the vital point concerning automobiles. You say, "Automobilists of this character should be punished." But they are not adequately punished; a small fine is imposed, which is paid with a sneer; a horse is killed, they present a new one. A man is killed; a thousand or so dollars is paid and on they go.

Your point is well taken that the auto is not a toy, but a valuable machine, to be encouraged and respected, but the "hogs" all over the country must be downed. The Champs Elysees was impassable for pedestrians until the wife of a Deputy was killed, and then a restriction was put on the speed of these vehicles. In Cannes I saw a cab cut in two by a French auto driven by a Viconte, who leered as he drove on. Let me tell you, sir, that until such papers as THE SUN frown upon this "dastardly-speed" question, until active laws are passed, not a thing will be done about it. Let me call your attention to the names of the offenders against the law, in many cases members of the Automobile club or their intimate friends. Who interferes with the public in the highway here in Morristown? The so-called educated class.

The people hiss in France not the machine, but the driver, the human. I have seen this two often during my recent stops in Cannes, Dinard and Paris. Give the masses your support and strike the real point at issue. The drivers should be jailed at least.

SHORT HILLS, N. J., May 31. T. P.

Marconi's Reply to Prof. Sylvanus Thompson.

From the Saturday Review.

Prof. Thompson insinuates that in at least one definite respect I have stolen credit due, in fact, to another person, an Italian, named Castelli. I am happy to believe that I can afford to neglect malicious gossip of this nature. The professor has no doubt unwittingly fallen into absolute and gratuitous untruth. And I permit myself to observe that it would have been more consonant with what I take to be the traditional etiquette of the scientific world had Prof. Thompson, before venturing on any criticisms based upon what is, in fact, an erroneous and quite unauthentic account of my Newfoundland experiments, waited until after I should myself have made public, as I hope shortly to have an occasion to do, the methods employed by me during the course of the experiments in question. G. MARCONI.

Lost Letter of Dr. Johnson Found?

From the Galveston Daily News.

LAREDO, Tex., May 25.—Your correspondent was shown to-day what purports to be the original copy of a letter written by Dr. Samuel Johnson, the noted English lexicographer, to Lord Chesterfield, which has been a missing link in the archives of the British Historical Society, and for which a standing reward of $10,000 is said to have been offered for its production. The letter is the property of the wife of Mr King, who holds a position in the Custom House agency of the Mexican National Road in New Laredo, Mexico. Photographs of the letter were made yesterday in Laredo and will be forwarded to London, and if pronounced authentic, Mrs. King will receive the reward. This letter has been preserved for generations among other relics by the family and bears all the marks of its purported antiquity.

A Question of the Season.

From a Recipe in the Hartford Times.

A cold shortcake is not to be considered for a moment.

DISCUSSES TUBERCULOSIS.

Third Annual Congress Demands Legislative Action to Prevent Disease.

The third annual session of the American Congress of Tuberculosis and the Medico-Legal Society opened yesterday at the Hotel Majestic at Seventy-second street and Central Park West, and will be continued morning and afternoon until Wednesday evening. Besides delegates from many States and Territories, there were present representatives of Canada, Mexico and Central and South American republics.

The United States Government was represented by officers of the army, navy and Marine Hospital service.

Dr. A. N. Bell of Brooklyn first defined the purpose of the congress, which is to discuss measures of protection and resistance to tuberculosis. Then Dr. Henry D. Holton, Secretary of the Vermont Board of Health, read the presidential address. He said there are more than half a million tuberculosis patients in this country, and of this number, at least 400,000 are doomed to die of the disease; also that the consensus of opinion at present is that the tuberculosis bacillus is not transmitted from parent to child, but that a predisposition to the disease may be hereditary. Intemperance, insufficient clothing, dampness, filth, overcrowding and improper food are the chief direct causes. Speaking of preventives, which Dr. Holton said were the only hope in combating the disease, he placed as the most important the education of the masses in better methods of living.

The afternoon session was devoted to the discussion of "Preventive Legislation," embracing the social, municipal and State aspects of tuberculosis, with the idea of determining what aid might be expected from the State in the cure and prevention of tuberculosis and how best to obtain it. After protracted discussion, a resolution was adopted declaring it to be the "duty of every Government, municipality and individual citizen to adopt organized methods for lessening the spread of a disease which is causing, directly or indirectly, probably one-fifth of the total deaths in almost every country in the world."

There was considerable dissension upon this question of legislation. The majority favored the establishment of county sanatoriums for the treatment of subjects in the early stages of the disease and hospitals for the segregation of incurables.

This morning the pathological and bacteriological aspects of tuberculosis will be discussed.

SPANISH TREATY CLAIMS.

Argument Begun in 16 Cases Against the United States Aggregating $25,000,000.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—Argument was begun to-day before the Spanish Treaty Claims Commission in sixteen typical cases of claims for damages against the United States, representing an aggregate of $25,000,000, on account of injury done to the property of American citizens by Cuban insurgents. Under agreement these sixteen cases were selected as the basis of argument and decision on all the claims arising from damages alleged to have been done by the Cuban revolutionary forces. The claims are against the United States, in accordance with a provision of the Spanish-American treaty of peace, that claims of American citizens against Spain shall be paid by this Government.

John G. Carlisle of New York opened the argument to-day in behalf of the claimants, and will be followed to-morrow by Hannis Taylor of Alabama, formerly Minister to Spain, for the Government. Among other counsel for the plaintiffs who were present at to-day's hearing were John B. Moore, Paul Fuller and William E. Curtis of New York. The Government denies its liability for damages done by Cubans.

STATUE TO HENRY W. MAXWELL.

Will Stand in Front of Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

A statue is to be erected in Brooklyn to the late Henry W. Maxwell. At a meeting of those interested in the movement held at 174 Montague street yesterday, former Mayor Schieren presided. There were present Willis L. Ogden, Justice Willard Bartlett, former Surrogate George B. Abbott, Park Commissioner Young and others.

It was decided that the statue should be erected in front of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences in Eastern Parkway. A committee of ten, of which Mr. Abbott is chairman, was appointed to secure designs.

ELEVATED SMOKING CARS.

A Popular Brooklyn Institution Introduced in Manhattan.

Smoking cars have at last been introduced on the elevated roads, and great is the joy of Harlem smokers. The first elevated smoking car made a trial trip on Memorial Day, and the company found the experiment so successful that yesterday morning they put two cars in regular service on the Third avenue line and announce that the institution will be continued. The cars are open, the seats being arranged crosswise like those in open surface cars. Their seating capacity is ninety-six, but that wasn't half great enough for yesterday's delighted patrons.

A MILLION PINEAPPLES.

South Street Bulkheads Piled High With Them for Blocks.

South street, near Wall, was redolent of pineapples from noon until midnight yesterday. Crates and barrels of the fruit were piled high on the bulkheads for several blocks.

Altogether, there were about 1,000,000 "pines" unloaded from the Ward liner Havana, in yesterday from Mexico and Cuba. It was one of the biggest cargoes of its kind ever brought from Havana and consisted of 7,600 barrels and 13,920 crates.

A part of the great cargo shifted on the way up, giving the Havana a list to port that was uncomfortable, but not at all dangerous.

Reformed Presbyterians Decide to Stay in Pan-Presbyterian Alliance.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., June 2.—The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church to-day voted down the proposition to withdraw from the Pan-Presbyterian Alliance, but decided to send a protest against certain transactions at the alliance meeting in Pittsburg last month. The Covenanters feel as though the alliance has broken faith with them. The delegates elected to the quadrennial meeting of the alliance in Liverpool will be instructed to enter a protest in the convention. The Covenanters say that the action the alliance took against secularizing the Government was an affront to them.

Naval War College Officers Report.

NEWPORT, June 2.—The officers ordered to attend the course of instruction at the Naval War College, reported for duty to-day. The opening address this year will be made by the president of the college, Capt. F. E. Chadwick. The formal opening will not take place until Wednesday. To-day the officers were assigned to divisions and quarters. The work this year relates to a supposed attack by an enemy on the New England coast.

New Dormitory for Barnard.

Plans are under way for the erection of a new dormitory building for Barnard College to be ready for occupancy by September, next year. The projected building is to cost $200,000 or more, and it is thought that the subscription of $250,000 raised by friends of the college in April to guarantee a like gift from John D. Rockefeller will be used for this purpose.

ANCIENTS HOLD AN ELECTION.

Usual Drumhead Affair on Boston Common After a Dinner.

BOSTON, June 2.—The Ancient and Honorable Artillery members took their annual election of officers on Boston Common, and in accordance with the old custom, Adjutant Tate and the drum corps marched around to the leading hotels at daybreak to arouse such members as happened to be slumbering.

At 9 o'clock the new rifles were slung, and with a band at their head the Ancients marched to the Old South Church. A dozen strapping fellows with bearskins, members of the Old Guard of New York, were in line as guests. Other guests were members of the Governor's Foot Guard of Connecticut, the Albany Burgesses Corps and the Veteran Corps of 1812.

At the church the Rev. Walter E. Smith preached from the text: "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

After services, there was another showing of uniforms on the way back to Faneuil Hall, where dinner was served. It lasted from 1:15 P. M. to 4:50, during which period there were speeches. When finally steps those who had not been wounded by the fatigue of the day marched to the common, escorting Lieut.-Gov. Bates. The grass was walked on some and then the drumhead election took place. J. Searle Cushing of Norwood was chosen captain of the company. James M. Usher of Lowell was elected First Lieutenant, and William I. Best of Brookline, Second Lieutenant. After each officer had been presented with the badge of his office by Adjutant-General Dalton, salutes were fired from field guns, manned by a platoon from Battery C of Lawrence, not by Ancients. Lieut.-Gov. Bates got a salute of thirteen guns as he entered the Common. After election the Ancients marched back to their armory and fought their battles over again.

JIM JONES TO THE MAYOR.

You Perpetuate My Glory in Marble, but You Fire Me Out of My Job.

The Hon. Jim Jones, who recently left his job at the Aquarium, sent this letter yesterday to Mayor Low:

HON. SETH LOW: When on May 30 I heard your almost inspired words at the dedication of the Soldiers' Monument on Riverside Drive, I felt a thrill of joy that moved to move the entire audience like a mighty wind. You gave utterance to the noblest sentiments of your manly heart. With what feelings of wonder and surprise, then, I recall a late event, the following words impressed me:

"The Mayor then placed the custody of the monument in the hands of President Wilcox of the Park Department saying:

"See to it that it receives the affectionate care due to a monument whose foundations are laid deep in the hearts of the people. The memories that cover around it already clothe it with a halo that makes it sacred to the eye, and every generation of veteran after another passes from earth to join the eternal campfires, there shall fall upon it added glow, as if the fires of the setting sun should strike it with a ruddier light. Indeed, it will always shine with reflected glory upon it and upon our country from those it would honor it is reared."

I was the first man from the State of New York to enter the military service in the fire after the firing upon Fort Sumter, served honorably through the war, was three times brevetted and mustered out in 1865. After you became the Mayor I was about the first official that met disaster at your hands. I had honorably filled a place for four years with never a complaint against me from a superior and many gratifying commendations from the public. My conduct as a soldier that was so generously referred to in your grand address, makes me a stockholder in the monument you turned over to Commissioner Willcox, of which those of my own line that come after me will ever be proud; but how can they reconcile that fact, that my memory can be perpetuated in marble while it is dishonored by the great reform party of which you are the acknowledged leader! Yours respectfully,

JAMES E. JONES.

BABIES MUST BE MOTHERED.

Simple Discovery Which Has Reduced Infant Waifs' Death Rate 60 Per Cent.

By the agency of the Joint Committee of the State Charities Aid Association and the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, the death rate of the babies abandoned by their parents and taken in charge by the city has been reduced from an almost total death rate to something like 10 per cent. This Joint Committee on the care of motherless infants tells of its work in a report just issued. An arrangement has been made with the charities department in this borough and in Brooklyn by which the babies are turned over to the Joint Committee as soon as they are received from the police. The committee sends them out to be wet-nursed and then finds permanent homes for them among people who want to adopt a baby. In no case, the report says, has a baby reached a greater age than 2 years without being permanently provided for. The committee says that the reason the death rate has decreased is not that the hospitals were formerly at fault, but because an ordinary baby cannot live without mothering.

Subscriptions to carry on the work are solicited and should be sent to James A. Scrymser, treasurer, at the United Charities Building, 105 East Twenty-second street.

NEW TYPE OF STEAMSHIP.

The Screw Is Placed Under the Bottom of the Vessel Instead of Aft.

WASHINGTON, June 2.—United States Consul J. C. Freeman writes to the State Department from Copenhagen that a company has been formed in that city for the construction of a trial steamship of a new type. He says:

"The inventor is Capt. F. C. Isler, who has taken out patents in the principal countries. In this new form of steamship the screw is placed under the bottom instead of aft. The hull is materially changed in form, being flatter, and the ship is thereby considerably lessened. It is intended that a saving in the consumption of coal of about 20 per cent will be effected. The inventor believes that with the same amount of fuel the speed will be greatly increased, and, finally, that this form of craft will be much steadier and more seaworthy."

GEN. COLLIS BEQUEATHS FUNDS

To Adorn Grant's Tomb Will Dispose of $25,000.

Gen. Charles H. T. Collis left $25,000 personalty and no realty. The income of the larger part of the personalty is to be devoted to the education and maintenance of his son Charles, until the son is 25 years old and then divided among the sons, Lloyd and Charles and their sister, Amelia Reed Lewis. Gen. Collis had decided to give Lloyd his place Red