The Sun.

WILLIAM M. LAFFAN.

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A New Departure in National Policy.

A bill introduced in the Senate last week by Mr. LODGE is an important step toward further regulation of immigration. Besides the immigrants now excluded by the act approved last March, it denies admission to "all persons over 15 years of age and physically capable of reading who cannot read the English language or some other language." An exception, however, is made of the wives and the children of immigrants already settled here. The test of literacy is to be an extract from the Constitution of from twenty to twenty-five words printed in the various languages of the immigrants. Those who cannot stand the test are to be returned at the expense of the transportation company which brought them.

If the bill should be passed it would exclude a large part of the immigrants who are now coming to this country. The vast majority are from eastern and southern Europe, and illiteracy is especially prevalent among them. Accordingly, the requirement imposed by Senator LODGE's bill would be by far the most drastic measure for the restriction of immigration which has yet been applied. It would shut out a majority of the Italian and very many of the Jewish immigrants, the two streams of immigration which have been largest during recent years. Instead of the few annually returned under the present law, for insanity and idiocy, as paupers, convicts, victims of loathsome and dangerous diseases, contract laborers and assisted immigrants, the number debarred would be hundreds of thousands.

A bill for the same general purpose as Senator LODGE's, but different in details, passed the House of Representatives in 1896 by a large majority, and in the next year it went through the Senate. It was vetoed by President CLEVELAND, however, on the ground that it was "a radical departure from our national policy relating to immigration," unjustified by our experience, and "its provisions are unnecessarily harsh and oppressive," and because "the ability to read and write affords a misleading test of contented industry and supplies unsatisfactory evidence of desirable citizenship or a proper apprehension of the benefits of our institutions." The House passed the bill over the President's veto, but not the Senate, and therefore it failed.

President CLEVELAND's argument applies with equal force to Senator LODGE's bill now introduced.

Colombian Overtures to Panama.

On Tuesday, Nov. 17, certain Colombian citizens residing in the Department of Bolivar conferred at Colon with commissioners of the Republic of Panama and endeavored to persuade them to renounce the project of independence, and resume their former political relation to the Bogota Government. They volunteered assurances that Colombia would eventually consent to the completion of the canal and that all reasonable claims of the inhabitants of the Isthmus would be recognized.

Such a promise, of course, would have no validity. As it is a physical impossibility that they should have received written instructions from Bogota since the secession of Panama took place, the visitors from Bolivar were not qualified to speak for President MARROQUIN, much less for the Colombian Senate, which has adjourned. Under the circumstances, the Panama commissioners very properly declined to consider the suggestion, but treated the visitors with courtesy, and expressed the hope that Colombia and Panama would remain upon a friendly footing. It is understood that this informal overture will be followed presently by an official and a definite proposal for reunion, to be made by Gen. REYES, who will exhibit credentials from the Bogota Executive. His mission, however, is certain to prove equally fruitless.

It is evident that the Colombians misconceive the situation on the Isthmus. As was pointed out on Tuesday by the Panama commissioners, the revolution is irrevocable because it was unanimous. If any member of the Provisional Government should undertake to thwart the will of the people of the new republic he would be instantly ousted from his office. Then, again, Colombia has nothing to offer. The new commonwealth is in possession of the territory through which the canal is to run, and for a lease of which a large sum of money, by way of bonus, together with an annual rental, will be paid. Even if Colombia had it in her power to render substantial services to the Republic of Panama there is no reason to believe that her promises would be kept. They have never been kept in the past, nor, indeed, would it be possible for the unconstitutional Government headed by President MARROQUIN to bind its successor.

There is only one sensible course for the Bogota Executive to pursue, and that is to follow the example of the United States and France by acknowledging the independence of the new commonwealth. She will in that way substitute amicable for hostile relations with a neighboring republic, which she would be impotent to injure, but from which, by pacific negotiations, she might conceivably be able to secure material advantages. It is not improbable that due consideration would be given to a claim on her part that the seceding State ought to assume her proportion of the Colombian public debt. If the equity of such a demand should commend itself to the Panama authorities they might agree to make over to Colombia a part, or, possibly, even the whole of the ten million dollars to be received by way of bonus for the canal franchise from the United States. Should such a generous agreement be made, the Republic of Panama would content itself with the annual rental ($250,000) and with the innumerable and inestimable indirect benefits accruing from the construction of the interoceanic waterway. That is a matter for amicable arrangement between Panama and Colombia, and the first step thereto would be a recognition of accomplished facts by the Bogota Government.

Had such a wise and farsighted course been pursued by Mexico when Texas seceded she would probably at this moment be the possessor of California and Nevada. By persisting in her refusal to acknowledge the independence of Texas she condemned herself to a struggle which lasted for a dozen years, which ultimately provoked the armed interposition of the United States and which cost her in the end a very large and valuable part of her remaining territory.

If the Colombians are actuated by common sense instead of sentiment they will profit by the Mexican precedent. They will make the best of the existing situation. Nor should we be at all surprised, if they meet the representatives of Panama in a conciliatory spirit, to see them derive from the canal transaction almost as much pecuniary advantage as they originally contemplated.

M. Linn Bruce.

From out the foggy, nebulous, misty, filmy, gauzy, cloudy, murky, caliginous discussions over the pink tea tables as to the why and the wherefore of it on McClellan-Low-Roosevelt-Odell Day—some recall it as Nov. 3, 1903—more than one perspicuous reputation has escaped without a blemish.

It is a reasonable and a happy expression of public sentiment that, amid the strife, the bitterness and the disappointment which followed the announcement of the results of the voting on that aforesaid memorable day, but one countenance has been turned toward M. LINN BRUCE, President of the New York Republican county committee; it reflects the confidence in his ability to conduct a more than usually grievous campaign in a manner which redounds to his honor, his courage, his dignity and, more admirable still in this instance, his prodigious patience.

To Open Tibet.

There is no doubt now that the closed door on the British side of Tibet is about to be broken open. This was foreshadowed some weeks ago in THE SUN when it was known that the first steps to that end had been taken by the despatch of a political mission, accompanied by a strong escort, to a point well within the Tibetan border.

The refusal of the Dalai Lama to enter into negotiations unless the mission quitted Tibetan territory brought matters to a climax, and, although late in the season, an advance into the interior with a considerable force has been ordered. The point to which the expedition will move is said to be Gyangtse, a place on the right bank of the Penanangchu River, which is a tributary of the great Brahmaputra, or Machang Sangpo of the Tibetans. From Gyangtse, which will probably be made a base of the further operations, there are two roads to Lhasa, one down the valley of the Penanangchu, which takes a sweep to the westward toward Shigatse, an important town near its junction with the Brahmaputra; the other trends to the eastward to a point where there is an iron chain bridge across the Brahmaputra, at a comparatively short distance from Lhasa. There is another iron chain bridge across the Brahmaputra, about fifty miles above Shigatse, connecting with the route into Tibet.

What resistance the Tibetans are in a position to make is, of course, not generally known, but there have been persistent reports during the last three years of supplies of arms and ammunition having been sent to Lhasa from Russian Turkestan and of missions passing between the two Governments. Resistance will, of course, force the British Government to carry the matter through to the end and, as our London correspondent points out, push on to the capital of the Lamas.

Though a comparatively unknown country, Tibet appears to be not without temptations to the exploiter. Col. YOUNGHUSBAND, who is with the expedition as political officer, assisted by Mr. H. H. GREEN of the Indian Public Works Department, and Mr. NEY ELIAS and others have at different times penetrated the country, and some very interesting information has been obtained on a great variety of subjects.

The ordinary articles of commerce which Tibet supplies are well known, but the country is rich in undeveloped mineral treasures, and occasionally some of the precious metals find their way to market. In western Tibet gold is found in paying quantities in a number of places, such as Sarthol, Thok Jalung and Thok Daurakpa, whose names will probably soon be well known when the way to them has been opened. At Thok Jalung the gold fields are said to be extensive. There are also valuable salt mines at a place called Chakchaka, in the same district as the two other localities first named.

Of the political and other reasons that have determined the British Government to action in Tibet at this particular time we are still ignorant. According to Indian bazaar rumors there are many Russians with the Tibetans; but this may be doubted, for it was only last month that the Russo-Chinese Bank opened a branch in Calcutta, and it is hardly likely to have taken that step if the Russian Government was disposed to be an active ally of Tibet in the hostilities even then plainly impending.

What we are witnessing is possibly the execution of arrangements already made in connection with the partitioning of the interior of Asia. The character of the resistance the Tibetans may make will be something of a guide to the actual circumstances of the situation, not only as regards Tibet, but in other directions. It may help to explain much that is now obscure in Eastern affairs generally.

Singular Habits of the Well-to-Do.

Selfishness and a lack of appreciation of their duties to sociology cause the well-to-do to surround themselves with guards against the students who devote themselves to reducing their fellow men to tabulated statements and averages. Because of this the world is much better acquainted with the yearnings, the recreations, the aspirations and the habits of those whose poverty decrees a tenement home than with the inner processes of the dwellers in mansions. The sociologist who is unabashed in peeking into the home of an East Side artisan is put to rout when he attempts to watch the evening meal of the Riverside Drive magnate. The knowledge the statistical world gains of the domestic habits, the amusements and the behavior of the wealthy must trickle out to it by indirect and circuitous routes.

One of the most fruitful sources of exact information regarding the class which so selfishly ignores the duty of telling its domestic secrets is in the advertising pages of the numerous publications that have the largest circulation in the world. There is a field ripe for the reaping; and the revelations unconsciously made within it are such as to explain the reason for class reticence on class habits. In the advertising pages every person who is referred to as a past purchaser is a "millionaire;" a grand, if somewhat overworked, word. The persons thus described embrace, apparently, six-tenths of the entire adult population, and their capacity for unusual things is unlimited. Conspicuously, all of them have deserted the old-fashioned method of providing music by manual exertion. Their houses are crowded, according to the advertisements, with automatic pianos, organs, harps, zithers, self-blowing cornets and other ingenious mechanical devices by which sound is produced in graduated quantity and unchanging quality. The sight presented by the home of a "millionaire" must be impressive, and sufficiently trying. The advertisements present a graphic description of room after room filled with these noise distributing machines. There cannot be time to hear them play in turn, and their unfortunate owner, if he enjoys the fruits of his purchases, must sit continually in the centre of a musical inharmony that would drive a less callous creature insane.

While the advertised "millionaires" sit thus they drink great quantities of strong waters which have been delivered to them in disguise from distant manufactories. A perusal of the advertisements convinces a student that no "millionaire" or "representative first family" purchases liquor, wine or beer in the vulgar way. It is bought in sealed packages, marked "Books" or "From the Y. M. C. A." and delivered by a clerical looking person, in order to deceive the neighbors. Only the poor and lowly have a "dozen of beer" sent up in its true colors. The millionaire of the advertising pages must have his delivered in disguise.

There are at least a thousand prepared, pre-digested, almost pre-eaten, foods which these secretive folks exist upon. Scorning the beef and potatoes on which some others sustain life, they munch at morning, noon and night remarkable products with preposterous names. For non-millionaires such a diet might prove a bore; but these mechanical music enduring folk appear to thrive upon it.

These are only three of the eccentricities of the people with well stuffed purses. Their race is a singular one. These habits are simply samples of a multitude. They can hardly be blamed for repelling the advances of the sociologists, for their manner of life is more remarkable than was that of the cave dwellers, the pygmies of Africa or the aboriginal Australians. They have a fondness for Turkish bath cabinets. Leave them, each abnormality seated in his steam bath cabinet, munching patent foods, wet down with beer from a bottle labelled "hair tonic," listening to the crashing of countless electric, steam and gasolene noise engines, and let the sociologists follow the trail here pointed out until they have observed, weighed and reduced these worthy objects of study to tabular form.

The Virginia Exposition.

On May 13, 1607, CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT, BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD and JOHN SMITH founded the settlement of Jamestown, in what is now the State of Virginia, where the boast is that this was the first community of English speaking men on the continent of North America. The citizens of Virginia have begun preparations for the celebration of the three hundredth anniversary of the arrival there of the Jamestown settlers, and in a joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly, and transmitted to Senator DANIEL by JOHN W. WILLIAMS, the Keeper of the Rolls of Virginia, for presentation to the United States Senate, the Federal Government is asked to aid in the enterprise. The supreme importance that residents of the Old Dominion attach to the founding of Jamestown by Messrs. NEWPORT, GOSNOLD, SMITH and their companions is set forth in this paragraph of the memorial:

"By joint resolution of the General Assembly of Virginia it was decided that the three hundredth anniversary of this greatest of all historical events should be fittingly celebrated by all the English speaking people of the world, and, if possible, by the entire civilized peoples of the globe."

Believing firmly that this estimate of the importance of historical events is a relative conservative one, Virginia will defend it with a great industrial fair, to manage which "100 or more of its patriotic citizens" have formed a corporation. There may be differences of opinion as to the supreme historical importance of the founding of Jamestown; let them pass. Here is another sentiment from the memorial, to which all Americans will assent heartily:

"The Commonwealths have all united into one grand Government, founded upon the immutable principles of human rights and devoted to the liberty and happiness of man, and have expanded into one of the world's greatest nations, the United States of America."

A not unusual local pride, united with a splendid love of country, works for the success of this exposition. Conceived in such sentiments, its prospects of success under the management of the patriotic Americans of Virginia are of the brightest.

Professors of International Law.

The opinion of THEODORE S. WOOLSEY, Professor of International Law in Yale University, has been quoted widely and enthusiastically by those who want to convict the United States Government of wrong in its dealings with Colombia. Professor WOOLSEY said:

"I have no hesitation in saying that it is the duty of the United States, if it would preserve a correct attitude and follow its own precedents, to abstain from any recognition of the new Government in Panama as an independent State until it becomes apparent that the United States of Colombia is not attempting to reestablish its authority there by force. If that should happen, there will arise at once the question of recognizing the belligerency of the insurgent body. If no such attempt to reduce Panama to submission should be made after a decent interval, the recognition of the new State as an independent sovereignty would be in order."

Professor WOOLSEY is a candid, able and justly distinguished student of the principles of what is sometimes called international law. He was born in 1852.

We observe that EDWIN A. GROSVENOR, Professor of Modern Government and International Law in Amherst College, takes a radically different view of the matter. Instead of warning and reproaching the Administration, he applauds it and thanks it:

"The rejection of the treaty by Colombia in utter disregard of vital interests of Panama made it certain that Panama would secede. The American Government apparently did not possess, nor did it need, greater knowledge of that imminent event than was accessible to any intelligent American citizen. Furthermore, it did not in any way participate in the revolution when it occurred. The resumption by Panama of her rights as an independent State affords opportunity to relieve an intolerable situation. A man weaker or more timorous than President ROOSEVELT might have hesitated. The prompt recognition of Panama and the timely warning given Colombia are judicious and effective. The President deserves the approval and the thanks of the nation."

Professor GROSVENOR is also a candid, intelligent and justly respected student of what is sometimes called international law. He was born in 1845.

We print the opinions of the junior and senior professors of what is sometimes called international law without undertaking any comment thereon.

The recent shrinkage in values has been even greater than the public suspected if a Senator can be bought for $1,500.

The *New York Herald* has performed a useful service by procuring from Guatemala the opinion of the President of that Central American republic concerning recent events at Panama and Washington. President ESTRADA CABRERA cables to our contemporary as follows:

"In Guatemala the recognition of the Republic of Panama as a nation by the United States is regarded as a matter wholly within its rights. In Guatemala Panama's sovereignty will be observed and respected."

First, the determined critics of the Administration's policy in recognizing Panama so promptly warned Mr. ROOSEVELT and Mr. HAY that they were incurring the indignant wrath of the great Powers of the world. Europe remaining tranquil in the presence of the alleged outrage, the same critics have transferred the source of excitement to the Latin republics south of us.

If Guatemala is now wrought to fever heat by suspicion of the United States Government and its ultimate designs on the weaker sister republics, President CABRERA's calm and sensible despatch to the *Herald* shows no trace of the temperature.

We had no doubt of it. Major RUNCIE will be there.

City Hall Park and Andrew H. Green's Memory.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As chairman of the citizens' committee which prevented the destruction of New York's beautiful City Hall and Park, may I suggest that an adequate law be enacted providing that the present New York City Hall and Park be forever preserved as a monument to "The Father of Greater New York," Andrew H. Green.

He asked me to form the committee and aided in every way to prevent the destruction of what he considered New York's most historic and artistic public building.

Such a memorial would necessarily be unique and would, I believe, harmonize with his ideals.

Should the other buildings in the park be removed, leaving the present City Hall building alone therein, another of his ambitions would be achieved.

JOHN WINFIELD SCOTT, Chairman

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.

A Reply to "Sacerdos" by Father Livingston.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A tottering man's efforts to regain the perpendicular are always ludicrous, even though men may have sympathy for his plight. I am sorry for "Sacerdos," and for his late effort to get on his feet. Any man who sets himself up as a "fool killer" would do well to read the following words of Epictetus: "If you have assumed a character above your strength, you have both acted in this manner in an unbecoming way and you have neglected that which you might have fulfilled."

The old Phrygian cripple knew a thing or two.

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Nov. 15.

A Chance for Port Hudson Survivors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* By your editorial in to-day's issue on "Gallantry in (Expected) Action," you have contributed to me great satisfaction in my hope that medals for the volunteers of the forlorn hope at Port Hudson may some time be adjudged by Congress, a proper gift to the members of that segregated camp in 1864. We have understood that the objection always has been that in only accomplishing an intended or expected gallantry they failed to comply with the full purpose of the commanding General's general order, and that by a strict construction of the law of contracts they have been thrown out of court without the brass; but now here seems to be a precedent on which our claim for medals might properly be reopened on an equity appeal.

T. J. RUNDEL.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.

Audible a Hundred Miles Away?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A test of the distance travelled by sound is frequently experienced by many without their being aware of it or knowing the conditions. I refer to the fusillade of blasts let off daily at the site of the new reservoir in the Croton Valley, about forty miles from New York city.

The wind and atmospheric conditions being favorable, I believe that they have been heard over a hundred miles. I have heard these explosions at the lower end of Monmouth county, N. J., not less than seventy-five miles away, and frequently also at Great Island, Mr. Ziegler's summer place, on the Sound, beyond Stamford, Conn.

NEW YORK, Nov. 18. JOHN Y. CULYER.

Good English, but Perhaps Not Good Sense.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The *Boston Herald* says this morning: "THE NEW YORK SUN had better not," &c. Do you call this good English?

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 17. TEACHER.

PIUS X.'S INTENDED REFORM.

Powers of the Propaganda to Be Curtailed by a System of National Primates and by Strengthening Other Congregations.

From the Tablet.

People have generally made up their minds that the pontificate of Pius X. is to be one of quiet progress along the lines laid down by Leo. XIII. and his predecessors, without any great changes or important initiatives. If the information which the *Tablet* correspondent has obtained this week be correct—and it ought to be correct, for it has come directly from a Cardinal who has had admirable opportunities for knowing the mind of the Holy Father—the pontificate of Pius X. is destined to be the most striking since the Reformation. Everybody knows that since then a process of centralization has been going steadily on—powers formerly devolving on local ecclesiastical authorities have been gradually transferred to the Roman Congregations, and as far as England and English speaking countries are concerned, all the increased work has fallen upon Propaganda.

When one takes into account the expansion of the Catholic Church in Protestant and heathen countries in modern times, during which the Catholics of the United States alone have increased from a couple of hundred thousand to over twelve millions, while many more millions have been added to the faithful in China, India, Holland, Australia, Great Britain, &c., and when it is remembered that all religious questions concerning these new territories of Catholicity have to be examined and judged by Propaganda, it will be seen that a certain degree of "congestion" was inevitable. English Bishops know something about this "congestion," while Irish Bishops are still waiting for the confirmation through Propaganda of the many important decrees passed by them for the Church in Ireland at the Maynooth Synod, held over three years ago. Again, in distant countries like Australia, India and China, the necessity of submitting all kinds of questions to Propaganda is often a very hard one, even if no time were lost but that involved in forwarding the questions and receiving the replies.

The Roman authorities have long since felt the difficulties of the situation. Only last year it was almost decided to transfer the United States from the Congregation of Propaganda to that for Ecclesiastical Affairs, and had this step been taken it is probable that England and all other countries in which the hierarchy has been either established or restored would have passed to the same jurisdiction. It is certain that many of the American Bishops were in favor of this solution. It may be that they were stimulated in their desire by the fact that the Government of the United States entered for a time into direct relations with the Holy See for the settlement of certain politico-religious questions connected with the Philippines, which are under the Congregation for Ecclesiastical Affairs, and that it might be inferred that similar relations might be established for the good of the Church if the proposed change were made. The American Bishops, of course, have some title to be considered good judges of what is best for their own country, but many other countries besides theirs were to be included in the decision, and the Roman authorities determined to hear all the pros and cons of the case before deciding.

During the reign of Leo XIII. the fullest importance was attached to the connection between Church and State; indeed, it may be said that this connection was emphasized and that sometimes great sacrifices were made to maintain it. Pope Leo's success in securing the position of the Church before civil governments has literally amazed the world, and among other advantages it has served to enable Pius X. to gauge accurately the value of official or officious relations with governments that are non-Catholic in spirit. The result is that Pius X has no intention of removing any part of the Church from Propaganda which has no connection with civil governments, and intrusting it to the Congregation for Ecclesiastical Affairs, which is closely connected with the Secretariate of State.

But, again, Pius X. has in mind a plan for relieving the "congestion" of Propaganda, which will involve sweeping changes. In the first place he proposes to revive the ancient functions of the Primates. Each country in which there is a regularly established hierarchy will have its Primate with extended powers and jurisdiction over the whole country, and with power to settle many of the disputed questions which are now sent to Rome. Ireland has already two Primates, but the title of both is only honorary and historical. One of them, probably the Archbishop of Armagh, will receive full primatial powers; the see of Baltimore in the United States is also titularly primatial—it will become practically so. The archdioceses of Westminster and Sydney will also become the centres of primatial jurisdiction.

This radical provision will lighten to some extent the burden of Propaganda, but it is not unlikely that all business not connected with the missions will be transferred from it to the other congregations—the rites, indulgences, holy office, &c. Nor are the changes contemplated by the Holy Father to end here, for he is also to adopt every possible means for rendering these congregations more effective, so that the business of the Church may be transacted with the utmost despatch.

Echoes of a Great Football Game.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I read with interest your correspondent's suggestion that the two important contributory causes of Princeton's defeat of Yale should not be lost sight of, namely, Vetterlein's good judgment in making a free catch, which made possible the goal from the field, and the interference for De Witt after he had obtained the ball and was on his way to a touchdown.

Undoubtedly Princeton would not have won except for the coolness and skill of one Princeton man, who, racing down the field beside De Witt, seized the exactly right moment to fall in the path of the Yale man who had gained on De Witt and was about to make an apparently successful tackle. This man was Howard Henry, Princeton's right end.

None of the accounts of the game, even your own most interesting one, gave him credit for this; but the act has generally been attributed, as by your correspondent, to Davis. In fact, Henry's brilliant game has been overlooked by the writers, and he has been confused in several instances with other players.

His splendid aggressiveness, fierce tackling, good judgment, and great speed in following the ball gave a support and confidence to his team in the first half that was very apparent to those experienced in watching football games, and was a most important factor in the eventual victory.

I hope THE SUN will correct football history by now giving him the credit due.

THOMAS RIDGWAY.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17.

The Early Bird and the Early Worm.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I would like to have some of my fellow readers take up for discussion the old saying: "The early bird catches the worm," for the twofold purpose of ascertaining who deserves the most credit, the bird or the worm; and, also, was the worm out first?

TRENTON, N. J., Nov. 17. TIMOTHY RYAN.

The Prize Horses of History and Fable.

Bucephalus pawed the ground impatiently.

"If that man wants more worlds to conquer," he whinnied, "why doesn't he get me a blue ribbon?"

Feeling slighted, he tried to get even by throwing Alexander to the ground.

Winchester was carrying Sheridan.

"Maybe we won't get any ribbon," he neighed, "but just you watch us rally the Blue!"

Putting on an extra spurt, he succeeded in reaching the fray.

The Wooden Horse was entering Troy.

"People may not think much of my form," he remarked, "but when it comes to taking prizes, I have an inside pull."

Later events proved that the show had captured the city by storm.

Balaam's Ass was lamenting.

"I just know I would carry off the honors at the Horse Show," he exclaimed; "my good points speak for themselves."

Regretting that he lived before his time, he plodded on his patient way.

Pegasus complained to the gods.

"It's perfectly awful the way these poets ride me," said the winged steed.

"Never mind," they consoled him, "the new generation will be so light you won't feel them."

Hearing this, he sagaciously practised jumping board bills.

COMMERCIAL CONDITIONS IN PORTO RICO.

Advance Under American Administration in Production and Finance.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Those who have watched the progress that is being made under American administration in Porto Rico will be agreeably surprised at the present state of Porto Rican commerce with the United States and other countries.

With the change of government there followed a change of market. Formerly the principal markets for the insular products were France and Spain. To these markets were shipped all the coffee and by-products, and from them were imported nearly all the articles of home consumption.

By the terms of the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain, signed at Paris in December, 1898, five months after the landing of American troops on the island under command of Lieut.-Gen. Miles, Porto Rico became part of the United States.

Upon the establishment of civil government, with Hon. Charles H. Allen as Governor, the Foraker act went into effect, whereby Porto Rican products were allowed entry into the United States at 15 per cent. of the rates of the Dingley tariff regulating the importation of commodities from foreign countries. By previous enactment of Congress, March 12, 1900, all customs collected in this way from Porto Rican products, instead of entering the Federal Treasury, were returnable to the insular treasury of Porto Rico for the maintenance of the insular Government. In accord with a provision of the Foraker act the levy of 15 per cent. on goods imported from Porto Rico was to cease by proclamation of the President as soon as he should be informed by the Civil Governor that the insular Legislature had enacted effective laws of taxation guaranteeing sufficient revenues for the maintenance of the insular Government.

This proclamation establishing free trade between Porto Rico and other parts of the United States was made by the late President McKinley, July 25, 1900.

In three years the trade with the United States has increased over $7,000,000, and instead of a balance of trade between the island and the adopted mother country, of $192,136 in the island's favor, there is a balance of $1,066,967 in favor of the United States market.

There has been a remarkable gain in sugar, in raw and manufactured tobacco and in molasses and fruits. The sugar industry has extended very rapidly and is paying very high dividends to cultivators. Formerly Porto Rican tobacco was cultivated on a very limited scale and was shipped in raw form to Cuba, where it was manufactured and distributed to the world's markets as "Havana" tobacco. Even the cigars and cigarettes for home consumption in Porto Rico were imported from Cuba. To-day that industry is paying the island nearly $2,000,000 annually and is rapidly increasing.

Orange cultivation, too, promises the greatest success, and it is certain that in a few years the annual exportation of this fruit will be estimated in the millions. Hundreds of thousands of these trees have been planted and budded during the last four years, and this work is being continued at present on a gigantic scale. Even coffee is meeting with increased favor in the United States, as it is becoming better known, so that its future market is indeed promising.

To-day the rice alone exported from Louisiana or the cotton manufactured in Massachusetts and shipped to Porto Rico has a higher value than the total of American products exported to the island previous to 1899.

The exports of Porto Rico for the past year exceeded its imports by $687,069.

To any one acquainted with the fertility and productivity of the soil of Porto Rico this review of trade conditions is but a shadowing forth of the value which the island will have in the future to its country. Generally speaking, its wealth is unknown, inestimable. Its products have been in most cases the result of natural, spontaneous and luxuriant growth. The methods of cultivation have been most primitive, and it is only now that there are being adopted for purposes of cultivation modern ideas and modern implements, while the interior of the island is being opened to communication by the construction of first class roads, and the population is being educated by the establishment of a free public school system.

WALTER J. BALLARD.

SCHENECTADY, Nov. 10.

The President's Guests From Butte.

From the Engineering and Mining Journal.

It is announced that, upon the invitation of the President, six representatives of the Butte labor unions will dine at the White House on Nov. 18. This statement, appearing in most of the daily papers, has received but little comment from the Eastern press, although we feel assured that its significance is fully appreciated in the West, where the history and performance of the Butte Miners' Union are only too well known.

Whether the action of Mr. Roosevelt is prompted by the impulse of hospitality in return for courtesies received by him during his recent visit to Butte, or whether it is due to political sagacity, we do not know, nor does it concern this technical journal; whether the motive be entirely creditable or distinctly blameworthy, we do know that this official recognition of the Butte labor union is calculated to inflict grievous injury upon the mining industry of the whole country.

Before issuing dinner invitations to these men it would have been well if the President had requested his detective service to inquire into their antecedents; of course, it is not usual to institute such search into the character of guests, but, on the other hand, it is not customary to invite people of this description to an official dinner at Washington. In default of such an inquiry we can state that what the Clan-na-Gael has been to the brutalities of Irish politics, what the Mafia has been in the bloody feuds of the low-born Italians, that the Butte Miners' Union has been to the labor troubles of our Western mining camps. The unspeakable barbarities of the Cœur d'Alene strike, the anarchy which disfigured Leadville, the assassinations and murders which made Telluride a byword, the disorders at Cripple Creek—these, every one of them, have received their mainspring and their sustenance from the gang of ruffians who have controlled the union at Butte. If they have been permitted to maintain their organization at Butte city itself it is only because Marcus Daly used the union to control Montana politics, Clark bribed outright, while Heinze and the Amalgamated were so busy with their cat-and-dog fight that they had no time to spare for civilized decencies.

If ever there was an organization which deserves to be condemned by honest men it is the labor union whose leaders are expected at the White House next week. Wherever a mine manager has tried to treat his men humanely and to give each that equality of opportunity to work which is the American's heritage there this gang of Irish-Austrian-Italian Anarchists has sent its emissaries to stir up trouble. Wherever a mining community has been pursuing the even tenor of its way attended by prosperity and quietness, there these agitators have incited foul murders and cowardly assassinations. It is all well known to the mining men in the West—so well known, alas, that it ceases to excite the fierce resentment which it warrants, until once in a while a friend disappears in the dark or is riddled with bullets in broad daylight. At such times, indeed, we feel like moving heaven and earth to see justice done, only to run into an impassable quagmire of muddy foulness—which is called local politics!

Is the Chief Executive, a man held by his friends to be the best type of American manhood, is he going to do an act for politics' sake which will be taken as the indorsement of the most un-American tyranny that ever existed on this continent? We hope not—most sincerely.

The Luxuries of Labor in Iowa.

From the Shenandoah Sentinel.

A Union county farmer who has found farm hands difficult to secure has formulated this set of rules, which should prove a winning card:

"Wages will be $5 a day. Breakfast will be served in bed. Working hours will be from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M. All heavy work is to be done by the boss. Cigars furnished free. Any hand working the entire season can have the farm."

Thus Saith Ye Cobbler of Rye.

Hesitate I Couldn't
If wi' me ye Choice it Stoode,
To Promote ye General Goode
Or General Wood—
General Wood I Wouldn't.

EGOMET.

GRIGSBY MAY BE DISMISSED.

One of the President's Rough Rider Appointees Under a Cloud.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Col. Melvin Grigsby, the organizer and commander of Grigsby's Rough Riders immediately before the war with Spain, and for the last year and a half United States District Attorney at Nome, Alaska, visited the Department of Justice to-day. He came here in response to a summons from President Roosevelt to answer serious charges brought against him by citizens of Nome, which were subsequently sustained by special agents of the Department of Justice who visited Alaska last summer. The exact nature of the charges cannot be learned, but in a general way they relate to alleged improper relations with mining interests in and around Nome, and to his failure to prosecute guilty persons before the Federal Court. It is probable that Grigsby will be dismissed from the service.

Grigsby was appointed by President Roosevelt last year, immediately after the dismissal of District Judge Noyes, and it was the intention to provide an upright judicial administration for the Nome people, who had been complaining bitterly that nearly every Federal officer in northern Alaska was corrupt. The President was attracted to Grigsby because he was the organizer of a Rough Rider regiment, although Grigsby's command was never sent to the front. Nearly all the men in the regiment were recruited from the Northwestern plains, Grigsby being a resident of Sioux Falls, S. D. He was also recommended for the District Attorneyship by Senators and members of Congress from South Dakota.

A year ago District Attorney Grigsby left Nome for the winter in express disobedience of orders from the Attorney-General, and it was believed he would be dismissed from the service forthwith. The President decided, however, to give him another chance, and Grigsby went back to Nome when navigation opened last spring.

FOOTBALL NOT ARTISTIC.

Prof. Goodell of Yale Says It Is Ugly—Rowing, He Says, Is Beautiful.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Nov. 18.—The popularity of football was declared by Prof. T. D. Goodell of Yale yesterday to be due to the undeveloped æsthetic taste of the modern public. Football, he said, was an offence to every artistic instinct and was in violation of all principles of art. He compared it unfavorably with other sports and especially with rowing, whose rhythm, he said, was the very essence of poetry.

A DEFENCE OF PELOTA.

Fine Points of the Court Game So Popular Among Spaniards.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In last Saturday's SUN an article appeared under the heading, "Jai Alai and the Foraker Law," in which the Basque game of pelota, now being played in Havana and which is shortly to be introduced into New York, was stigmatized as "corrupt in its tendencies, demoralizing in its influences, and baneful in its results." The writer of the article says, also, that "without the gambling feature it would long ago have died out from want of patronage."

Without entering into a discussion of how far the success of horseracing in this country is dependent upon the "gambling feature" connected with it, and to what extent betting is responsible for the interest shown in many other of our popular amusements, we wish to say that if there be any indoor game which takes more skill to play, is prettier to watch and affords in itself more excitement to the spectators than pelota we are at a loss to name it.

During the years from 1898 to 1900 the game of Jai Alai was played daily in Mexico City by some of the best Madrid professionals, before large and enthusiastic audiences, including not only the people who came to bet on the results of the "partidos" and "quinelas," but hundreds of men and women who never wagered a cent. On Sundays and holidays during the dry season from October to June the big uncovered fronton, "Jai Alai," on Bucareli avenue was jammed to the doors with an assemblage of the very best people in the Mexican capital, and nearly every American or Englishman of prominence was there regularly—many of them staid, middle-aged business men and bankers, who were attracted solely by the truly wonderful exhibition of athletic skill, agility and endurance which the foremost exponents of this great game present.

What cricket is to England, what football and baseball are to the United States, what lacrosse and hockey are to Canada, pelota is to Spain and other Spanish speaking countries. Furthermore, it is a game requiring a better eye, more speed, activity and surer perfect control over every muscle of the body than any other sport. A man may be a "star" at football, a good cricketer, a fine hockey player, a lawn tennis "crack," and yet be utterly unable to do anything at pelota.

The best players—men like Zabarte, Abando, Irun, Pagadigorria, Urresti, the Salazar brothers—are all Basques from the Pyrenees; and a finer, hardier, more athletic race of men does not exist. These men are wonders at the game; and to the novice who has tried to play pelota, and most probably failed entirely to reach even a low measure of proficiency, the skill they display with the "cesta" seems little short of miraculous, and cannot fail to impress even the casual onlooker as extraordinary.

It is quite true, as THE SUN correspondent says, that the game was finally suppressed by the Mexico City authorities; but the reason for their action proves most conclusively that the popularity of the game was not due entirely to the reprehensible "gambling feature." Quite the contrary, in fact. A new manager of the fronton there got somehow the mistaken impression that all the public cared for was to bet on the games, and that the standard of play was of no consequence whatever. Accordingly he got rid of all the high class players, some of whom were receiving $600 to $800 a month for their services, and engaged a lot of inferior performers. The result was that the attendance at the games fell off at once, and very markedly. The new, third rate players, dissatisfied with the small salaries they were getting, began to "fix" the *partidos*; and the public soon found out that they were "crooked." A complaint was then made to the authorities, who investigated the matter, and, finding the charges true, closed the fronton.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17. H. J. HOLT.

The Literary Production of the World.

From the Independent.

Paul Otlet, the secretary of the Brussels International Bibliographic Institute, estimates the number of printed books since the invention of printing to January, 1900, at 12,163,000 separate works, and the number of periodicals at between fifteen and eighteen millions.

For the following years Otlet adopts 200,000 as a yearly average. This seems rather high, and the figures of this table, which would make 150,000 per year a good average, seem more reliable:

1436-1536	42,000
1536-1636	575,000
1636-1736	1,225,000
1736-1822	1,839,000
1822-1887	6,500,000
1887-1898	1,782,000
1899	150,000
1900	150,000
1901	150,000
1902	150,000
1903	150,000
Total	12,713,000

To the year 1904, therefore, upward of twelve and a half million of separate works have appeared in the world, which figures, however, include new editions and translations.

In point of number of output, Germany and German Austria collectively yearly lead the world. Then follow France, Italy, England, the United States and the Netherlands. Germany leads the world in book production, and the United States leads the world in the production of periodical literature.

In Kentucky.

From the Snow Hill Banner.

Uncle Jim Peel, who is 82 years old, still works at the carpenter trade and can climb a building with a bale of shingles and put them on as well as he ever could. He is a remarkable man.

From the Beattyville News.

At Jackson Wednesday a jury fined Irvine Allen $500 for shooting off Wash Noble's thumb six months ago.

From the Bloomington Bugle.

There was no preaching at Mount Olive Sunday, Bro. Hughson having the mumps.

From the London Echo.

A syndicate of Eastern capitalists are trying to purchase a large walnut tree standing on Sturgeon Creek in Lee county. This tree is 85 feet high, 11 feet 2 inches around and will cut five 12-foot logs. Three thousand feet of lumber can be cut therefrom, and it is acknowledged to be the largest yet found in that county. Ten thousand dollars has been refused for it by the owner, who is said to be poor.