

The Sun. WILLIAM M. LAFFAN. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1903. Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month, \$1.00. DAILY, Per Year, \$10.00. SUNDAY, Per Year, \$3.00. DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year, \$12.00. DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month, \$1.00. Postage to foreign countries added. THE SUN, New York City.

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The Secession of Panama. The views of the senior Senator from Maryland on the question of the Panama Canal are thus stated by a newspaper to which he has communicated them, the Sun of Baltimore:

Senator McCOMBS believes that the commerce of the world demands a canal at Panama and that if we cannot get permission in one way to build it there, there is another way, and he has no doubt that the canal will be built, and built at Panama.

This sentiment, openly and squarely expressed by the Senator in question, is shared by many other Americans. They believe that the mercenary Government at Bogota, with its preposterous and extortionate demands, must not be permitted to block the great enterprise of the twentieth century for the world's benefit.

The alternative, of course, is the secession of Panama, and the resumption by our Government of canal negotiations with Panama and not Colombia as the other party.

Is there any crime in suggesting or favoring this course? Would there be any crime in giving moral support, for this purpose, to the secession of Panama?

The Destiny of Morocco. The abandonment of Morocco to France by Great Britain would be one of the diplomatic surprises of our time. It would be a recognition by British statesmen of the fact that their burden of empire is already sufficiently heavy.

For some time past it has been evident that the disorders in Morocco must sooner or later call for foreign intervention. The difficulty lay in the long-standing claims of England in the west and the more or less substantial pretensions of Spain on the Atlantic coast and along the Mediterranean shore. Logically, France had the first claim to the reversion of the politically and financially bankrupt State through her possession of Algeria, of which Morocco is but the western territorial and ethnical extension; and the experience which France has had in dealing with the various races and tribes of Algeria would help in the pacific assimilation of the inhabitants of the new protectorate, province, or whatever it might be called.

It is not likely that there would be any trouble between France and Spain regarding the Spanish claims, as a tendency of the relations of those countries is to become more cordial and intimate; but the German Government has of late put forward a view of its interests in Morocco that might require delicate handling on the part of France to adjust. In case of an acute discussion arising out of this, it would be of great advantage to France to have the support of Great Britain, whose commercial interests are less likely to suffer from the extension of French sovereignty and influence in North Africa than German.

As to Russia, anything that strengthens France is to her advantage, even if it at the same time renders her a more independent partner in the Dual Alliance. There are few points where their interests clash, while there are many at the present moment where they have much in common outside of those connected with France's relations with England.

The settlement of the Morocco question would bring the assumption of the control of Tripoli by Italy perceptibly nearer, leaving the eastern coast of the Mediterranean the only part of the shores of that sea not yet under settled and civilized government.

Will Bishop Potter Have a Coadjutor? We print in an adjoining column a letter from an Episcopal clergyman of New York, in which is discussed the question of the election of a Coadjutor Bishop to Bishop POTTER at the diocesan convention to be held next Friday, and eight candidates are suggested as possibly eligible.

From Bishop POTTER himself, so far, no indication of a desire for a Coadjutor has come; but in his address to the diocesan convention he may express himself more decidedly on the subject than he has yet done. According to precedent the wishes of a Bishop in such a matter are usually controlling.

Up to the present time Bishop POTTER has given the impression that he felt entirely competent to perform all the duties of diocesan and had no desire to shift any of them on the shoulders of a Coadjutor Bishop. His mere age, of course, does not disqualify him in any degree even for the labors of the Bishop of the greatest diocese of the Episcopal Church in this country. He is 68 years old, but it is far from a great age for a prelate either of that Church or of the Roman Catholic Church. Of the Bishops of the dioceses into which this State is divided, Bishop DOANE of Albany, his senior by three years, and Bishop WALKER of Western New York, his junior by only four years, are without Coadjutors, though a Coadjutor to Bishop HUNTINGTON of Central New York, now in his eighty-fifth year, was properly provided last year in Bishop OLMSTED. Bishop BURGESS of Long Island, it is true, is only in his fiftieth year, but Bishop SCARBOROUGH of New Jersey is Bishop POTTER's senior by four years. Of the ninety-three Bishops of the American Episcopal Church seventeen are older than Bishop POTTER. To pass from prelates to the Rev. Dr. MORGAN DIX, still ac-

tively in service as the rector of the great and powerful Trinity Church, is eight years older than Bishop POTTER.

In the Roman Catholic Church, the Pope is of exactly his age, but Archbishop FARLEY of New York is his junior by seven years. Archbishop RYAN of Philadelphia is older by four years and Archbishop IRELAND of St. Paul younger by only three years.

It will be seen, therefore, that there is nothing in the mere age of Bishop POTTER which would require or even justify the election of a Coadjutor on the ground of his superannuation. In politics, in the professions and in the world of affairs, some of the most masterful of the leaders of an age as great or even greater.

The possibility, however, of any man's being able single-handed to perform the multifarious round of duties, of episcopal visitation to the churches for confirmation, for example, may be questioned, no matter how great his strength, and it is on that ground that the clergy of Bishop POTTER's diocese seem to be satisfied of his need of a Coadjutor. But criticisms of his administration are also heard from some quarters. With the situation of the Episcopal Church as it is, such criticisms are inevitable. A Bishop nowadays has a team to drive which pulls in many directions. The "Low Church," or Protestant, party cannot be called as aggressive in New York as it was once; but the even violent opposition to the more aggressively Ritualistic, or "Anglo-Catholic," indicates that the distinctive Protestant element is strong, if not dominant. Then comes the "Broad Church" party, with very much of the intellectual strength of the clergy.

The bitterness of the conflict between these parties is shown in articles in the last number of the Church Eclectic, a magazine published in New Jersey as a representative of the "High Church" school. To the question, "Why is Protestantism so rampant in the Anglican Church at this hour?" the leading article replies: "Because every year there are added to the episcopal bench and ordained into the ministry men who have no conception of the Catholic Church."

Hitting at the "Broad Church" school, it says that "if there is anything distinguishing to common sense it is the way in which our young divinity professors are made to lose their heads and to consider themselves to be qualified to brush aside by a wave of the hand or stroke of the pen the accumulated learning of the early centuries."

"This modern school of Anglican theologians," it asserts, "is largely a school of rationalizers, grammarians, dialecticians, and reason, not faith, is the instrument by which it fashions its system."

The violence of this conflict between the "Catholic" and the Protestant schools was indicated when a now Ritualist vicar of an extremely Ritualistic London parish was instituted last month by the Bishop of Stepney, acting for the Bishop of London. An English Church paper, commenting on the proceedings, says:

"The work of the Pope will go on for all practical purposes the same as before. No doubt this will gratify the secret conclaves of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament and the Society of the Holy Cross, to say nothing of the Jesuit intrigues in the land. But how long will English churchmen be content to be ruled with by prelates of the stamp of Dr. Ingham (Bishop of London since 1901) and his satellites?"

We give these merely as indications of a bitterness of feeling between the different parties of the Episcopal Church which will complicate the question of the election of a Coadjutor to Bishop POTTER. Our clerical correspondent suggests eight candidates, included among whom are representatives on the one hand of the Protestant spirit and on the other of the extreme school of Ritualism. Between them he puts Dr. HUNTINGTON of Grace Church, who may be set down as representative of the "Broad," or liberal, school, to which also Bishop POTTER himself may be assigned. As a compromise candidate, the Rev. Mr. GROSVENOR of the Incarnation seems to be regarded by our correspondent as having, perhaps, the best chances. Extreme Ritualism, he thinks, with good reason, is likely to be represented in the candidacy of Dr. CHRISTIAN of St. Mary the Virgin's, but without the least chance of his carrying the vote of the convention." Dr. CHRISTIAN is undoubtedly one of the ablest of the Episcopal clergymen of New York, but he and Bishop POTTER harnessed together would make a strange team.

The Cotton Trust. Presumably, the Hon. ANSELMO JOSEPH McLAURIN, a Senator in Congress from Mississippi, is as willing as any other Democratic politician to shudder at trusts when his platform calls for a shudder. But the business point of view is not infrequently different from the political. According to despatches from Memphis, Mr. McLAURIN has been in that city for some days meditating a cotton trust and consulting with counsel for various Southern railroads how to keep it safe from the tender mercies of the Sherman Anti-Trust act.

The Southeastern Cotton Buyers' Association, whose membership covers Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas, has been in existence for some years. Similar associations have been or are to be formed in the other cotton States. These State organizations form the Mississippi Valley Cotton Buyers' Association. The still more ambitious combination, which Mr. McLAURIN, the representatives of the legal departments of the Southern railroads and the representatives of the association of Mississippi Valley cotton buyers have been pondering, is to have no meaner name than the Cotton Buyers' Association of America.

It is proposed to build at Charleston, Memphis, Atlanta, Savannah, Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans and Galveston warehouses with a capacity of from 75,000 to 150,000 bales. Smaller warehouses will be built in the interior, where the crop can be stored before it is ready for the big warehouses. It is argued that these smaller warehouses will save the planters a good deal of loss to which they are now exposed by the damage suffered by cotton left to itself on the plantation or in the public ginners before it can be sent to market.

The plan is to charge the planters two cents a bale for storage, letting their cotton stay there until they want to sell. Certificates are to be issued to them, on the value of which they can get money enough to keep them along until the price of cotton is tempting. These storehouses will be an agricultural sub-treasury, so to speak, only private capital, not the United States, will advance the money. Two well-known trust companies, one of Philadelphia, one of Baltimore, are said, we don't know how truly, to be backing the scheme.

The projectors of the trust believe, too much in the manner of ALBACHAR, that with most of the cotton crop in the warehouses instead of shipping it to Europe soon after it leaves the gin. They "propose to force the European buyers to come to America for cotton and pay the expense of transportation from here abroad."

It is an interesting sketch of a monopoly and shows how eager people are to make trusts of their own, no matter how hot they are against trusts as viewed with alarm for declamatory and political purposes. But agricultural trusts are notoriously hard propositions. If they can get a majority of the planters into the trust and a majority of the cotton crop into the warehouses, and the financial part of the business is properly conducted and the crop is not too large for the demand, and so on, the monopoly may thrive. But we can't help thinking of ALBACHAR; also of the milkmaid and her little agricultural trust.

If the storm on Wednesday did a great damage in other places the people of Long Beach have no reason to complain of its treatment of them. The wind and rain graded the beach at this point for two hundred feet, transforming it from an irregular hummock-covered strip of sand into a fine level bathing ground. Unless the winter storms undo the work of the September gale all the property in the settlement will be benefited by this inexpensive public improvement.

President SWANSTROM of the Borough of Brooklyn, in a recent communication to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, declared that he believed Section 184 of the Charter, which provides that no patented article may be purchased by the city except under such circumstances as give a reasonable opportunity for competition among bidders to supply it, was unconstitutional because it is in restraint of trade and tends to destroy the value of rights granted by the Federal Government. Corporation Counsel RYAN, whom Mr. SWANSTROM's communication was referred, wrote a letter to the board in which he said that he disagreed with Mr. SWANSTROM. Mr. RYAN said that the section of the Charter did not prohibit the purchase of patented articles by the city, except possibly patented pavements, and not a prohibition of trade, but a regulation of it. Thus was a great constitutional controversy nipped in the bud.

A WEATHER REFORMER. With More Money Could the Bureau Produce the Right Kind of Weather?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: From time to time there have appeared suggestions by various persons writing to THE SUN protesting against the inadequate reports put out by our meteorological bureau. I spent a week's vacation last summer in a week's forecast indicated rain in plenty, which did not materialize. As a matter of fact, while great good is unquestionably done by our meteorological bureau, it is not perfect. It is a perfect instrument, but the system lacks much that should commend it as a perfect instrument.

I have been interested in weather prognostications since I was a boy. In 1867, when I was a student at the University of Michigan, I spent several weeks in the study of the weather at New Orleans, and in both cases was in close touch with the weather bureau. In Chicago I knew Dr. Frankland, now with Prof. Willis Moore at Washington, and he reported to me the most accurate of the most accurate of our local forecast officials.

It was under Dr. Frankland's administration at Chicago, Feb. 12, 1884, that the record-breaking blizzard was recorded. The blizzard snowstorm began the evening of the 11th with high winds, which lasted all night. But at 4 o'clock the next morning it was blowing great guns, and its velocity averaged eighty-four miles an hour for twelve successive hours. The blizzard was a perfect storm, and it was all of that, too, and more in Chicago. It was a perfect storm, and it was all of that, too, and more in Chicago. It was a perfect storm, and it was all of that, too, and more in Chicago.

The great trouble with the Weather Bureau is that it has never had enough money to perfect itself. It is ridiculous to say that with our electrical and telegraphic facilities we cannot do better than we do. I present you get only two readings daily at the various stations over the country. The standard barometer may have a wide range within each twelve-hour period, but the barometer does not note conditions, and until the department has facilities for taking from four to six readings a day it cannot give us a perfect Weather Bureau. It would mean, of course, a largely increased cost for conducting these readings by wire at the central office in Washington, and recording the accumulated records in the several hundred stations throughout the United States. This is one instance, at least, where Government ownership of the telegraph would mean a saving of revenue. But this is the whole thing in a nutshell.

Our present barometer is a battery-based lot, but they do the best they can with poor facilities and we must admit this. Given a standard barometer, it is not enough to take six to six hours, and the weather man begins to "guess." His "probabilities" always fall short, and he is not to be trusted. It will always be so until we have increased our facilities. Mr. Willis Moore can continue to invent his theories for the rest of his days, and Blue Hill will be going up for a century, but we will not get an approach to accuracy till we spend more money.

Give the bureau money, and the men who have charge of the weather will produce the right kind.

CHARLES THOMAS LOGAN, NEW YORK, Sept. 17.

A Prayer for the President. From the Buffalo Times.

Would that McKinley's successor had a hand like his to guide the Ship of State! Would that he had McKinley's wisdom to solve the problems which confront the nation! Would that he had McKinley's prudence and follow his teachings in the administration of our Government, as in the first hour of his accession he promised to do!

COADJUTORS TO BISHOP POTTER. His Election to Be Considered by the Diocesan Convention Next Week.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: The Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church in New York will assemble in the Church of the Holy Trinity at New York on Friday, Sept. 19, and the one of the topics of interest will be the election of a coadjutor (not an assistant) to Bishop Henry Codrington Potter. Every clergyman among the 300 enrolled clergy of the diocese has practically expressed an opinion, and so that there is a positive not a candidate in evidence. The New York correspondent of a Church paper suggests the name of Dr. Greer, the esteemed rector of St. Bartholomew's, New York, who is the spiritual adviser of many multi-millionaires, but the proposal has not been seriously discussed.

There is an unwritten law that the private character and the ministerial gifts of candidates proposed should not be openly discussed in convention, and so it often happens that a "dark horse" wins. The Church papers are not widely read by the laity of New York, and I therefore ask THE SUN to open its columns to an "open" election of a coadjutor. I allow me to bring forward eight names which I think may be seriously considered by the clergy and laity of New York for the next few days.

(1) First and foremost stands the name of Dr. Greer, who is a member of the Diocese of the Holy Trinity in this city. Dr. Greer is exceedingly popular among the laity of the diocese and would certainly carry the vote. But he is a "Low Churchman" of rather a pronounced type, and it may be questioned whether he could carry a majority of the clerical vote. He certainly could not do so on the first ballot, and falling this it is very probable that Dr. Greer would be elected on a second ballot. He has already declined an election to the Bishopric of Rhode Island and western Massachusetts. He has on several occasions been elected to represent the diocese in the General Convention, and he has no university education, and, having been ordained in 1866, he cannot be regarded as a young man. His nomination will probably be strongly opposed by the extreme "High Church" party. But he is much loved and much respected by his brother clergy and much of the laity.

(2) Dr. Huntington of Grace Church would not be considered too old for the head of the Roman Church; but, having entered the ministry in 1861, he cannot be regarded as a young man. He is a Harvard man, and one of the most scholarly clergymen of the Church. Ten years ago Dr. Huntington would have been a very popular candidate.

(3) A younger clergyman, whose name has been often mentioned and whose election would certainly be gratifying to Bishop Potter, is the Rev. William Mercer Grosvenor, rector of the Church of the Incarnation, Madison avenue. Dr. Grosvenor was educated at Williams College and Berkeley Divinity School and entered the ministry as late as 1888. He is a man in the prime of life, a very able public speaker and a high churchman. The matter of his election has been the subject of much discussion in the diocese, and he has been much loved and much respected by his brother clergy and much of the laity.

(4) The Very Rev. Wilford Lash Robbins, rector of the General Theological Seminary, is almost sure to be nominated. He is a graduate of Amherst and received his divinity degree from the Episcopal Seminary at Andover. He entered the ministry in 1864, and is a man of a noble and noble character. He has been a member of the diocese since 1888, and he has been much loved and much respected by his brother clergy and much of the laity.

(5) The Very Rev. Percy Stickney Grant, rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia, is a man of a noble and noble character. He is a graduate of Harvard and received his divinity degree from the Episcopal Seminary at Andover. He entered the ministry in 1864, and is a man of a noble and noble character. He has been a member of the diocese since 1888, and he has been much loved and much respected by his brother clergy and much of the laity.

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(7) The Very Rev. Floyd Tomkins, rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia, is a man of a noble and noble character. He is a graduate of Harvard and received his divinity degree from the Episcopal Seminary at Andover. He entered the ministry in 1864, and is a man of a noble and noble character. He has been a member of the diocese since 1888, and he has been much loved and much respected by his brother clergy and much of the laity.

(8) Dr. John Sumnerford Lindsay, rector of St. Paul's, Boston, is a man of a noble and noble character. He is a graduate of Harvard and received his divinity degree from the Episcopal Seminary at Andover. He entered the ministry in 1864, and is a man of a noble and noble character. He has been a member of the diocese since 1888, and he has been much loved and much respected by his brother clergy and much of the laity.

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THE UNITED STATES OF 1790 AND 1900.

Great Increase in Our Area Since 1800 and, for the First Time, of Population, by Seth Territorial Extension.

In the recently published Bulletin from the Census Office are statistics of the growth of the United States since the foundation of this Republic which present the subject in a light that will have some elements of novelty for most people.

In the first place, from 1790 to 1900 the area of the United States increased more than four times, or from 819,686 square miles to 3,960,223 square miles. The greatest single extension of this area was by the annexation of Texas, the cession of territory to the Mexican War, and the extinction of the British claims to the Oregon territory. Between 1840 and 1850, accordingly, the increase of area was from 1,723,347 to 2,939,021 square miles, a gain of 1,195,674 square miles. Previously the extension by the Louisiana and the Florida purchase had been 822,881 square miles.

By the Gadsden purchase, included in the Census of 1890, we gained 31,017 square miles. By the Alaska purchase we added 590,994 square miles. Finally, by the acquisition of the Hawaiian Islands and the territory acquired from Spain, by the settlement of the Samoan Islands, and by the extension of land surface by the draining of Lake Tulare in California, we gained all told 129,900 square miles of area.

That is, the area of the United States increased between 1790 and 1900 from less than one-sixteenth of the land surface of the globe to nearly one-fourteenth. Only with the last accession of territory, however, did we gain an considerable population.

The increase in the population of the United States between 1800 and 1900 was 21,253,803, but of that number the gain in our country as it was in 1890 was only 13,078,401. The increase due to the acquisition of Hawaii, Porto Rico, the Philippines, Guam and Samoa was 8,083,883, and 91,219 were persons stationed abroad.

The population of the whole area of the United States was 84,233,095 in 1900. Of the "continental United States," as the Census Bulletin describes our boundaries before the final accession, it was, however, only 75,992,571, or an increase of 20.7 per cent. since 1890, when it was 63,947,714. In 1790 our population was only 3,929,214.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century Russia, France, Germany, Austria and even Spain and Turkey had larger populations than the United States. At the beginning of the twentieth century we had outstripped them all except Russia and were increasing at a more rapid rate than that power. The rate of increase of the population of Europe as a whole is about 11 per cent. in a decade, or only a little more than half that of the continental United States in the last decade, which was 20.7 per cent.

A significant table in the Bulletin gives the population of the North and South, respectively, during the hundred years from the first census in 1790:

Table with 3 columns: Year, North, South. Data points for 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900.

The States whose population is increasing in this table constitute, respectively, the "North Atlantic" and "North Central" divisions and the "South Atlantic" and "South Central" divisions, as denominated in the Census.

It will be seen that the population of the two sections was practically at a parity until the first twenty years of the Republic, but that from 1820 to the civil war the North gained on the South steadily and rapidly. The maximum growth in the North and the minimum in the South were in the decade from 1830 to 1840, or 41.4 per cent. for the North and only 21.8 per cent. for the South. In the decade from 1890 to 1900, however, the Southern percentage of increase was the greater, or 32.4 per cent., as against 19.0 per cent. for the North.

In 1890 the population of persons living in the Northern States was 1,988 to each 1,000 persons in the South, but in 1900 it had fallen to 1,832.

THE AMERICAN GOAT.

A New Industry With \$25,000,000 A Sight for American Producers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Those who think that the United States is at the end of the line in the way of new industries are very much mistaken. New lines of production and manufacture are continually springing up. We are a diversified people, with diversified wants, diversified resources and diversified energy. We are a people who have, and of getting those we have not, but need.

For instance, our consumption of kid skins has increased in the last few years very largely. This shows itself in the increased importation of goat skins. According to the statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, this line of importation shows the following totals:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Value. Data points for 1898, 1899, 1900.

Right here is an opportunity for our farmers and manufacturers to add to their annual income. The farmers should raise the goats, whose skins the manufacturers will speedily find a ready market for. It is just as easy to present our farmers as apparently not making any effort to fill this want and reap the benefit of the new industry as it is to divide annually between our farmers and our manufacturers.

The census of 1900 showed only 2,000,000 goats in the United States, while it took 20,000,000 goats to furnish the \$25,000,000 worth of skins imported last year. Idaho, China, France and Mexico sent us goats largely. We have areas fully as suitable for raising goats as any other country named.

WALTER J. BALLARD, SECRETARY, N. Y., Sept. 15.

Madame Curie and Radium.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: I have noted, but use his own thunder. For the most part the writer is under obligation to Mr. W. Hammer for these facts, and in hopeful expectation awaits an amplified and popular issue of his valuable treatise on radium.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17, 1903.

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