The Sun.

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 1904.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second-Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, Per Month	$0 50
DAILY, Per Year	6 00
SUNDAY, Per Year	2 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	8 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month	70

Postage to foreign countries added.

Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association at No. 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York.

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

The Democrats at Albany To-day.

We print here, as a document of contemporaneous political interest, the declaration of policy adopted by the State convention held by the New York Democracy in April, 1876, for the appointment of delegates to St. Louis:

"*Resolved*, That the Democratic party of New York, while committing to their delegates the duty of joining with the delegates of their fellow Democrats of all the States in the momentous deliberations of a national convention, declare their settled conviction that a return to the Constitutional principles, frugal expenditure and the administrative purity of the founders of the Republic is the first and most imperious necessity of the times, the commanding issue now before the people of the Union; and they suggest, with respectful deference to their brothers of other States, and with cordial appreciation of other renowned Democratic statesmen, faithful like him to their political principles and public trusts, that the nomination of SAMUEL J. TILDEN to the office of President would insure the vote of New York, and would be approved throughout the Union as a recognition of this supreme necessity, the incarnation of this vital issue, the pledge of our high purpose, and the guarantee of the successful achievement of this arduous work of national regeneration and reform."

Those were the "instructions," and that was the platform which marked the inception of the great Democratic revival of 1876. That was all.

The New York Democracy meets to-day at Albany for a similar purpose, under circumstances and in the presence of national conditions in many respects like those which inspired its hopes and stimulated its activity nearly thirty years ago. The vital issue and the supreme necessity are again substantially the same as those broadly stated by the April convention of 1876, when New York presented to the Democracy the name of Governor TILDEN.

There is this difference, however. Mr. TILDEN's public record was his platform. His political achievements were his credentials. His opinions on all subjects of interest to the voters had been clearly expressed and were widely known. It was not the State convention that defined the issue and selected a candidate to represent it, the candidate himself had already given the issue to the convention and to the party in the State and nation.

Because this difference exists in the present situation, because Judge PARKER for reasons of delicacy, undoubtedly creditable to himself and probably satisfactory to his supporters, has up to the present time refrained from any announcement of his political views as a candidate, does it therefore become the function or the duty of the Democrats assembled at Albany to provide him with an itemized and specific set of opinions on which to go now to the Democrats of the other States, and to St. Louis in July next?

It will be fortunate for Judge PARKER if so preposterous an idea does not prevail at Albany to-day. Fortunate will it be for his candidacy if it is launched without an embarrassing attempt on the part of picayune politicians to forestall those utterances from his own mouth and on his own individual responsibility which must mark his formal appearance as a candidate for President, and which alone can make or mar his political fortunes.

The formula of 1876 is a model for 1904; but in the present case, as not in the case of Mr. TILDEN, there will be required an authoritative supplement from the lips or the pen of Judge PARKER himself. Who that is making up his mind whether to vote for ALTON B. PARKER will care what DAVID B. HILL's committee on resolutions thinks or says?

A Tribute to Uncle Joe Cannon.

The Hon. W. BOURKE COCKRAN has pointed out the miserable condition of the House of Representatives. Encroached upon alike by the Executive Department and the Senate, he beholds it shorn of its power, a rather expensive, practically useless national debating club.

On Wednesday this once great body took up for consideration a resolution from the Committee on Rules designed to limit debate and prevent obstructive tactics in the consideration of the Philippine Government bill. The Democrats opposed the bill and the resolution, and the Hon. DAVID A. DE ARMOND took time to supplement Mr. COCKRAN's doleful picture with a few words. Mr. DE ARMOND remembered when Speaker CANNON was on the floor, a sturdy defender of the rights and privileges of the House against the Senate.

Mr. CANNON "gave us some very good doctrine" in those days, Mr. DE ARMOND asserted. But Uncle JOE has changed. Power has come to him. He no longer looks through the spectacles of a mere Representative. He has entered the camp of the enemy. Hear Mr. DE ARMOND:

"Then he was not in a position where he could make his views control absolutely. Now he is, and here we have them! Here we have the concrete, here we have result, and the House will now be 'elevated.' [Applause on the Democratic side]. The country will soon understand that this is a deliberative body—the Speaker deliberates! This is an acting body—the Speaker acts! [Laughter and applause on the Democratic side.] That it is a submissive body—the Speaker wishes, and his cohorts upon the other side calmly, peacefully and cheerfully obey! When will the House be brought back to its pristine glory by that process? I see that the Speaker's gavel is about to fall, indicating that I will not have time to tell when [applause], but it will be a long time."

That manifestation of approbation known as "long and continued applause" rewarded Mr. DE ARMOND from the Democratic side. It must have pained the Speaker to cut off the gentleman from Missouri in the midst of such an eloquent tribute to Mr. CANNON'S power and might. Of course, it was not as great a tribute as some that were paid to the author of the Reed rules, but Mr. CANNON is young in the chair. Already Mr. DE ARMOND recognizes in him a legislative slave driver. May he not hope some day to be a Czar?

Concerning Instructor Lodge's Massachusetts Platform.

The Massachusetts Republican State convention attempted to hit both CLEVELAND and OLNEY with this plank of its platform:

"The Sherman Anti-Trust law, enacted by a Republican Administration, was the first recognition of the duty of the Federal Government to protect the people against the trusts, monopolies or contracts in restraint of trade. A Democratic Administration failed to enforce it."

Senator LODGE was once a teacher of history to Harvard students, and he should have seen to it that the platform was historically accurate. The President himself has been the delighted pupil of Instructor LODGE.

If we are not greatly mistaken, Gen. HARRISON began the execution of the Anti-Trust law of 1890. He prosecuted the sugar trust. His suit was thrown out by all the Circuit Courts, but was appealed to the Supreme Court by his Attorney-General, MILLER, where it was pending when CLEVELAND was inaugurated and OLNEY became Attorney-General. Both of the last two may, for all we know, have thought that the law of 1890 could not be applied to the facts proved, yet CLEVELAND was loyal to his predecessor. He continued the conduct of the case in the hands of HARRISON's Solicitor-General, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. OLNEY aided in the preparation of the brief. Mr. CLEVELAND did not, in that matter, reverse HARRISON, as in the pension matter ROOSEVELT did his predecessors. The Supreme Court decided, with only one dissent, that HARRISON had been quite wrong, and that the law of 1890 was unconstitutional as applied to the sugar trust.

HARRISON also began the prosecution of the Trans-Missouri Freight Association. That suit was also thrown out by the Circuit Courts, but OLNEY appealed it to the Supreme Court. It was argued for the prosecution by Mr. HARMON, who was OLNEY'S successor; the Supreme Court decided in favor of the United States on every point, but the decision was not announced till after Mr. MCKINLEY had been inaugurated. Meanwhile, CLEVELAND'S District Attorney began in New York the prosecution of the Joint Traffic Association, which suit all the Circuit Courts condemned; but after CLEVELAND had left office the Supreme Court reversed the lower courts. Under CLEVELAND was begun, if we are not mistaken, the prosecution of the Addyston Pipe Company, which the Supreme Court upheld.

When Mr. CLEVELAND left office he was perfectly right in saying what he did in his last annual message to Congress of the probable unconstitutionality of the Sherman law. All the courts had so decided. Mr. OLNEY, too, was quite right in his first annual report when he wrote:

"All ownership of property is of itself a monopoly, and as every business contract or transaction may be viewed as a combination which more or less restricts some part or kind of trade or commerce, any *literal* application of the provisions of the statute [of 1890] is out of the question."

The Supreme Court did afterward give it a "literal" application in the two railway cases, which five of the Justices, including BREWER and HOLMES, have recently condemned, and have vindicated OLNEY. There is no justification for the averment of the Massachusetts Republican platform that CLEVELAND did not enforce the Anti-Trust law.

If anybody was to be condemned by Massachusetts Republicans, why was it not Senator HOAR, who has been reported by others, and reported by himself, as severely criticising the Supreme Court decisions in the two railway cases, and Justice HOLMES, who upheld OLNEY?

The spectacle of the Massachusetts Republican State convention demanding, on the one hand, free and unlimited competition by all interstate railways in that section of the Union—the gates all open and the bars all down—and, on the other hand, suppressing poor Mr. FOSS, who asked for a little more free trade with Canada to stave off industrial decay from northern New England, is enough to make all the menhaden and crustacea of the waters of the Commonwealth shout with laughter.

Trust-busting is petering out! Mr. Justice HOLMES and Mr. Justice BREWER are endeavoring to lead the Republican members of the Supreme Court back to sanity.

The "trust" issue began twenty years ago, much as did its predecessor, the silver issue, ten years previously. Both parties flirted with it. Now, it is interesting to see which party will be the first to abandon the flirtation. The Republicans were the first to turn their backs, under Mr. MCKINLEY, on the silver insanity, and they have had their reward.

Senator LODGE and his Republican associates in Massachusetts have declared the Anti-Trust law of 1890 to have been "the *first* recognition of the duty of the Federal Government to protect the people" against trusts, monopolies and contracts in restraint of trade. They ignore MARSHALL's great judgment in 1824. They recognize the whole burden as on the several States for one hundred years—which burden the States bore so well and satisfactorily till the "trust" insanity came.

The problem now is to rid the people, and their industries, of the Congressional and judicial consequences of that insanity. Toward its solution the Massachusetts Republicans have done nothing. They do not commend their own Republicans, HOLMES and HOAR, or the Democrat OLNEY, or the teachers in the Harvard law school who led the way.

Senator DEPEW of New York did commend Justices HOLMES and BREWER, and the three Democratic Justices of the Supreme Court for arresting in the Northern Securities case the disruption, as he fancied, of "the many long-established accretions of different corporations by purchase or consolidation, like those of the New York Central or Pennsylvania railway," which had been made under the laws of the several States before the "trust" insanity had assumed an acute form under the present President and his Attorney-General.

It will be a black day in New England and in New York when the President shall order his Attorney-General to begin suits to disrupt, under Justice HARLAN's opinion, what Mr. DEPEW has described as railway "accretions," such as the Boston and Maine, the New York and New Haven, the Vanderbilt and the Pennsylvania systems.

Senator DEPEW can, by an enactment of ten lines, put an end to any more railway raids by the President in the interest, as he fancies, of his own candidacy. Will Congress put such an enactment on the statute book before this session shall adjourn, or will Congress leave the black day impending over innocent investors in the "many long established accretions" which Senator DEPEW has promoted and in which he has probably found profit?

Mr. Hill's Teachings Rejected at Washington.

The Hon. DAVID BENNETT HILL, author of the Democratic coal confiscation plank in the New York State platform of 1902, will read with rising wrath this statement made by Representative CRUMPACKER of Indiana on the floor of Congress last week:

"We have before us the experience of England in India, and of all countries that have undertaken to build railways and operate them. Government ownership and management of railroads in the Orient has been uniformly unsatisfactory. It creates enormous Government patronage, is subject to abuses and scandals, it is expensive, and the standard of the service is always low. England now leases most of the lines she owns in India to private companies. There was no member of the committee who believed in the wisdom of Government ownership. [Applause.] That question was considered for several days, and after being carefully thought over, was repudiated by the committee."

The membership of the House Committee on Insular Affairs, which "repudiated" Government ownership, includes the Hon. WILLIAM ATKINSON JONES of Virginia, the Hon. JOHN W. MADDOX of Georgia, the Hon. JAMES R. WILLIAMS of Illinois, the Hon. MALCOLM R. PATTERSON of Tennessee, the Hon. JAMES M. ROBINSON of Indiana, the Hon. WILSON SHEDRIC HILL of Mississippi, and the Hon. FEDERICO DEGETAU of Porto Rico. Of these gentlemen, all except Mr. DEGETAU boast their Democracy, and their faithfulness is attested by their selection for committee places by the Hon. JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS the minority leader.

To have these Democrats "repudiate" an opportunity for Government ownership and operation of the railways of the Philippines shows how poorly they have learned the socialistic lesson set them two years ago by Mr. HILL.

Are We Approaching a New Naval Era?

Whether the loss of the Petropavlovsk was due to the explosion of a Russian mine or to a Japanese torpedo it has emphasized the awful lesson that an instrument of destruction has now entered into naval warfare against which it is impossible to build a battleship so impregnable as to be able to withstand its assault. However heavily armored and armed such a vessel may be, it is the sure prey of this submarine enemy, even as developed already, if it comes directly within the range of submarine explosion. Below the water line the stoutest ironclad is indefensible.

The successful employment of the means of submarine attack by the Japanese, independently of the debated and debatable cause of the loss of the Petropavlovsk particularly, has not been surprising, but might rather have been expected. The new development of naval architecture and of the torpedo and the submarine mine has taken place coincidentally with the introduction of Japan to the scientific and mechanical improvements of Western civilization. Everything relating to war, and more especially to naval warfare after Occidental methods, was new to the Japanese a generation ago and the oldest was as new as the very latest development. They jumped into the arena of competition and conflict at the very time when the Western Powers were entering into a new and experimental stage of naval construction and devising and testing novel methods of destruction. Naval traditions and professional prejudices against novelties might restrain Western conservatism from a ready acceptance of the new machines as substitutes for old and long-tried agencies and methods, but to the Japanese these were no more novel and no more subversive of past methods than were the old. They had no previous practice and prejudice to set aside.

Accordingly, Japan might have been expected to give to the torpedo no less faith than it gave to naval attack above the water line, and the remarkable dexterity of the Japanese made them at least the equals of the most experienced naval men of the West in its management, if not their superiors; for they had the unquestionable advantage that they gave fuller trust to the machine and were ready to fight with it more confidently and therefore more effectively.

It is not improbable, then, that in this war the supreme potency of submarine attack will be demonstrated by Japanese practice so thoroughly that a new era in naval warfare will be ushered in and a revolutionary change in it will take place.

They are a people peculiarly adapted to that sort of attack. They are light and agile. They are fatalists, without the Occidental regard for life, and they are not appalled by the risks of experiments with a novel device. They have nothing to unlearn of old naval traditions, for they are fresh in the field of naval warfare.

Before this war is over it may be demonstrated to the civilized world that the modern battleship, in spite of its enormous cost, its apparent impregnability, its tremendous offensive power and its impressiveness as a naval construction, is actually no more effective as an engine of war than the oldest type of wooden and unarmored vessel, as against this new machine of attack.

Admiral MAKAROFF was represented as having expressed an opinion unfavorable to the huge battleship, on the ground that it involves the peril of putting all your eggs in one basket. His preference, as recorded, was for the fast and easily handled cruiser of smaller proportions and less heavily encumbered. His fatal experience with the Petropavlovsk seemed to justify that judgment. The huge and heavily armed and armored battleship, with its crew of as many men as would make up the population of a large village, was sent to the bottom in less than two minutes, and only about two score of the men aboard her were saved from the destruction. In the space of a few seconds the Russians suffered a loss equivalent to that in a considerable battle on land of an hour's duration, with the consequent moral damage to their cause.

As we have said, it does not matter whether Admiral MAKAROFF's flagship was torpedoed by the Japanese or sunk by the explosion of a Russian mine. The absolute effectiveness and the easy possibility of submarine attack and the complete inability of the most powerful of modern naval constructions to stand up against it were awfully demonstrated.

May it not come to pass, then, that before this generation has passed, perhaps long before, the great battleships on the construction of which the Powers of civilization have expended huge sums of money and on which they are preparing to spend still greater sums, will be rendered obsolete and become practically only material for the scrap heap? May it not be that we are approaching a period when the sphere of traditional naval activity will be more restricted rather than further extended? The development of the system of submarine attack, resistless by ships, has gone far already, as the war in the East is demonstrating, but it may reasonably be assumed that even as yet it is only in its infancy.

What do our amiable friends of the Reform Club mean when they declare that Judge PARKER must represent conservative as opposed to radical Democracy, if he is to be elected, and in the same breath express the hope that he will stand in this campaign for "the cause of free trade?"

Can the political imagination conceive anything more radical and less conservative than a "free trade" propaganda within the Democracy at the present time?

VALPARAISO'S HARBOR.

Engineering Plans to Render It Safe at a Cost of About $11,000,000.

Valparaiso is the leading Pacific port of South America. It receives nine-tenths of the Chilean imports and if we except the exports of nitrates, which are shipped through the so-called nitrate ports, Valparaiso does nearly as much business as all the other East coast ports south of Panama together. But notwithstanding its importance, the port is one of the most treacherous and unsafe harbors in the world.

It is situated on a splendid deep water bay which has the great disadvantage of opening wide to the sea. All the hurricanes and great storms enter it. Probably no one place in the world has been the scene of so many shipping disasters as this harbor. In the past eighty years, 378 vessels of one sort or another have been destroyed in it by storms. Eleven months ago the passenger ship Arequipa foundered, with 100 souls, within full view of the city.

Three years ago the Chilean Government employed a Dutch engineer named Jacob Kraus to prepare a plan for safeguarding the harbor. In his report he declared that it was impracticable to build a sea wall across the wide entrance to the bay on account of the depth of water. His improvement contemplates the construction of basins and sea walls along the water front of sufficient capacity and length to accommodate within them all the shipping and merchandise and to protect them from the damaging seas that are driven into the harbor by the fierce storms of the winter months.

This report was the working basis on which a commission of seventeen engineers, architects and other experts, appointed to make a thorough investigation of Mr. Kraus's plans, began their labors. A substantial volume in Spanish, received at this office yesterday, contains the full report of the Kraus commission, a detailed map of the proposed improvements, and pictures of the commission and Mr. Kraus. All the topographic, geological, technical, financial and other conditions of the work have been investigated and with some minor modifications the plans of Mr. Kraus have been adopted.

The cost of the improvements, including a dry dock, is estimated at $10,950,000. As the present maritime movement of the port is about 3,000,000 tons a year, the commission estimates that the receipts from a tax of 43.8 cents per ton on imports and of 14.6 per registered ton on vessels entering, together with the rentals of yards, sheds and warehouses, will yield an income of $703,800 and that the improvements will save the trade of Valparaiso fully $1,000,000 a year.

The report of the commission will be submitted by the Government to the Congress at its coming session, with a recommendation that the plans and specifications be adopted and an appropriation be voted for the cost of the work. The Chileans believe that the conditions which so long have been detrimental to the commerce of Valparaiso are at last to be remedied.

Dr. Pepper's Legacy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your item on April 16 of Mrs. Mary Sickly (ha!), who died at Medicine Lodge (ha! ha!) and bequeathed to her physician (name not given) all the medicines he had prescribed for her during twenty years, recalls to my mind an incident related by a young physician some years ago. He ascribed it to Dr. Pepper of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Pepper said that among his patients he once had a woman of ample means, much attached to him as she had been to his father. This lady notified Dr. Pepper that she intended to bequeath a tin box and its contents to him. Upon her death Dr. Pepper opened the box, and in it found all the prescriptions he had written for her during a period of years which I cannot recall, but back to a certain day when, having called on her, he was in the hall putting on his hat, and in response to a question regarding her, said: "Oh, it's nothing serious; she's a little hysterical."

I have never known this to be in print, but I dare say that many physicians are acquainted with it. Did this anecdote find its way into Oklahoma and suggest the item I have referred to? W. A.

THE BRONX, April 16.

How to Have a History of the War.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I want to draw attention to THE SUN's admirable editing of the daily war reports.

I am carefully preserving each of the summaries consecutively. The result will be a complete, concisely written history of the war, giving the actual facts as they occurred. B.

APRIL 15.

The Iconoclasts.

The glorious leap of Mad Anthony Wayne
Has very decidedly slumped:
The latest researches will doubtlessly prove
'Twas only a board bill he jumped.

The cherry tree, hatchet,—and George's reply,
In seas of oblivion drown:
The real time young Washington stood for the truth
Was after he couldn't sit down.

Dame Barbara Frietchie, who leaned from the sill,
Is nothing but Whittier bosh;
It wasn't Old Glory she shook at the rebs—
She probably hung out a wash.

Thus heroes are torn from their pedestals now
By modern exposure of fact,
So if you decide on a world-renowned deed
'Tis wisest to patent the act.

MCLANDBURGH WILSON.

PICTURE OF A GREAT LANDSLIDE.

Twelve days less than a year ago one of the largest landslides on record occurred on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains in Alberta. A wide strip of the entire eastern face of Turtle Mountain, rising 3,000 feet above the valley of Old Man River, broke away from the underlying rock and was precipitated with terrific violence into the valley. It completely dammed the river and reared a wall between the mountains from a few feet to 150 feet high. The Canadian Geological Survey has been investigating the causes and results of this breakdown of a mountain, and the Department of the Interior has just printed the report. The photographic reproductions with it are more interesting than those found in most official documents.

One photograph shows the whole width of the valley, across which the rock débris was heaped up as a cartman dumps a load of coal. The boundary wall on the left is Turtle Mountain, rising black above the plain; but the entire centre of this eastern face from top to bottom is gouged out to a width of perhaps an eighth of a mile, and the broad scar shows perfectly white, for the rock is limestone.

But what seems most astonishing of all is the stream of white rock fragments and dust piled up on the comparatively level floor of the valley and stretching for two miles eastward from the foot of Turtle Mountain. Like a wave, it may be said to have broken against the sides of the opposite mountain wall, dashing up against the obstacle and throwing thousands of tons of débris 400 feet up the slope of the eastward mountain. This broad band of white, stretching across the valley plain, otherwise sombre in tone, gives a most impressive idea of the mighty force of the propulsive power which in the twinkling of an eye piled up this wall across the valley.

It is not difficult to understand it, however, when we consider the fact. The area of the rock on the mountainside which broke away measures 1.03 square miles of an average thickness of forty-five feet. The weight of the mass which was precipitated down the mountain is estimated at 90,796,000 tons. Rock slides of this magnitude have not been recorded in the Alps, and none so large is known to have occurred in the Canadian Rockies. When we remember that a large part of this rock fell from a height of 2,000 to 3,000 feet above the valley, it is not astonishing that the débris was shot across the lowland almost as a projectile leaves a cannon.

The estimates as to the time occupied by the movement range from twenty seconds to two minutes. From all the evidence it is probable that the time which elapsed between the first crash and complete rest did not exceed 100 seconds, and may have been somewhat less. The distance from the summit of Turtle Mountain to the end of the slide is about two and a half miles; and those awakened by the roar had scarcely time to do more than to rise from their beds before all was over. The European geologist Heim estimates that the blocks in the great slide at Elm travelled a mile and a half in from ten to thirty seconds. The material leaped from a projecting shelf, right across the valley; and on this account the movement was probably more rapid than in the case of the Turtle Mountain slide.

About seventy persons were killed. All the cottages at the east end of the little town of Frank were destroyed. The slide occurred about 4:10 o'clock in the morning, when most of the inhabitants were asleep, and the statements of the few eyewitnesses throw little light on the character of the phenomenon.

Investigation shows that Turtle Mountain was ripe for a slide. The surface rocks were much fractured, and the unusually heavy precipitation had introduced through these fissures in the rock a large quantity of water that had spread over the basal beds of the limestone series, making them too slippery to support the enormous and steeply inclined mass above them. It is believed also that the workings in the coal mine at the base of the mountain, weakening the resistance to movement, had something to do with the slide. The part of the slope that remains is regarded as threatening the town of Frank. It might exist on its present site uninjured for ages, but there will always be a possibility of a second destructive slide. It is therefore recommended that the town be moved a short distance up the valley, beyond the reach of danger.

Short Anglo-American Essays.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Individually, the intelligent Englishman is treated all right by real Americans; but collectively the English are treated shamefully by press, people and stage.

As to wit, I must say that Americans are the wittiest people in the world; and I am well acquainted with English wit, too. J. B.

NEW YORK, April 16.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* While there is no danger of the American boy be coming effeminate, there is yet a distinct type of youth, quite as common here as the saphead dudes in London, who give foreigners their idea of the typical Englishman. These gentle darlings impress all strangers. They range from 16 to 20. Then college or business stirs the latent manhood. They abound in the suburbs, where families of one son and two or three daughters are common. Prof. Armstrong traces the cause to women teachers, but it is more likely the pampering of a too fond mother and sisters. I must say I think many American men are more chivalrous as lovers than brothers, and a few mothers seem to coddle the only son and keep him at home, while his hearty sisters go away to school.

Pa can commute, bolt his breakfast and slave all day, but little Willie must not get feet wet and has to be tucked up at night. He has audacious flirtations with very young school girls and no football. He is muffled carefully, and in rubbers from fall to May, hair long on the forehead. American men, though, are O. K. ENGLISH GIRL.

BROOKLYN, April 17.

State Supervision of State Banks.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I am glad to read your editorial in this morning's SUN relative to the carelessness of the State Superintendent of Banks. It is a shame and a disgrace, as you say, that the rottenness of this institution was discovered at this late date.

If the Superintendent's examiners had properly examined the paper held by this institution and their methods, as they should have done, this would have been discovered a year ago.

It seems to me that the system of granting charters for the asking is rather loose. TRUTH.

NEW YORK, April 16.

The Promotion of Gen. Mills.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Referring to the telegraphic despatch from Washington recently printed in THE SUN, that the confirmation of Gen. A. L. Mills by the Senate results in jumping him over 800 other officers, I beg to call your attention to the facts that about 800 of these officers had already been jumped over Gen. Mills, and that a large number of the balance, indeed all but eighty, were appointments from civil life of commissaries, quartermasters and surgeons.

This statement of the facts puts the matter, I think, in a different light. C. H. BLAIR.

NEW YORK, April 16.

Something Like a Threat.

From Lugano Dovere.

Thirty-three citizens of Claro herewith declare that they will become freethinkers if the ecclesiastical authority does not expel the village curé. This is the decision of the majority of the villagers in an assembly. (Signed) LORENZO MAGGIORINA.
For these thirty-three citizens.

Kansas Town of 2,000 Without a Negro.

From the Kansas City Journal.

Hayes City is probably the only town of 2,000 population in the whole West which does not number a single negro among its citizenship.

THE NEW POLICE BUILDING.

An Argument in Favor of the Centre Market Site for Headquarters.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As a resident of this city, and one more or less interested in the erection of the city's new municipal buildings, I beg to take issue with Police Commissioner McAdoo, and also a comment in your paper, printed a few weeks ago, regarding the site of the proposed Police Headquarters. In a letter dated March 23 of the present year, and addressed to the Mayor, Police Commissioner McAdoo says, among other things:

Upon examination of the proposed site, and after mature reflection and consultation with disinterested persons, both in and out of the Department, I have come to the conclusion that it would be a great mistake for the city to erect a Police Headquarters on the site of this market. (Centre Market, at the corner of Grand and Centre streets.) The location is, in my opinion, in every way undesirable.

The Commissioner, further on in his letter, says that a headquarters on this site will, each year, become more and more out of place. This headquarters is distinctly a municipal building for the administrative offices of the Police Department, and a building of this character should be in close proximity to the seat of city government. It should be near the City Hall and the large city courts. Will the City Hall, the Hall of Records, the Criminal Courts, and other city buildings become each year more and more out of place? If it were the intention completely to remodel the city by placing the seat of city government nearer the heart of Manhattan borough, as, for instance, near some public square, such as Madison Square, then I would by all means advocate the Commissioner's plan. But under existing conditions Centre street might rightly be called a municipal thoroughfare. On it are situated the Criminal Courts, the new Tombs, the new Hall of Records, the City Hall, and I believe it is the intention to build the new court houses not far distant from the proposed Police Headquarters site.

The Police Department of the city of New York, has, all told, eighty-eight precincts, divided as follows: Forty-two in the boroughs of Manhattan and The Bronx; thirty-two in the borough of Brooklyn; ten in the borough of Queens, and four in the borough of Richmond. Does the Commissioner believe that Long Acre Square or Madison Square is as central for all these precincts as the Centre Market site? Again, he says that the active police work in New York and the center of police life in New York are at present in the Nineteenth and Twenty-second precincts, that the police life is most active between 7:00 P. M. and 7:00 A. M., presumably in the district of places of amusements. This is all perfectly true, but in these precincts conditions demand a larger, and possibly a new police station, but not administrative building—the Police Headquarters. If, as the Commissioner points out, the new headquarters should be located with a view to the future growth and development of New York, and should follow the line of advancing population, then so too should the new City Hall, as proposed, and the other city buildings, be located to follow the line of advancing population.

Aside from the importance of locating the headquarters where it is most urgently needed and as seen from the "City Beautiful" point, it would seem to me that the erection of this building, of so handsome a design, on the Centre Market site, would result in future improvements in this neighborhood, and that the best way to beautify the future city is not to erect all our fine buildings in just a few localities, but to distribute them, and thus eventually enhance the valuation of adjacent property, and accordingly increase public improvements. The "City Beautiful" point is of secondary importance, however; the new Police Headquarters should be built where it is most needed, and I believe this Centre Market site, as already selected, to be a most advisable one.

In closing I desire to say that I am in no way interested in property around the Centre Market, I own no real estate in this city, but being more or less interested in municipal government, I take this occasion to show why I consider the site chosen as best for the new Police Headquarters.

NEW YORK, April 16. A NEW YORKER.

From a Finnish Exile.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Mr. Davitt says Russia has not shed Finnish blood as England did the Boers'. Does he know that if Finland had uttered one word of resistance, troops were all ready to flood the country and soldiers were massed in every town? I do not defend the Boer war, but where is the parallel between the Boers with their fine arms and money, and who challenge England on the Uitlander question, and the peaceful Finlanders, who were tricked and cheated of their rights before they had a chance to arm?

Does Mr. Davitt know that Russia has recently hanged students for making a speech, and that for an unwise word Finlanders are torn from home and sent for life to a penal colony, where they soon perish? Six thousand of us here to-day dare not go home.

Does he know that unwilling Finnish conscripts are dragged in thousands to serve in an alien army, that many have committed suicide, or that an editor last month, finding his edition forbidden by the censor, printed on blank pages, "We cannot speak, but we can think and pray," and for this was arrested by Bobrikoff and exiled, leaving a young wife and children to starve?

AXEL MINEANDER,
BROOKLYN, April 15. Exiled from Abo.

Rowdies in Brooklyn Elevated Trains.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Will you be so kind as to call attention to the nuisance which occurs daily in the B. R. T. East New York trains in the mornings, between the hours of 6:30 and 8 o'clock? There is a crowd of grown-up boys who make the trips unbearable to the other passengers, by making an awful disorderly racket and lighting their cigarettes unmindful of the ladies and other persons in the car. They also use the most profane and indecent language.

The conductors are generally very busy between the stations with the big crowds of the mornings, and cannot keep a look-out for these young men. The consequence is that the public has to suffer. Some detectives ought to be placed in the morning trips, and some one should be arrested and punished to stop the abuse. PASSENGER.

BROOKLYN, April 18.

A Case of Mistaken Identity.

From the Philadelphia Telegraph.

Residents of a certain part of Spruce street have often seen two charming old ladies, twin sisters who look so much alike that no one ever bothers to distinguish between them, coming out from one of the houses. The fact that they both dress almost alike makes it still harder to tell them apart.

Some one who knows the old ladies very well relates that Ann, while making a hurried departure for one of the big department stores last week, put on Susan's bonnet by mistake. In walking through the store she came suddenly in front of a full length mirror, and stepped back in astonishment, saying: "Why, Sue; I didn't know you were coming down town this morning."

Coach in Which Lincoln Rode to Gettysburg.

From the Baltimore Sun.

The Western Maryland Railroad Company still owns a passenger coach that President Lincoln rode in from Hanover Junction to Gettysburg, Pa., on Oct. 18, 1863. On the following day the President made his famous speech at the consecration of the Gettysburg Battlefield Cemetery.

The coach is in good condition and is being daily used on the Baltimore and Harrisburg division of the road. It was built in the shops of the then Hanover Junction and Hanover and Gettysburg Railroad, of which Capt. Eichelberger of York, Pa., now dead, was president for forty years.

Where Mrs. Gamp Acted as a Nurse.

From the St. James's Gazette.

An early extension of Gamage's business premises in Holborn will demand the sacrifice of yet another old London landmark, a number of buildings, including the Black Bull Tavern, having been acquired.

It is in "Martin Chuzzlewit" that Charles Dickens introduces the tavern. There it was that Mrs. Gamp relieved Mrs. Prig at night in the nursing of Mr. Lewsome, Mrs. Prig having informed Bartholomew's that "the soberest person going and the best of blessings in a sick room is Mrs. Gamp."

Yielding to Conditions.

From the Washington Star.

"So you have renounced polygamy?"

"Yes," answered the Mormon. "Might as well. We're kept so busy with politics, investigations and business that a man hasn't time to go courting anyhow."

Deepest Well in England.

From the London Daily Mail.

An artesian well, 1,515 feet deep, which is to assist in supplying Gainsborough with water, was formally opened on Saturday. The well is the deepest in England, and the boring took six years.

THE WAR IN THE FAR EAST.

The Naval Victories of Japan No Indication of the Outcome.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The assurance with which certain Englishmen, represented, more particularly, by the London *Times*, assume that the initial success of the Japanese on the sea means the speedy defeat of Russia in the present war, shows how easy it is for people to forget their own recent experiences.

The war of England with the Boers began in October, 1899. Disastrous reverses for the English marked its course for many months. England was thrown into the deepest depression and the whole strength of the nation was expended to retrieve them. The greatest distinctively British army ever brought together in modern times was concentrated in South Africa, and the war was not ended until 1902. When Lord Roberts went to South Africa, the prospect for the British arms looked far blacker than does now the Russian outlook in the war with Japan.

It is obvious that the Japanese have won the mastery of the sea; but it is on the land and not on the sea that the war will have to be fought out. So far, on the land the Japanese have made no notable progress, though, of course, their command of the sea gives them free opportunity for the landing of troops.

Not three months have passed since the beginning of hostilities, but the time has been long enough to enable the Russians to concentrate a great army in the region where the battles to come will take place. Meantime the condition of the roads delays Japanese land movements and it may be a month and even three months more before anything like a decisive engagement between the two armies is fought.

It is too early to make predictions. Great wars are not determined by naval fights, complete as may seem the victories won in them. When Dewey took Manila after a few hours fight with Montojo's fleet we erected triumphal arches to him and this whole country went wild with enthusiasm over the great naval hero; but no sooner had he taken Manila and brought it under his guns than he cried out for troops to clinch the advantage and finish the job, and only within recent months can we be said to have completed the conquest he began.

A naval victory is a theatrical demonstration whose valuable significance is likely to be exaggerated at the moment. This war in the Far East will be settled on land and not on sea, and only after terrible battles. The coming summer will be made memorable in history by reason of them.

NEW YORK, April 16. AMERICAN.

The Odell Trust in Restraint of Public Decency.

From the Wall Street Journal.

The Governor of the State of New York is now also serving as chairman of the Republican State committee. The Chief Executive of a State containing 7,268,894 inhabitants, in which 1,547,912 votes were cast in 1900, nearly 44 per cent. of which were those of Democrats, is also the official head and active manager of the committee in direction of the Republican campaign. As chairman of the State committee his duty it will be to solicit and receive contributions to the Republican campaign fund from individuals and corporations that may be vitally interested in his acts as Governor of the State. With one hand this Governor-chairman can reach forth for the eagerly desired corporation check, and with the other he can sign an order or a bill that would enrich this corporation.

No more scandalous combination of offices could be imagined.

Benjamin B. Odell may be so constituted that he can act both as Governor and as party chairman without in the least involving his independence as the Chief Executive. It is possible that he can handle campaign funds without regard to his official acts and maintain that degree of impartiality and nonpartisanship which is so essential in a Governor, while at the same time conducting a partisan campaign. The Supreme Court recently demolished the Northern Securities trust, not because it had restrained, but because it might restrain trade. Here is a trust perhaps not as dangerous, but much more odious, for while the combination of Governor and chairman in one person may not lead to injustice and corruption, it presents a favorable opportunity for injustice and corruption.

The eagerness of Chairman Odell to make himself Governor and the eagerness of Governor Odell to continue his lease of power by making himself chairman is a flagrant violation of the law of decency and morality in politics.

There is one thing for Governor Odell to do: Resign.

Handicapped by His Inheritance.

From the Washington Post.

Representative Burgess of Texas tells of an old family servant on a Louisiana plantation whose devotion to his mistress was exceeded only by the inability to tell the truth. "Jim" would never tell the truth when he could possibly conjure up a lie that would do pretty nearly as well.

One day his mistress lost her temper, and summoning the aged retainer she rated him soundly. "Jim," she said, "you have been on this place ever since before I can remember, and ever since I can remember you've been the most unmitigated liar I have ever known. To my own knowledge, you've been promising these forty years past that you'd learn to tell the truth, but you never learn. Now, I want to know, once for all, will you or will you not, in one single instance, tell me the truth?"

"'Deed, Miss Lizzie," Jim answered, his head hung in shame, "I'll try; but you mus' 'member I was bo'n in dis fambly, and I 'spect I'se 'herited some of de fambly traits."

Origin of "Pounds Sterling."

From the Liverpool Post.

How many folk who work every day in the year who use the phrase "pounds sterling" are aware of its origin? Probably not one in a thousand. Yet the adjective "sterling," which apart from its commercial sense has come to indicate worth and genuineness, has a curious historical significance, and is a distinct survival of the times when England did not weigh so heavily in the balance of power as she does now. In the fourteenth century the trade of the known world was, almost without exception, in the hands of the Hanseatic League. Within this league there were many towns, most of which coined money, some using better metal than others. Lubec, a Baltic city, made the best money, and the English merchants, who even then knew a good thing when they saw it, used to contract for payment in the "moneys of the Easterlings"—Easterlings being their name for the Baltic merchants. Shortened for convenience, the word still obtains, and has all its original force.

He Wouldn't Disturb Prayer.

From the Kansas City Journal.

On a recent Sunday morning, while services were going on, little Jack Conant, aged 6 years, saw a tiny flame issuing from the roof of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Osceola. He ran to the church to give the alarm. When he entered the preacher was praying. Being too reverent to interrupt a prayer, the little man stepped outside the door and waited until he heard the minister say "Amen." Then he ran in and yelled "Fire."

The grown up people were not so deliberate or reverent as little Jack. They leaped from their knees, forgetting all about the solemnity of the occasion, and ran for their lives.

By hard work the church was saved, but if the parson's prayer had been a little longer it would have burned to the ground.

Success of an Entertainer.

From the Kansas City Independent.

A visitor undertook to amuse the patients of a lunatic asylum by singing a comic song. He was carrying everything before him, shaking the place with laughter, and filling the eyes of his audience with tears of joyous hilarity, when a voice from the back, breaking through the laughter, plunged the whole farce into tragedy. Said the voice, "You'd better stay here."

English Story of American Women.

From the London Daily Mail.

King Edward recently left some cherry stones on his plate at a public function. The moment he left the table a crowd of American ladies scrambled for them, with the object, it is said, of handing them down to their descendants as family heirlooms.

More Ride-Astride Skirts Worn.

From the Ladies' Tailor.

After long centuries, the fashion in ladies' riding skirts is changing. The old form of side-saddle skirt is giving way to the new style of ride-astride skirt. Orders are coming in for divided skirts in increasing numbers.