The Sun.

WILLIAM M. LAFFAN.

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Mr. Hanna and Zach Mulhall.

A Washington correspondent of our esteemed uptown contemporary the *Herald* makes this diagnosis of the psychology of Mr. ROOSEVELT'S friends:

"President ROOSEVELT'S friends regard with growing suspicion the delay of Senator HANNA and PERRY S. HEATH, as chairman and secretary, respectively, of the Republican national committee, in issuing the call for the national convention, and are growing firmer in the belief previously expressed that Senator HANNA intends to try to defeat Mr. ROOSEVELT'S nomination."

We cannot believe that Mr. ROOSEVELT and the other propellers of his boom have so lost their confidence in human nature as to suspect that Mr. HANNA seeks to resist that imperious popular demand which Mr. ROOSEVELT is so obligingly ready to further and supply. That imperious demand is heard in the District of Columbia. It swells and thunders in Oklahoma. The Hon. ZACH MULHALL of Oklahoma gives the glad news that "Oklahoma will be for ROOSEVELT in the convention, even if the people cannot vote in the election."

Even if Mr. HANNA cherished those sinister designs which are attributed to him, prudence and enlightened self-interest would forbid him to try to carry them out. The Hon. ZACH MULHALL has given a plain warning:

"Cowpunchers, irrespective of party, all over the West, are ready to fight for ROOSEVELT."

Clearly, Mr. HANNA will have to be good even if he doesn't want to be.

Our Treaty With China Ratified.

There is but little doubt that Russia, had she chosen so to do, could have postponed for an indefinite period the ratification at Pekin of the commercial treaty between the United States and China, already ratified by our Federal Senate. That opposition on Russia's part was apprehended may be inferred from the provision that the treaty should become valid provided ratifications were exchanged at any time before October, 1904. As a matter of fact, the treaty was signed by the Chinese Emperor last week, and it follows that an exchange of ratifications may be expected to take place in Washington before the end of February. Immediately thereafter the treaty will be proclaimed by President ROOSEVELT and a date set for it to become operative.

Inasmuch as Russia must be presumed to have offered no resistance to the treaty, it is a reasonable conclusion that the American citizens appointed consuls at Mukden and Antung will be allowed to take possession of their posts. If those officials are permitted to enter upon the discharge of their functions, the St. Petersburg Government, of course, will point to the incident as a proof that, although China's inability to preserve order prevented the fulfilment of Russia's promise to begin the evacuation of the three Manchurian provinces on Oct. 8, 1903, the Power last named has no intention of disputing the right of the United States to an "open door" in Manchuria. That is to say, while Russia will continue to insist that her political influence remain predominant in Manchuria, she will recognize China's exclusive right to determine the commercial relations of the inhabitants of that territory with the subjects or citizens of foreign Powers, and will offer no objection to the provision of our treaty which sets aside certain districts in Mukden and Antung as places of international residence and trade. That such is the intention of Russia was asserted on Jan. 10 by the *Novoe Vremya*, a newspaper that often speaks with authority, when it said: "Undoubtedly the United States, above all other Powers, can confidently expect that its trade will not suffer by Russia's possession of Manchuria."

We have already directed attention to the principal provisions of the treaty, now ratified by both parties, provisions that correspond substantially to those of the commercial convention negotiated between China and Great Britain in 1902. Perhaps the most important of those provisions is the agreement to substitute a surtax, payable at the port of entry, for the vexatious *likin*, or inland transit dues, which have hitherto obstructed trade with the interior of the Middle Kingdom. This agreement, however, it should be observed, does not become operative until the terms of the British convention shall have been accepted in substance by all of the treaty Powers, who, moreover, must not exact, in return for such acceptance, any exclusive commercial concession. Another important provision of the treaty just ratified is that for a more liberal regulation of mining industries, which will permit foreigners to turn to account the coal mines and other mineral resources of China, which, according to Baron VON RICHTHOFEN, a high authority on the subject, are unparalleled.

Assuming that, in the absence of war, the access of our products to Manchuria will presently be untrammelled, we may look forward to a great development of American trade in that part of the Chinese Empire. American exports to China—a large part of which have gone to Manchuria—are computed to have increased from $4,000,000 in 1893 to $24,000,000 last year, although, owing to the abnormal condition of Manchuria, our export trade with China fell off by some seven million dollars in the ten months ending Oct. 30, as compared with the corresponding period in 1902. If the war cloud passes, the opening of Mukden will offer a new and extensive field of operations to American exporters.

From the moment that we have no cause to fear any opposition on Russia's part to the expansion of our commerce with Manchuria, it is our national interest to maintain a strict neutrality, whatever may be the outcome of conflicting aspirations in the Far East. It is satisfactory to learn that Germany and the other members of the Triple Alliance have decided to maintain a similar impartial attitude. The assumption of such a position by the United States and Germany should powerfully assist the efforts which France and England are known to be making for peace at St. Petersburg and Tokyo. It is reassuring, moreover, to hear that the Paris Foreign Office would not regard the cooperation of so feeble a Power as China with Japan as warranting a demand on Russia's part for the assistance of her French ally. In a word, there is a growing combination of influences in favor of a peaceful solution of the Russo-Japanese imbroglio.

Has Japan Made a Mistake?

According to the correspondent of the London *Times* at Pekin, the Chinese Minister at Tokio has informed Prince CHING that the second Russian reply to Japan's proposals will not be accepted, and that unless Russia recedes from her present position Japan will promptly resort to arms. Simultaneously we learn that in Paris public opinion, which hitherto has been less favorable to Russia than might have been expected, now regards with disapproval Japan's rejection of the concessions offered in respect of Corea. If we are correctly informed touching the scope of those concessions, the Japanese may find that a repudiation of them will tend to impair the sympathy with which the Island Empire has of late been viewed in Great Britain and the United States.

The most detailed account of the concessions embodied in Russia's second reply is given by the St. Petersburg correspondent of a Berlin newspaper, the *Lokal Anzeiger*. He has forwarded an advance copy of a communication which presently will be published in the Government organ at St. Petersburg, and which is said to have been edited by the Czar himself. Russia, it seems, has recognized Japan's right in southern Corea, not only to act for her economic interests, but also to adopt any strategic measures by which those interests may be promoted. In northern Corea, also, full commercial freedom of action is conceded to Japan, provided she does not attempt to occupy permanently forty-five towns in that part of the peninsula. As regards a neutral zone, the proposal is, we are told, that a belt fifty kilometres broad shall be created between Corea and Manchuria, along the Yalu and Tumen rivers, wherein neither Russia nor Japan shall establish fortified positions. Russia also insists, it seems, that the strait between Japan and Corea shall continue to be neutral, as it now is, thus giving free ingress and egress to Russian vessels plying between Vladivostok and Port Arthur.

The demand for a neutralization of the Strait of Corea is not unreasonable. It amounts simply to a suggestion that the *status quo* shall be maintained. In the event of war, Japan, no doubt, would endeavor to close the strait, but in peace times she cannot fairly insist upon treating it as if it formed a part of her domestic waters. The concession of her right to take in southern Corea such strategic measures as she may choose is obviously of great importance and practically gives her the foothold that she wants in the peninsula. It certainly seems to an onlooker that if Japan can secure a large part of Corea without fighting for it she would do wisely to accept it.

According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Berlin newspaper, Russia has declined to make any stipulations with reference to Manchuria beyond repeating her promise to allow the Consuls and merchants of Japan, the United States and other Powers that have treaties with China free access to Mukden, Antung and Newchwang, the ports which the last named country has thrown open to trade in the Manchurian provinces. In other words, Russia covenants to respect the "open door."

It might prove a serious mistake for Japan to engage in war with Russia, unless she could manage to retain, what she has hitherto had, to wit, the sympathy of Great Britain, the United States and France.

Two House Bills.

The Hon. HENRY RICHARD GIBSON, Representative in Congress of the Second Tennessee district, and Professor of Medical Jurisprudence in the Tennessee Medical College, has introduced a bill "to prohibit the use of certain words in the District of Columbia." We began to read his bill with expectant interest. Surely, here was a reformer of the language or an enemy of sulphurous and tormenting speech. The hope was vain. Mr. GIBSON wishes to put the aegis of law over the words "Senate," "House of Representatives," "Congress" and "Congressional." He would forbid any person, club, company, association or corporation to use the words "Senate" and so on "as an advertisement, in whole or in part, or as a name, designation, sign, trademark, brand, or device, or as a part thereof, of, on or over any place of business, or anything manufactured, offered or kept for sale or exhibition at a public place." The tabooed words may continue to be used officially by or for the Congress or either House of it or any officer employed by it, for an official purpose; and the Congressional Cemetery may keep its adjective.

The "Congressional Limited" may not run into Washington. The Congressional Hotel must change its name. The Congress of Mothers cannot be held in the District. Whiskies, cigars, collars, cravats, trousers stretchers, saloons and so forth must cease to borrow virtue and recommendation from the Capitol. We are not sure whether Mr. EMERSON'S "Representative Men" could be sold in Washington. Prof. GIBSON takes a high view of the sacredness of Congress and will not have it profaned by vulgar use.

The Hon. CHARLES LUMAN KNAPP of Lowville and the Twenty-eighth New York district, wishes to establish a series of free text books. He directs the United States Commissioner of Education to get as full a list as he can of "the latest and best editions of text-books used in the public schools of the United States, with the name and address of the owner of the copyright of each of said books." Sixty days after the passage of Mr. KNAPP'S act, the Secretary of the Interior will ask each Governor to appoint one member of a school text-book commission. The commissioners will get $10 apiece for each day of session and ten cents a mile each way for mileage.

Meanwhile the Commissioner of Education has been asking each owner of a text-book copyright to send him a sealed bid, giving the selling price of his copyright, and has advertised for sealed bids for "furnishing compilations of school text-books equal or superior to those now used in the schools of the country." The commission meets. The Commissioner of Education lays the bids before it. The commission picks out

"Such copyrights and compilations or bids for furnishing compilations as will in its judgment best supply the public schools of the country with one series of text-books in each of the studies commonly pursued in said schools, the intention of this act being that the right to publish said books and revisions thereof shall, when secured by the Government, be given free to all persons or parties in the United States. If the commission fails to find in the bids made the materials at a reasonable cost for a full series of text-books, it may report by bill or otherwise such measures as it deems best to secure the filling of said series and the future revision from time to time of any books selected and adopted."

The author of this interesting proposal used to be chairman of the Committee on Literature and Public Education in the New York State Senate. The fruit of his studies has been mellowing long.

"High" and "Low" Christian Science.

The progress of the Christian Science movement in New York, indicated by the recent dedication of a new and costly and really artistic temple of worship, is suggested also by the appearance of strife in the body. A great number of new members, something like one hundred, were received into the fellowship of that church on Sunday; but the malcontents assert that they were admitted in order to stuff the rolls, with the manifest purpose of overcoming the party which is protesting against the methods of Mrs. STETSON, formerly the "First Reader" and still the master spirit of the church.

How considerable is this opposition has yet to be demonstrated. Mrs. STETSON professes her ignorance of any "disturbance" and expresses the opinion that reports of its existence come from an "informant mentally unbalanced" or from "some person who has been expelled from our church" and is after revenge. If there is any such vindictive motive, the fact proves that even Christian Science cannot overcome human nature with its religious philosophy.

The contest, if there be a contest, is simply another illustration of the tendency toward ecclesiasticism in every religious body after it has passed from feebleness to strength. The necessity for organization breeds conflicting parties, on the one side for discipline, centralization and authority, and on the other for individual independence.

The Christian Science body started out with a purely congregational form of organization and government. The "mother church" at Boston, it is true, was the central organization, with some sort of special moral and spiritual influence; but it seems to have had no controlling ecclesiastical authority. Here in New York rich and powerful Christian Science churches have grown up, and they are increasing steadily in membership. In the nature of things their institutional character has developed, and even if, as Mrs. STETSON avers, there is as yet no "disturbance" caused by contests for the control of their ecclesiastical machinery, the history of similar organizations indicates that the conflict will come. "High" church and "Low" church parties will arise. There will be rebellions against the organization of authority, against the "machine," for even Christian Science will not be able to stifle selfish aspirations in its followers. The society over which Mrs. STETSON presides has now one of the costliest churches in New York, and restlessness as to the control of so great an organization is bound to come. Human nature will assert itself even against the philosophy of Christian Science. "Sin" will creep in, selfish ambitions will clash, and in practice the philosophy which would eliminate "evil" as only "a negation" will be discarded. Peace in believing will give place to carnal strife.

Whether this conflict has now begun on any considerable scale may be doubtful. Very likely Mrs. STETSON is justified in her confidence that there is no present danger from it; but the struggle between "High" church and "Low" church is bound to come and to be fought out until one or the other triumphs. The history of religious movements suggests the probability that the eventual victory will be with the "machine," but the organization will not win till it has crushed out a spirit of rebellion which is likely to show itself actively and perhaps powerfully from this time forward. The beginning of the struggle is simply evidence that Christian Science is growing, and is hardening in the process.

Growth of the Library of Congress.

Although the new building of the Library of Congress has been completed only a few years, and was designed to provide for the growth of the institution for at least a century, the report of the superintendent for 1903 declares that every part of it from cellar to roof, except two or three attic rooms, is now in active use. BERNARD R. GREEN, the superintendent, declares that the estimate made at the time the building was planned has been exceeded by the progress of the institution, and he adds:

"It is even now evident that the original estimate that something like a century's growth had been provided for, based on the condition and data of the day, must be discounted 70 or 80 per cent."

Already the electric lighting apparatus, which was built to furnish light for two-thirds of the building, is overtaxed, and, although no serious breakdowns have occurred yet, more power than the plant is capable of generating is demanded. The apparatus must soon be reinforced by new machines to supplement its capacity. The visitors to the library in 1902-03 numbered 834,201, of whom 356,411 visited it in the evenings. This is a daily average for the 363 days the library was open—it is closed to the public only on Christmas Day and the Fourth of July—of 2,298. The smallest number of visitors recorded in any one day from Dec. 1, 1902, to Dec. 1, 1903, was 509, in July, and the greatest number was 6,873, in February.

The expenditures of the library from all appropriations during the year amounted to $588,366.49. Of this amount $305,000 went for salaries, $79,000 for new books, $75,000 for care and maintenance, $45,000 for furniture, and $40,000 for fuel and lights.

Already new furniture is needed in the law library, and the great and constant use of the building will necessitate the renewal of furniture in other departments soon. Mr. GREEN makes no prediction of the date at which extensions will be necessary; but if the library is in the future to complete its collections, it is evident that well within a generation some steps must be taken to increase its capacity, if the present rate of book production keeps up.

The Political Situation as Viewed by An Old-time Republican.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* President Roosevelt is now face to face with a situation similar to that which made him Governor of this State. At the expiration of his term, grave doubt existed whether Governor Black could be reelected, although his sterling worth was fully recognized. Despite his clean record and conceded abilities, he was compelled to stand aside to make room for one regarded as a more probable winner. Disagreeable as it must have been under such circumstances to accept a nomination, Theodore Roosevelt responded to the bugle call of duty, gallantly suppressing the delicate instincts of his proud and sensitive nature. Although his nomination involved the sacrifice of the civil service reform idea of the retention in office of an official proven capable and honest, the overpowering necessity of party and commonwealth required that sacrifice. And so he was nominated and elected.

The situation to-day is the same. It is not believed by thoughtful Republicans that the interests of either the G. O. P. or the nation will be conserved by the nomination of Theodore Roosevelt. It is believed, and by numbers of Republicans large enough for their votes to determine the result, that such nomination makes possible, if not certain, the election of a Democrat of the type represented by Judge Parker. It is also believed that either Secretary Root or Governor Taft could easily be elected. Such nomination in their judgment would conserve the interests of both party and nation.

Is not the duty of Theodore Roosevelt plain? In justice both to his party and the nation should he not refuse to be a candidate, and ask his party to nominate one who can more clearly win? Why invite defeat by seeking or permitting a nomination to which there is objection when success can be assured by the nomination of one to whom there is no objection?

To those familiar with the record of Theodore Roosevelt, who know the high ideals of duty which he has not been ashamed to publicly profess and proclaim, who are aware of his deep and abiding spirit of self-sacrifice, and who are acquainted with his utter lack of egotism and personal self-seeking, it needs no prophet to foretell his course. Just as in 1898 he gallantly came to the rescue of his party to prevent its defeat under a re-nomination of Frank S. Black, so, in 1904, he will ask his party to nominate a candidate with whom it may have a reasonable expectation of winning.

Again, this present duty is emphasized by a recent statement of no less eminent an authority than Theodore Roosevelt. Speaking of Secretary Root, he says:

"Elihu Root is the ablest man I have known in our governmental service. I will go further. He is the greatest man that has appeared in the public life of any country, in any position, on either side of the ocean, in my time."

If Mr. Roosevelt's oft-repeated proposition, that the nation is entitled to the service of its ablest and best citizens, be correct, it follows that it is the duty of every patriot to bring about the nomination of the ablest and best. That duty rests upon Theodore Roosevelt equally with all his fellow citizens. It is not to be presumed that one filled with such lofty ideals, possessed of such a stern and inflexible sense of duty and of such absolute sincerity will shrink from this duty. On the other hand, it must result that he will ask his party to nominate Elihu Root.

OLD-TIME REPUBLICAN.

TARRYTOWN, Jan. 11.

Feminine Frailties of Temper Attributed to Corsets.

Dr. Arabella Kenealy in the "Nineteenth Century."

Formerly the practice of tight lacing was confined almost entirely to the fashionable and leisured classes. Now it permeates the humblest levels of society. You shall not find a housemaid or kitchenmaid, a shop girl or a little slave of all work who does not pinch her waist to a morbid and ridiculous extent. The thing has become, indeed, a national evil, for these wasp waisted, chlorotic beings are the mothers of the race.

That the stays are indeed tight is shown by the fact that although the physique and internal organs expand in every other direction, the waist of adult woman is actually less than that of the girl between ten and twelve. Moreover, it has been found that the waists of young women released from the abnormal bondage of corsets, described as "not the least bit tight," expand in the course of a few months to the extent of some three to seven inches. The female waist is naturally two inches larger than that of a male of corresponding height and weight. Yet the waist of woman unnaturally compressed is a very great many inches smaller, as we know, than that of her masculine fellow.

Let man, who rails at the proneness of a gentler sex to backbiting, scandal and pitiful spites, try for himself what it means to spend a day in well laced corsets, a summer's day preferably, when the blood vessels respond to the dilating warmth. How much amiability, tolerance or generous feeling will he succeed in manufacturing during such a day?

It would serve him for a liberal education, and temper forever after his strange masculine and inartistic enthusiasm for wasp waists. For it would prove to him once and for all time the cost at which the nineteen inches he applauds are gained. Also, it would bring home to him forcibly how much more delectable a place the world would be to live in, freer from jars and sordid bickerings, "incompatibilities" and disunion, were woman but released from this her weariest burden, were she permitted to reach the full and healthy development of her womanhood, instead of remaining the immature, half developed (though possibly muscular) being she is to-day.

The Cincinnati Riots of 1885.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have read with great interest the article in to-day's SUN on the Cincinnati riots of 1885, illustrating, as they do, one of the most remarkable incidents of our time.

The article omitted, however, the statement of the fact that young Berner was pardoned by William McKinley during his term as Governor of Ohio, and this action would seem to show that the verdict of manslaughter, criticised for its seeming inadequacy by the citizens of Cincinnati in such a forceful and appalling manner, was sufficiently severe to call for the exercise of Executive clemency at the hands of Ohio's most distinguished Executive.

The writer also has it from the lips of one who at the time was Col. Campbell's associate that he undertook the defence of young Berner in the face of great opposition, solely for the reason that the boy was friendless and, in his opinion, a tool in the hands of an older and designing criminal, against whom a verdict of murder in the first degree was rendered.

LAWYER.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.

THE AWAKENING OF ASIA.

Extension of Era That Opened With Chinese-Japanese War.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There is one thing that stands out clearly from among the contradictions of the news from all quarters regarding the Russo-Japanese imbroglio: that is, the increasing anxiety of England and France to avert an outbreak of hostilities. Both have good reason why they should exert all their influence in that direction, and so has the rest of Europe. The matter is no longer one between Russia and Japan, but has almost assumed the aspect of Asia versus Europe, with a consequent obligation on the part of Europe, and especially of those European Powers ruling large Asiatic populations, to adapt their policies to the new conditions.

There is really nothing more remarkable than the extraordinary and eager interest that every mail from different parts of Asia shows is being felt throughout the great continent over this dispute between Japan and Russia. Persia, India, Siam, French Indo-China are all stirred to the depths by the spectacle of an Asiatic Power standing up to a great European Power, and other European Powers acting a more or less friendly or unfriendly part to both, repeating in a way on the Far Eastern stage those divisions that have prevented for so long the settlement of the Near Eastern question. The present question, however, is more urgent, and needs action—not notes, ultimatums and irreducible minimums. On the one hand Japan has to be prevented from setting two continents in flames by being allowed to carry off all that her necessities and ambitions command; and the descent of the Russian glacier has in some way to be arrested in order to give the other Powers interested in China breathing time to discover just where they are.

France, for instance, has an unsettled dispute with Siam at the same time that an agitation necessitating a considerable reenforcement both of her military and naval forces in Indo-China is becoming visible among her subject populations. They are attracted to Japan as the leader in Asian politics, and so are the Siamese. The Crown Prince of Siam paid a state visit to Japan last winter, and a recent Japanese paper contains a list of high Japanese officials who have received decorations from the King of Siam in recognition of courtesies extended to his son during that visit. Recent Siamese papers also contain long and interesting reports of a combined religious and military ceremony at Bangkok extending over two days, one of the principal features of which was the presentation to the King of a Field Marshal's baton by the officers of the army, which he carried at the subsequent religious ceremony.

The visit of the Persian ex-Grand Vizier to Tokyo also had a political significance, and was the more remarkable because of the difference in the religion of the two countries. His subsequent journey to St. Petersburg in no way diminished the importance of his trip to Japan.

As to India, the transformation that has taken place in that country during the past year is so extraordinary as to have caused the Anglo-Indian press on several occasions to warn both the British and British-Indian Governments to take note of it. In the Indian press there has been a particularly bold expression of discontent with existing conditions, and assaults on natives by British military and civilians are no longer submitted to unresistingly, but the natives are beginning to hit back; the worm is turning, and this is a sign of the times. In the discussions regarding the Russo-Japanese dispute in the native papers the sympathy with Japan as an Asiatic Power is intense, and the prayer, "May God help Japan," is often the conclusion of an article on the subject. The impression made on the Indian troops who were with the British contingent during the troubles in China, at seeing a large body of Asiatic troops without a single European officer controlling or leading, was profound, and was referred to in THE SUN at the time as likely to be productive of results.

These details, taken collectively, are indicative of the awakening of Asia, the rousing from a dormant state of more than half the human race. It perhaps found its most concentrated expression in the exclamation of the old Sikh warrior who had served the best part of his life under the British flag, at a meeting held in London rather more than a year ago to consider questions relating to India. "Why," he said, "if we can fight to hold India for England, cannot we fight to hold it for ourselves?" When called on to withdraw what some in the meeting considered a seditious utterance, the sturdy old soldier refused, and the incident was allowed to drop.

It is this new orientation of Asian politics which Europe and the rest of the world will have to take into account, and that before very long. The present dispute is but an incident in the era that opened in 1894 when Japan made trouble with China.

A war between Russia and Japan will, if it takes place, be only an incident in itself, and the opening one of a series of events that must occur before the world settles down again. When that time comes, both Europe and Asia will have assumed different shapes and will hold different relations, and none know that better than the British and French Governments; hence their solicitude for peace.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. F.

Abyssinia's Resources.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Replying to the note printed in THE SUN on Jan. 7, I shall also give a few facts to Mr. W. E. Mantius, only for the sake to "give to Cæsar what belongs to Cæsar."

First—Mr. M. says: The only navigable seaport by which the interior of Abyssinia can be reached is Djibouti; that is not enough. What about Zeila, the English port in Somaliland, about sixty miles south from Djibouti? To be correct, also what about Massawah, on the Red Sea, the Italian port?

Second—The money Mr. M. says is the Maria Theresian thaler. True just for Hanar, Addis Abeba and Djibouti, but Mr. M. was perhaps never further. He forgets the "amulet," or bar of salt, the cartridges, the long pieces of iron for South Godjom, the beads, gold dust and rings, ivory. Mr. M. forgets the Abyssinians are pastoral tribes, and hunting always.

Third—About making and unmaking treaties, Menelik showed the Italians that he knows just what a word means, and therefore he don't give his often. As to being foxy, we call it here diplomatic.

Fourth—Mr. M. says the first missionary who * * * was Prince Henry. Prince Henri d'Orléans was never a missionary, but a good sportsman, a fine explorer and had to come back with Count Leontieff when the last one met with a horrible accident and had to be brought on a stretcher from Hanan to Djibouti and was operated on in Paris. Prince Henri d'Orléans did not go back, but while exploring in China died of an abscess of the liver in Cochin China.

Fifth—Mr. M. does not know how to spell the name of a thorough Italian "gentleman" as now Major Ciccochicolla (he was Captain when I met him) is; and is now Envoyé Plenipotentiaire of his Majesty the King of Italy! Major Ciccochicolla was First Lieutenant at the battle of Adigraat and as commanding officer at the port of Makulle had his own brother killed!

Sixth—Mr. M. says the capital is Addis Abeba and Hanar is the next city: Addis Abeba is no city at all, to be correct, and Hanar is an old Arab town. What about Ankober and Akooun?

Seventh—Why is a Copt less than a Christian? Pray what about the water cure?

Eighth—Mr. Ellis did not visit officially the Negus, but Mr. Skinner did.

I only agree and then quite thoroughly, with Mr. M. It is when he writes: "For the present I advise 'hands off' in matters of Abyssinian."

Of course to be correct I could give you lots more information, but let us be only just.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. HAKIM.

Sovereigns and Their "Help."

Alfred the Great had just burnt the cakes.

"That settles it," cried the mistress of the house, "I've had Chinese, colored, Irish and Swedes, and now even a King won't do."

With a despairing sigh she decided to break up and go to boarding.

George III. was wondering how the apple got into the dumpling.

"That's nothing," replied Queen Charlotte as she tested the pastry, "you had better wonder how it is going to get out."

Foreseeing another trip to the intelligence office, his reason gave way.

Mean Temperatures.

It was an explorer, brave and bold,
And thrilling tales told he
Of long, long nights in the bitter cold,
Adrift on the Arctic Sea:
Of frozen corpses down in the hold—
A dozen or more—ah me.

Oh, the hardy hero could not forget
His voyages toward the Pole:
The journey north on the famed Jeannette—
The days when he neared the goal
And shivered and shook with Peary—and yet
He considered, upon the whole,

As he meditatively took some sips
Of his toddy upon the bar,
That these privations on Arctic ships
Were to be preferred by far
To the frightful rigors of daily trips
In the Brooklyn trolley car!

H. T. MILLS.

CHINA'S ULTIMATE DESTINY.

Unfolding of Events in the East All Bear on The Great Problem.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Late in the month of April 1903, some views of mine on matters Russian and Chinese you were so kind as to present on your editorial page, under the caption: "After Manchuria—What?"

The very alert interest of all nations nine months ago was centred on the question, uppermost then in the Orient: Does Russia intend to stay in Manchuria: and, if so, what will Japan and China do about it, and what will be done by the rest of the world?

Russia has made it plain, as plain as anything ever is in Cathay, that she does not entertain the remotest idea of evacuating the rich province whose significance to her is twofold. Manchuria furnishes Russia with an open port on the sea; farther than that, it gives her a pleasant region where troops may remain, very comfortably, within striking distance of Pekin, and at the same time within easy distance of Corea, "Land of the Morning Calm."

In Japan the present situation reminds me of the mood that the United States was in during the month of March and early April in 1898. We had watched affairs in Cuba, those days, for a long time. Indignation here, over one act and another on the part of Spain, was intense. Many of our people did not want war, yet felt fearful that war might come. Other Americans, like "Bucky" O'Neill of Arizona, were fearful that war might not come. I have thought often that McKinley knew it must come, and was preparing for it, for weeks before its actual advent. So in Japan now the Mikado probably knows that war is at hand; but he delays until his ships from Italy can reach the Yellow Sea.

No prediction is safe at the moment, however, as to what may or may not happen as between Russia and Japan. Instead of using her Manchurian foothold to bring direct pressure upon Pechili, Russia appears to desire to handle first the less numerous, but more agile, yellow people further west. Japan is forcing this shifting of the scene. When a clash follows, any day, no one will be surprised. If, to the contrary, no clash shall come, a sense of relief will follow, but not one of surprise.

Beyond and behind all wars and rumors of wars between Russia and Japan, the one overwhelming problem of this century remains concealed. That problem is, as it has been for forty years: What shall be China's destiny? Not much more light is provided as to that vast problem than has been provided heretofore. If Russia overtly gets Manchuria, and Japan as overtly overruns Corea, China will still be there, to puzzle politicians, mystify white races (herself, also, perhaps), and hold out the greatest commercial potentialities imaginable to all who know her almost untouched wealth of every sort.

It is a satisfaction to feel that no American enterprise in the Orient is suffering in the least so far from threats that fly between Petersburg and Tokio. Our railway is making good progress between Canton and Hankow, just the same as though it were in Hindustan. Other enterprises, fathered here, may profit by a wrangle in which the United States is not likely to become involved.

England's apathy seems unlike her old-time preponderance in international affairs. It is amusing to find in THE SUN, this morning, a London despatch that quotes Lord Ronaldshay, just returned there from Manchuria, as saying yesterday that there were six trainloads of Russian troops immediately ahead of his train as he went eastward, and that "there were 200,000 Russian soldiers in Manchuria last August." Probably no American is so well informed about Manchuria as Leigh Hunt, concessionaire. He was in New York three years ago to-day. Talking with him at the Holland House, he said to me that there were then 200,000 Russian soldiers in Manchuria. In other words, the information conveyed in the interview with Lold Ronaldshay is exactly three years old.

English merchants in the East have been remarkably successful in building up their trade; as bankers in the Orient they have done equally well: but the English Foreign Office, synonymous with incapacity, will open its eyes in wonder beyond a doubt over Lord Ronaldshay's remarks, as though they conveyed some startling news. Petersburg, Berlin, even Washington, keep well informed these days, but any old sensation will do to work off in the streets of London.

THURLOW WEED BARNES.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.

POLICE GRAFT.

Suggestions of Methods to Prevent Corruption and Promote Decency.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A great deal is being said about police graft, but no one seems to have any idea of how to prevent it. It is plain that the laws that were enacted for wholesome purposes are perverted to bad ones by the police.

It seems that there must be a change of method before there can be any reform that will insure against graft. At present an affidavit is laid before a Magistrate as the foundation for a raiding warrant, which being issued the raid takes place; and most of the persons arrested are discharged the next morning by the Magistrate. This mode of dealing with certain classes of houses in which "business" is carried on on the sly, gives to the police the power to extort by a previous threat of a raiding or by a promise of "protection." No such power should be in the hands of a Magistrate or the police.

If an objectionable, because unlawful, house is being conducted, the matter should be investigated by a Grand Jury, to sit for the special purpose of considering such cases, and if they indict, let them indict the house as well as the lawbreaker, and have a notice of the indictment posted on the front wall of the house, with a warning that any person found on the premises for a period, he or she, will be liable to arrest for disorderly conduct, excepting, of course, that the owner may remain for any lawful purpose; or that during the pendency of the indictment the owner must give a bond not to use the premises for an unlawful purpose. Some such plan as this would strike at the root of the matter of disorderly houses and would be due process of law. Placarding the house with a notice and illuminating the front with a red light would be effective. Another thing, do not permit the arrest of a woman in the street for any conduct that would not be an offence in a man. The power to arrest loiterers, smilers, winkers, &c., who are female, is not used against the ones who are protected, but only against the stray bird who thinks to pick up a crumb, and who does not know that a police license is necessary in this particular locality. This would save respectable persons from being arrested on suspicion of being stray birds, and who are sworn into the toils by plain clothes men.

The powers given for good objects are the foundation of graft. Take away these powers and you save the police from being corrupted. The main object of having a police force is to make the city a safe place to live in. But to arrest people for winking or talking to other people in the streets is for graft and not for public order. The offence of winking, &c., is as nothing compared with the debauching of the police by corrupting them for blackmailing objects. Some things cannot be prevented; but police degradation can be prevented by shearing off some of the powers used by them for no good purpose.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. E. R. D.

The "Trolleywogs."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Going back and forth in the Brooklyn trolley cars every day, I hear many complaints about the roughness of the crowds in the mad rush for seats. The cause of the trouble is that there are seats enough for the Trolleywogs only, and, as the Trolleywogs compose about one quarter of all the people who are compelled to ride in the trolleys, it is manifest that they must squirm through the human sea with speed if not care. Otherwise they might lose the seats which are reserved for them. Now, the Trolleywog is essentially a man; by nature a big, strong man, and per force of habit an aggressive man. The charge of the Trolleywogs at the Bridge every night is an exhibition which is probably unique.

It is possible that some of the complaints of this unseemly scramble have reached the ears of the B. R. T. officials, although, of course, they are in no wise responsible for the Trolleywogs. They don't breed Trolleywogs: they only furnish the cold-storage for preserving them.

If any of these complaints have reached the officials, may it not be that a suggestion for relief would be acceptable to them? I have such a suggestion. My remedy is so simple it seems strange that it has not been thought of before. Why not take out the seats altogether? Three-quarters of the people have to stand up, anyway; why not give the other quarter a show? The old men, the women and the children, the consumptives and the cripples, they all stand now; why not the strong able-bodied men—in short, the Trolleywogs.

Then there would be no more of this maddening crush. All would be on an equal footing. There would be no advantage in being the first one in. On the contrary, there might be some advantage in being the last, for then one would not have the rest of the crowd leaning on him. Then might we not look for a return of the good old days of chivalry and expect to see the strange spectacle of a strong man standing aside for a weak woman lifting his hat with a polite "after you, madam"?

This suggestion will undoubtedly appeal strongly to the street railway people for two reasons, namely: First, the suggestion costs nothing, and, secondly, it will be cheaper to build cars without seats. Perhaps, too, the fact that the cars would hold more people might not detract from the beauty of the scheme.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. F. M. F.

DELEGATE FROM ALASKA.

To Be Appointed by President—No Territorial Form of Government.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—The sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Territories, which visited Alaska last summer, in accordance with a recommendation made by President Roosevelt in his annual message to Congress last year, made its report to the full committee to-day.

The sub-committee reports adversely on the question of organizing a territorial form of government in Alaska, holding that the population is too widely scattered and that the means of communication are slow and inconvenient.

The same conditions convinced the subcommittee that it would be unwise to authorize the election of a delegate in Congress from the Territory by popular vote, but it is strongly recommended that a delegate be appointed by the President by and with the advice of the Senate.

Road building, the committee says, is one of the great needs of Alaska, in order that the great natural resources of the Territory may be developed. As a beginning, the Senators recommend that a wagon road about four hundred and fifty miles long be constructed between the towns of Valdez on the Gulf of Alaska, and Eagle, on the Upper Yukon River. This highway would afford an all American route to the Klondike and to the important Yukon region of Alaska.

The Senators believe that the present Third Judicial district should be divided, because the interests of northwestern Alaska in the neighborhood of Nome and in the region north of that settlement have developed to such an extent as to require the services of an additional Federal Judge.

One of the most significant features of the report is the recommendation in regard to the fur seals. The Senators urge that all killing of seals be suspended at once for an indefinite period and that the Government attempt to reopen negotiations with Great Britain, Japan and Russia looking to a revision of the rules which govern the taking of seals in the open waters of the North Pacific Ocean and Behring Sea.

SCHOOL TEACHERS' JUNKET.

Plan to Bring 600 From Porto Rico to Attend Summer Schools.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—The Committee on Insular Affairs ordered a resolution to be reported to the House to-day authorizing the Quartermaster-General to use a transport to bring 600 teachers from Porto Rico to the United States, to attend the summer schools of various universities, the teachers to pay for their subsistence on the boat and all their expenses while in this country. This was done two or three years ago with Cuban teachers with good results.

University Students and Religious Worship.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In a letter in THE SUN to-day on the subject of "the alleged indifference of university students to the forms of religious worship," your correspondent avers that the church attendance of Harvard undergraduates is exceedingly small.

Such is indeed the case, but while the assumption that the students "for the most part drift into passive agnosticism or indifference, and apply themselves to academic routine apart from any religious bearings" may be correct as to many individuals, I do not think it can be applied to those men who have previously attended any of the so-called "Church schools," such as St. Paul's and Groton, which annually supply a very respectable percentage of the freshman class.

At these schools compulsory chapel service is held twice a day, and during the whole course the forms of worship are made obligatory for every boy. In some cases such strong moral suasion is brought to bear in the matter of confirmation that any but a strong-minded boy is apt to be confirmed, though he knows little of the importance of the act, and does not understand what he is doing. Naturally, a boy dislikes being "forced to be religious," and he soon goes through the service almost mechanically, and the forms of religion have less and less weight with him as expressions of his religious belief. Consequently, when he finds that he is no longer obliged to attend chapel he stays away. But I do not think his absence proves that he takes no interest in religion. On the contrary, having been in a Church atmosphere, he has very probably found a religious belief more definite than have many of his classmates. Yet he has so long been obliged to read the Psalms, say "Amen" and join in the hymns and responses, under the disciplinary eye of his schoolmaster, that he has ceased to find anything religious in these forms of worship. Consequently, the "Church school" undergraduate is apt to include them as "tasks" with Latin and Greek, and seizes the first chance he has to run away from them.

DANA BRANNAN.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Jan. 10.

Grave Defects in English Manners.

From the National Review.

Madame de Staël, after a year spent in England under conditions that gave her an opportunity of seeing all that was distinguished in society, recorded her admiration for our Constitution, institutions, parties, principles, laws and by-laws, but she was reluctantly obliged to admit that our men had no manners and that our social intercourse lacked one great essential, namely, conversation. According to her, English men and women speak only when they have something to say, and then they exhaust every phase of the subject—and themselves. The collapse which ensues in the conversation, says the vivacious French woman, does not seem to discompose the hostess or disturb the company; it is accepted as quite natural.

The defects in our social system must remain characteristic of us as long as our men remain as indifferent as they are to society—in fact, as long as they are still only partially civilized. The French nation has undoubtedly put women on a higher platform than has the British, and the greater refinement of their social conception is no less indisputably due to this fact. The position of a wife and mother in a French family is legally and instinctively a more honorable one, and the mother-in-law, though often the subject of ridicule on the stage, enjoys an authority and consideration which that relationship is totally deprived of with us. Wife-beating is unknown amongst our Gallic friends, excitable though they are; and, as every one knows at home, that pastime is commonly indulged in by our lower classes at the expense of a 2s. 6d. fine. In England many little things testify to the accepted "superiority" of the male sex. A woman bows first, as to her lord and master; in France a man salutes his idol, whether noticed or unnoticed, and stands with his head uncovered if she stops to speak to him, while the younger men never omit to kiss a lady's hand, to shake which would seem an impertinence! To assert that all these formalities are meaningless is the abrupt conclusion of most "self-respecting" Englishmen, but they are nevertheless the evidences of a refined civilization and have their value if life in society is desirable and useful.

The addition, therefore, of these finishing touches to the manly qualities of our British fathers, brothers and sons would make of our male belongings the paragons of the whole earth.

Protection for Caisson Workers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Regarding the scheme suggested in Dr. Stephen Bredin's letter in to-day's SUN for the protection of caisson workers, that air be supplied to the workers at normal pressure (fifteen pounds per square inch) by means of a flexible hose and suitable mouthpiece, the man's body being subjected to a pressure of surface atmosphere in the caisson at the time:

If the doctor pauses to reflect for a moment he will realize what a physical impossibility it would be for a man to breathe under these conditions. The fifteen pounds' pressure in the lungs must overcome the forty-five pounds' pressure, tending to contract the lungs before the chest can expand and draw in the air.

In other words, the muscles of the chest and diaphragm must overcome external pressure of thirty pounds (45 minus 15) for each square inch of area. When one considers the hundreds of square inches of lung surface it can readily be imagined that such a person's chest would be instantly crushed.

Equally impracticable would be a suit of armor (so to speak) capable of withstanding external pressure of thirty pounds per square inch, as none could be constructed sufficiently light and flexible to be of use.

The preventive of the "bends" would seem to be (1) shorter periods of labor and (2) fewer hours of work per twenty-four hours.

A. M. OSBORN.

EAST ORANGE, N. J., Jan. 11.

The Fashions in Kentucky.

From the Ford News.

One day last week Jim Owen and Winth Goode of this city, started in a buggy on a trading expedition. Near Buckerville they left their rig at the roadside and walked across a field to look at a cow. While they were gone a woman, wearing a late-style skyscraper hat passed by and so frightened the poor horse that he ran away and smashed the buggy all to flinders.