The Sun.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 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 should in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Residers of THE SUN leaving the city can have the Daily and Sunday editions mailed to their addresses (which may be changed when necessary) for 70 cents a month. Order through your newsdealer or THE SUN, 170 Nassau street.

Common Sense and Claim-Alls.

The Hon. THOMAS TAGGART is a rare optimist. "We are going to win this year," he says, "there are no quarrels and no factions." Arcadian innocence, the harmony of the Golden Age.

The Hon. PATRICK HENRY MCCARREN is more definite. He "can tell you something about New York," and he does:

"This State is going Democratic by 50,000 plurality. Remember that prediction. I am sure of it. We shall give Judge PARKER 50,000 plurality and elect a Democratic Governor."

Every political pilgrim of the first, second or third class who carries his wisdom to Sagamore Hill is just as bold in his published remarks. He puts on magnifying glasses and elects ROOSEVELT, just as the Democratic managers put on their magnifying glasses and elect PARKER.

All these Democratic and Republican talkers know they are talking idiocy. Everybody in the country knows it. The fight is going to be hot and close. There are divisions in both camps. At present, at least, nobody has any means of knowing what the end will be.

Why, then, must the political augurs keep up their old foolish patter and "claim everything"? Is there any good reason, other than habit, why politicians shouldn't condescend to common sense, even in public?

Will England Be Forced Into the War?

Simultaneously with the report that Newchwang has been evacuated, and that a strong Russian force, posted at Tashichao, has been compelled, after desperate resistance, to fall back on Haicheng, comes the news that fresh provocation has been given to Great Britain by the sinking of the steamer Knight Commander off the eastern coast of Hondo, the principal island of the Japanese archipelago. In the latter incident our own Government is interested, because, although the sunken ship was British, a part of the cargo was American, having been shipped by American merchants to American consignees in Japan.

There is, of course, a sharp distinction between the case of the Malacca or that of the Ardova, both of which have been surrendered by Russia to Great Britain, and the case of the Knight Commander or that of the Allanton, which last named steamer had previously been captured and sent in charge of a prize crew to Vladivostok. The two former seizures were made by vessels belonging to Russia's so-called "volunteer fleet," the claim of which to exercise the naval rights of belligerents is challenged by the British Foreign Office, and waived for the present by the St. Petersburg Government. There is no doubt, on the other hand, that the vessels belonging to Russia's Vladivostok squadron are regular warships, qualified to perform all the belligerent acts authorized by international law, and therefore at liberty to stop neutral vessels and search them for contraband. Whether the Allanton was conveying commodities which justly could be described as contraband of war is a question which, had the case of that steamer stood alone, Great Britain doubtless would have left to be determined by a prize court at Vladivostok, though it might, and probably would, have appealed to St. Petersburg from the decision of that tribunal.

The grave feature of the Knight Commander case is the sinking of the vessel. The Russian cruisers belonging to the Vladivostok squadron indisputably had a right to stop the vessel and search her, and, if her cargo, part of which, as we have said, was consigned to a Japanese port, included goods that, justly or plausibly, might be regarded as contraband of war, they had a right to send the steamer under a prize crew to Vladivostok, where a court could decide whether she was "good prize." According to the weight of legal authority, however, the Russian cruisers had no right to prejudge the case by sinking the neutral ship, unless, indeed, her crew had resisted a search, or refused to obey the orders of the belligerent vessel. As no such pretext is alleged, the British Foreign Office will unquestionably demand an apology and damages.

Our State Department also has a right to protest against the destruction of so much of the cargo of the Knight Commander as was the property of American citizens. Even that part of the cargo which is alleged to have been contraband should have been reserved for examination at the hands of a prize court, and ought not to have been condemned by the summary fiat of a naval officer. Admitting, moreover, for the sake of argument, that one or more consignments on the Knight Commander would have been adjudged contraband, we are confronted by the question whether other consignments, obviously not contraband, are subject to confiscation, merely because they happen to be carried on the same vessel. If international law is not now clear on this matter, an early decision on the point should be secured from The Hague court, or from an international conference of the maritime Powers. It is true, as the London *Times* points out, that the great size of modern steamships, the varied nature of their cargo, and the number of consignors and consignees render obsolete the old customs of dealing with contraband, and make it indispensable that new regulations should be framed.

The loss incurred by American shippers through the sinking of the Knight Commander, which occurred on July 24, is only the first of what is likely to prove a series of injuries which American traffic with the Far East is likely to suffer through Russia's construction of a belligerent's right to deal with neutral vessels. About the same date the German steamer Arabia, bound from Portland, Ore., to Kobe, Nagasaki and Hong Kong, and carrying, in her 5,000 tons of freight, a large shipment of railroad material, besides upward of 33,000 barrels of flour, was captured by the Russian cruisers not far from the eastern coast of Japan and sent as a prize to Vladivostok. We may hear, moreover, at any moment of the capture of the Pacific Mail steamship Korea, which has on board large quantities of steel and foodstuffs for Japan, besides about a million dollars in treasure, three-fourths of which is consigned to Hiogo. The vessel also carries a quantity of arms and ammunition belonging to the United States Government, and destined for Manila.

Could the Russian cruisers discriminate between that part of the Korea's cargo consigned to Japan and the part shipped to the representatives of our Government at Manila? Mr. BALFOUR, answering a similar question in the House of Commons on July 25, said that, from what he could learn from high authority, he did not believe that the practices of international law sanctioned the removal of a portion of the cargo of seized ships at the discretion of the captain of a visiting warship, without the adjudication of a prize court. If this position be well taken, the Korea would have to be sent to a prize court at Vladivostok, where, no doubt, that part of the cargo which was consigned to the United States Government at Manila would eventually be released. Suppose, however, the Russians should deal with the Korea as they have dealt with the Knight Commander! What would our State Department then feel called upon to do?

A Modest Candidate.

Judge PARKER, so long used to the quiet of his court and his library, grows more than a little uncomfortable in the crowding, staring and bustling to which a candidate must be subjected. For years he has been in the habit of taking a morning swim in the Hudson off Esopus. Naturally, he doesn't relish the serried columns of photographers and the parks of snapshot artillery trained upon him. It is even said that he thinks of giving up his dip in the river. Why should he do that? He must learn to inure himself to the necessary evils of his position. A candidate can have no privacy and photographers no mercy. He must expect that herds of the enthusiastic and the inquisitive will rise up at him from the bowels of the earth or descend upon him from the chimney, just as the office seekers invested Mr. LINCOLN, according to the Hon. ARTEMUS WARD.

Judge PARKER may learn something to his advantage by studying the composed behavior—the luxurious enjoyment, rather—which Mr. ROOSEVELT shows under the inspecting eyes of the world. Mr. ROOSEVELT knows that he owes to his countrymen a full, illustrated account of his proceedings and diversions. If he rides, drives, swims, hunts, chops, spends a night in the woods, he satisfies the affectionate solicitude of his fellow citizens. The impudence of some groom of the dark chamber is sometimes a little too much for him and stirs his bile; but, on the whole, he consents admirably to the white light of publicity. It is said to be good for the trusts, and it cannot be bad for a President or a candidate.

Mr. ROOSEVELT will not relinquish a particle of his exercise on account of the innumerable eyes that are peeking at him. Besides, it is an old story with him. Judge PARKER is new to the business and a new subject for the photographers. Their fury will relent a little by fall. With so much hard work before him, Judge PARKER can hardly afford to lose that morning swim. A candidate is public property and estopped from putting up signs of "No Trespassing!"

Judge PARKER feels yet another sting of publicity. The Hon. JOHN N. CARLISLE, sometime chairman of the Democratic executive committee of this State, says:

"Judge PARKER has made a practice of going into the hay field when he felt the need of exercise and helping the haymakers gather the crop. Judge PARKER is a good hand on the farm, and there is no detail of the work that he does not know from actual experience. He fears, however, that if he continues to follow his usual customs in this direction it may be looked upon as an affectation, due to a desire to propitiate the agricultural vote."

This is the modesty of a man who doesn't care for self-advertising. This is the pride of a man who scorns even the suspicion of trying to get votes by false pretences. Yet this fear of Judge PARKER's is groundless. The "agricultural vote" comes from shrewd, hard headed fellows. They watch with an indulgent or contemptuous grin the efforts of politicians with pitchfork and rake. Their opinion of amateur and "gentlemen" farmers is not favorable. Judge PARKER need not be afraid that he will gain, or be suspected of seeking to gain, any agricultural votes by his agricultural activities. On the other hand, farming being one of his exercises, no farmer wants to see him abandon it. It is a sensible change of occupation for him. To relinquish it would be a piece of scrupulosity.

These doubts are new evidence of Judge PARKER'S delicacy and contempt of humbug; but there is no good reason why he shouldn't swim and hay to his heart's and muscles' content.

The Tendency Toward Temperance.

It seems that a large English wine importing company reports a notable diminution in its sales of wine during the last year, more particularly champagne and claret. This reduction is attributed to various causes. It is said to be due to "the shortness of money, especially in the upper middle classes," to the present fashion of drinking whiskey and soda at dinners rather than champagne, and to the decline of claret in favor.

These causes may have contributed to the result, but the main and most potent cause is less drinking in the classes from which especially comes the demand for expensive wines. Dinners of the more elaborate sort, which used to last for several hours, with a long list of wines on the bill of fare, have now been cut down to about an hour only, and the quantity of wines consumed is reduced greatly. This change of custom has taken place both in England and this country, and its effects on the wine trade must have been very considerable.

It is a temperance movement of which good sense rather than any moral conviction is the impulse. It is a restraint of appetite under the influence of enlightenment, and of a better understanding of the evil effects of gorging, either with food or with drink. Dinner tables are no longer overloaded with food, and the guests are treated as reasonable beings who do not want to be surfeited.

A like disposition to keep within the restraints of temperance extends to all self-respecting men throughout society. Clubs can no longer rely on profits from their bars and wine rooms to pay a large part of their expenses. An immoderate drinker has become a marked man in a club. Drunkenness is disreputable.

Wall Street has the name of being a special seat of demand for cocktails. Actually it is a very temperate quarter. A broker needs to keep his wits about him. He cannot afford to fuddle his head with alcohol. And so it is in business generally. The strain of modern competition compels sobriety in those who would stand up against it. A reputation for sobriety is necessary capital for every man who has his living to make in any industry. Intemperance is more than ever a bar to getting and keeping employment, and there is less tolerance for it.

It is true that the report of the Police Department of New York for last year shows that about 30 per cent. of the arrests were for intoxication; but the probable explanation is that the offence is more sharply dealt with than formerly; it stands out more conspicuously. In New York it is rare to encounter a drunken person in the streets—a sight so frequent in English cities. Neither do we see here the rags and tatters which bear witness to the prevalence of sodden drunkenness in those towns.

The present tendency is toward temperance; and the preachers who have brought it to pass are not the professional temperance reformers, but good sense and the better and more extensive recognition by the people of the fact that men must keep sober to preserve the decent reputation which is necessary to their getting along in life.

The Origin of the Appendix.

Few and eccentric are the people who have not parted with their vermiform appendices. Millions have been expurgated and excised of that curious survival. Indeed, a person known to be possessed of one is not merely unfashionable; he is regarded with something between pity and contempt by those who have ceased to wear an appendix.

But what was the genesis of the vermiform appendix? This is a question of mild scientific or archæological interest. In the *New York Medical Record* Dr. ALFRED MOORE of Memphis makes a preliminary report on "The Origin of the Vermiform Appendix." The report is illustrated by some archaic or pre-Raphaelite drawings of extraordinary merit, but is clear enough without them. Dr. MOORE has studied the subject long. He has tried to connect the appendix "with nearly every other organ in the body;" and he has "finally concluded that, as other organs are formed from two or more structures, possibly the appendix might have been formed in the same way."

He tried to figure it as the letter H, but at present he finds it "diagrammatically more like K than H." Science must have her way, but the lay mind will continue to insist that the letter H denotes and expresses the appendix admirably and thoroughly.

We have not permission to reproduce a graphic delineation of what the unlearned eye takes for an anchor and chain, but Dr. MOORE'S theory is given in simple, non-technical language which is a sufficient picture to the layman:

"The appendix was the distal end of a tube that led from the vitellus to the lower end of the embryo, and that the proximal part finally developed into the colon, or otherwise the large intestine; that the umbilical vesicle and duct were the distal, or outer, end of another tube or duct, of which the small intestines formed the proximal part; that the two parallel tubes, joining by the umbilical duct becoming tortuous and touching the other tube at one point, which is the most prominent part of its convexity in one of its turns, union takes place, the saculation is increased, and the umbilical duct atrophies and is necessarily removed from the other tube by the rapid growth of the small intestine; which fact accounts for Meckel's diverticulum, when present, being so far away from its fellow. After communication between the two tubes, the large intestine increases in size and the cæcum is formed."

Nothing but the distal end of a tube! To this complexion has this once proud organ come at last. Imperial CÆSAR dead and turned to clay suffered no greater decline and fall-off.

Demonstrations of Russian Weakness.

The Russian defeat at Tashichao and the Japanese occupation of Newchwang are only so many more of the consequences of the diplomacy that plunged Russia into a war for which she was unprepared. The action that has resulted in the Russian retreat from a position which Gen. KOUROPATKIN had selected and fortified was lost principally through the preponderance of the Japanese artillery, as on previous occasions.

This goes to show that the Russians did not even take the trouble to provide their Far Eastern army with the essential material which cannot be improvised at a moment's notice, and the transport of which makes so severe a demand on the rolling stock of the Siberian Railway just when it is most needed for the transport of troops.

It is reported that the Russian force defeated at Tashichao has retired to Haichang; but, as things are, that can only be a temporary halting place. An attempt may be made to stem the Japanese advance there and at Liaoyang, but a retreat further north appears to be inevitable. The failure of the efforts of Gen. KELLER to shake the Japanese hold of the passes east of Liaoyang and the appearance of large bodies of their troops in the valley of the Taitse River on the roads leading to that place and Mukden seem to decide this.

Of course, as Gen. KOUROPATKIN falls back further north, he gains in strength through concentration; but this will be counterbalanced by the facilities the Japanese will now have for the supplying of their armies from Newchwang. There seems to have been some indication of this in the reports that Gen. KUROKI'S army was about to give up its base on the Yalu. If so, it is only another demonstration of the completeness of the Japanese preparations and of their confidence in their success; it also points to a change in the tactics of the campaign, already begun by the appearance of Japanese troops on the roads leading north toward Kirin on the upper Sungari.

This move is so menacing to Gen. KOUROPATKIN'S position below Mukden that his eventual retreat to Tieling, where it is understood he has decided to make a stand, will be only a question of time. A short time should now settle this question.

In the meantime Russian attention is given to preparations against a possible Japanese advance from the northeastern part of Corea. Possiet Bay, near the mouth of the Tuman River, has been occupied by a strong garrison; Hunchun, on the road from there to Ninguta on the Harbin-Vladivostok railway, is being fortified, and Japanese scouts have found the lower Tumans strongly guarded. Future developments in this direction will be of great interest, for they will afford indications of Japanese aims in regard to Russian territory proper outside of Manchuria. The order recently issued by the Governor of Vladivostok that all strangers and non-combatants were to leave there within a given time was evidently caused by apprehensions of some approaching danger.

Georgia has held the lead in the production of peaches for the Eastern market since 1902, and it is likely to be for years to come the leading peach State in the Union. The supremacy has been wrested from Maryland. Twelve years ago the order of the chief peach producing States was: Maryland, 6,100,000 trees; Delaware, 4,520,000; New Jersey, 4,300,000; Georgia, 3,700,000. Since that time the peculiar excellence of the soil and climate of parts of Georgia for peach growing has been established, with the result that Georgia has largely increased the number of its peach bearing trees, while in the other States there has been a diminution in the number of trees. In the fall of 1901, the number of peach trees reported in these States, and expected to be in good bearing in 1902, was: Georgia, 7,660,000; Maryland, 4,015,000; New Jersey, 2,700,000; Delaware, 2,400,000. In the following year, accordingly, Georgia had the bumper crop. She has so far surpassed all other States in number of trees that she is likely to continue to be the peach State par excellence for an indefinite time.

This summer seems to be somewhat remarkable for a widespread disposition to take a vacation from work. In Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha and the other meat-packing centres most of the butchers have quit work and will loaf indefinitely, living upon their incomes until the weather moderates. In Fall River the mill operatives have gone on vacation by quitting the factories. Underground in New York the subway painters and the railroad workers have found the humid atmosphere an invitation to idleness. Out they go, and Coney Island reaps the benefit. In bygone years many men worked without vacation. Even to-day two weeks off in the summer is a liberal allowance for most men, and a month is a generous measure. But the walking delegates seem to think that the men under their heels are able to pay for an indefinite period of rest.

A distinguished clergyman who protests to-day against a discontinuance of religious discussions by our correspondents misconceives some remarks we made on the subject last Sunday. They were simply a warning to writers on the subject to avoid dogmatic assertions and the begging of the question in dispute. We know very well that many letters on questions of religion will continue to come to us whose intrinsic merits of ability and interest will compel their publication. Nobody need fear that the supply will be stopped.

Necessity for Personal Identification.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In view of the many accidents, serious and fatal, which are constantly occurring, and the victims of many of which are women with no means of identification upon their persons, allow me to suggest that it would be an excellent plan for every woman who goes much upon our crowded streets to wear an easily accessible card, with name, address, telephone calls and such information as will insure her prompt attention at a time of need.

I have worn such a card throughout my residence in this city, and while it may seem to have been unnecessary thus far, it has been a constant assurance that my own family will be the first, instead of the last, to know of a possible serious mishap.

Some of my friends protested that they may be sufficiently identified from their pocketbooks, letters and cards, but accidents sometimes make strange disposals of such belongings.

This plan may seem commonplace, but it ought to attract the interest of all careful fathers, husbands and brothers, so that it shall come into general observance.

MRS. HOWARD M. GOLDTHWAIT.

BROOKLYN, July 25.

Disloyalty to England Alleged in Canada.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I notice a leading editorial in to-day's SUN in reference to the Lord Dundonald incident. You say that you cannot see why it should create such a disturbance.

You should know that French Canada is intensely Catholic and its loyalty is simply pretence. Imagine a loyal British soldier under a French Catholic Minister of Militia, who secretly is doing everything possible to render inefficient the Canadian militia, and I think you will have the key to the whole situation. EX-CANADIAN.

BINGHAMTON, July 25.

Student Stumped the Professor.

From the Providence Journal.

The clever Dr. Ritchie of Edinburgh met with his match while examining a student.

He said: "And you attended the class for mathematics?"

"Yes."

"How many sides has a circle?"

"Two," said the student.

"What are they?"

What a laugh in the class the student's answer produced when he said: "An inside and an outside."

But this was nothing compared with what followed. The doctor said to the student: "And you attend the moral philosophy class also?"

"Yes."

"Well, you would hear lectures on various subjects. Did you ever hear one on cause and effect?"

"Yes."

"Does an effect ever go before a cause?"

"Yes."

"Give me an instance."

"A man wheeling a barrow."

The doctor then sat down and proposed no more questions.

PULPIT PESSIMISM.

Gloomy Views of the Present Condition of Society Not Justified.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—*Sir:* For some time past there has been manifested a tendency by various preachers in different sections to consign the country without shrift or appeal to the demnition bow wows. One dwells upon the evils of divorce destroying the family and wrecking society; another upon the growing spirit of commercialism, and the wide prevalence of corruption in local politics and public life; still another sees ruin and downfall in the ravages of the demon drink, while others base impending decadence and disruption on Sabbath breaking, theatre going and dancing. Each one is sure that, if the evil he is attacking could be done away with, all would be well, and no two wholly agree in the remedy which would be applied. Taken together, they have produced the most dismal and dispiriting chorus which has been heard since the new century opened.

This is in a general way familiar ground for the cloth, though they have been taking such subjects into the pulpit more frequently of late, because, doubtless, of the fact that the old theological discussions and doctrines of heaven, hell, and salvation by blood have ceased to draw, or to be of any interest to the man or woman of average intelligence.

Such discussions monopolized most of the time and thought of the preachers of all sects a generation or two back, but they still found occasion to indulge periodically in very much the same pessimistic wails as to existing conditions which we are hearing from the clergy of to-day.

They held a belief in regard to special providences which modern science has greatly modified, if not wholly destroyed; and whenever an earthquake, a shipwreck, a destructive storm or any untoward event happened, they always saw in it, and announced, the punishment of some sin flagrant in the community; and fresh disasters were predicted and invoked for those who broke the law, whether divine or ecclesiastical. Special wrath was reserved and positively promised for all those who failed to "believe." Absence of belief was a more heinous offence than absence of morality; it was more frequently and fiercely denounced, and was threatened with the most direful consequences. The clerical pessimist, if not so frequent in his exhibition of despair and foreboding, was still abroad in those days. The chief difference was that, instead of being told, as we are now, that we are in an alarming state which unless corrected must entail serious consequences, the hearers of those days were shaken over a literal and fiery hell and told they would be dropped in unless they mended their ways.

We of the independent laity have no wish to criticise or check the efforts of the pulpit or of any good men to expose and correct evils in society and lift it to a higher level of charity, brotherhood and personal character. On the contrary, we would cooperate with them; but we do not conceive that in order to do so it is necessary to represent the world as preachers constantly do, as going rapidly down to irretrievable ruin.

It is not true; the very opposite is true. Never was there a time in all history when the general conditions of humanity were as favorable as they are to-day. Go back to the days of Rome, and follow the story of mankind down through the fearful periods of intellectual darkness, moral degradation, cruelty, oppression, ceaseless devastating wars, religious persecution and almost universal slavery, and compare them with what we find to-day. The rights of man as such, then hardly dreamed of, are now conceded to every one. The protection of the slave and justice, then for the few, now belongs to all; the prisoner and the insane, treated then worse than beasts, are cared for; woman, then a plaything or a drudge, is man's equal; few then could read, now none need lack an education; and the proportion of poverty to the population has greatly decreased. Then, freedom of opinion was suppressed in the torture chamber and at the stake; now, every man may freely express his views.

While wars have not ceased, they are less frequent and less protracted and cruel, and men the world over are kindlier and more ready to recognize the duty to one another which a common brotherhood involves. Read the personal memoirs and correspondence of any earlier period, and numerous persons will be found who, taking up, as do the preachers of to-day, some particular aspect of society, insisted that the world was on the brink of a precipice and about to fall in; that the end of all things was at hand, and that unless immediate attention was paid to what they thought and said all hope was gone. Go as far back as you please and you will find the same sort of thing, and you will find, too, that in spite of such predictions, and right along with them, the world has slowly but steadily grown better.

Gentlemen of the pulpit, cheer up! Get a little more perspective and brush up your history. It is not so bad as you believe, or think you believe, or think you ought professionally to believe, or at least think you must persuade other people to believe. It will help us along a great deal more to convince us that we are on the right road, that we have moved, though ever so little, and that the thing to do is to mend our pace.

ARCHIBALD HOPKINS.

WASHINGTON, July 25.

THE SUN'S RELIGIOUS DISCUSSION.

A Demand From a Clergyman That It Continue, as, Unquestionably, It Will.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I think I express the opinion of many of your readers when I state my regret at the stand you take on the religious controversy. No man can repudiate or ignore the fact that thousands buy THE SUN for the express purpose of reading the up-to-date objections and answers which you print in your great paper. Hence I consider it a breach of contract not to furnish your readers with the food they expect to get every morning.

Again, many of your readers do not give a thought to God or religion except while reading letters on religious matters in THE SUN. They listen Sunday after Sunday to an insipid essay, called a sermon, which is nothing but a criticism of their neighbors' faults, or a string of platitudes, or a medley of paganism and Christianity. They go home convinced that they have heard, not the ambassador of God, but of Satan. Your paper can supply what they look for. Why, then, deny it to them? Is it right?

The Slocum disaster made thousands think. Some said, Why does God permit innocent, helpless creatures to be hurled into eternity in a moment? But why should God interfere, unless He wants to destroy man's free will? Of course, if the present life is the one for which we were created, God, I think, would be unjust to allow the millions of wrongs and disasters which occur daily. Hence the question arises if there is a God; and if He is just, may He not reward a thousandfold the innocent victim who suffered for the sake of others? But why does He do this? May we not explain it thus?

There are thousand on thousands who try to persuade themselves that God is so good and so kind that He would not punish the sinner in the hell which we were taught in our youth existed. But when they see with their own eyes how He allows a number of innocent children to suffer—He could have prevented the disaster if He wished—they will pause in their onward march of crime and sin, and thank their Creator for permitting the death of a few for the sake of the million.

God's ways are not ours. No doubt, if we knew the scheme He had in mind when He created man we should see the whys and wherefores of all things. But why He should ever have allowed sin or evil to enter into the world is the mystery of mysteries. In my pride and vanity I stand aghast, and ask, Why is it so? I do not like to say I do not know, for if I admit that much I shall have to acknowledge that I am not equal to God—in fact, that He is my Creator, and that I am a creature. But there is one thing most of us may say, some with and some without reservation:

Thou wilt not leave us in the dust.
Thou madest man, he knows not why;
He thinks he was not made to die;
And Thou hast made him. Thou art just.

Thou awakest us to delight in Thy praise; for Thou madest us for Thyself, and our heart is restless until it repose in Thee.

TRENTON, July 25. FIDES.

The World's Great Men.

Prof. D. Webster Dana in McClure's Magazine.

England produced one Shakespeare, one Gladstone, one Woolsey, one Robert Peel and one Bessemer.

America produced one Washington, one Webster, one Longfellow, one Powderly and one Roosevelt.

The Death of Remus.

Romulus had just founded Rome.

"Pretty good job, eh!" he modestly suggested.

"Bah," sneered Remus, "if you wanted a first-class town you should have founded Oyster Bay or Esopus."

So Romulus had to kill him.

MAY COMPLAIN TO VENEZUELA.

Government Action Expected on the Seizure of Asphalt Company's Property.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—Counsel for the New York and Bermudez Asphalt Company of Venezuela, one of the constituent concerns of the National Asphalt Company, called at the State Department to-day and had a conference with Judge Penfield, solicitor of the department, relative to the seizure of the property of the company on an attachment order issued by the Venezuelan Supreme Court.

The attorneys pointed out to Judge Penfield that this same Supreme Court about a year ago decided in favor of the New York and Bermudez Company in its controversy with the Venezuelan Government and with rival companies, and intimated that the court's reversal of opinion may be due to pressure from President Castro.

The fact of the attachment of the asphalt lakes was confirmed to-day by a despatch from United States Minister Bowen at Caracas. It is probable that the State Department will take the ground that there has been a miscarriage of justice with regard to the seizure of the New York and Bermudez Company's property, and will instruct Minister Bowen to inform the Venezuelan Government that redress must be made.

Some time ago a report was received at the State Department from United States Consul Plumacher, at Maracaibo, under date of June 15, stating that the Venezuelan Government had granted to a native the right to work four asphalt mines, the Government to receive twenty-five per cent. of the profits. The Consul expressed himself in the report as unable to understand how the mines could be exploited profitably under such a concession, as there were other asphalt mines in the country which did not have to carry such a Government burden.

It is possible that the Consul's report may throw some light on the action of the Venezuelan Government in seizing the property of the New York and Bermudez Company and leaving the field without competition to the native who holds the latest Government concession.

GRADE CROSSINGS TO GO.

Satisfactory Arrangements Made Between the Commission and the L. I. Road.

The Brooklyn Grade Crossing Commission yesterday came to a final agreement with the Long Island Railroad Company regarding the terms of abolishing the grade crossings between Bay Ridge and East New York. In all, nearly two hundred grade crossings will be abolished.

The Long Island Railroad Company agrees to put in a four track road on the improved Bay Ridge line. The tracks in some places will be depressed and in others will run over the crossings by elevated structure. The "Summit" yard, a large freight yard between Sixth and Eighth avenues, will be depressed and the ducts laid for electrical cables will be put in and paid for by the Long Island Railroad Company, the city paying for the regrading from Seventh avenue to the East River. According to the general plans adopted yesterday, sixty crossings are to be provided for by arches under the elevated sections of railroad and bridges over the depressed tracks. Under the original plans the construction of the "Summit" yard was to be paid for share and share alike by the city of New York and the Long Island Railroad Company, but by the compromise the expense for this improvement is to be borne by the railroad company.

Now that the commission has come to a final settlement regarding the Bay Ridge improvement, they will take up the improvement of abolishing grade crossings on the Brighton Beach and the Manhattan divisions. Real estate men in the Bay Ridge section say that the result of the work of the Grade Crossing Commission will be that work will at once be begun in carrying out plans for a permanent system of street openings, sewers and other improvements which will enhance the value of property in that section.

FARMS FOR IMMIGRANT JEWS.

Project on Foot to Purchase a Tract in Wisconsin or Michigan.

A farm settlement for immigrant Jews from Rumania and Russia is contemplated by the Jewish Agricultural and Industrial Aid Society. The plan originated with A. W. Rich of Milwaukee, who proposes to purchase in Wisconsin or Michigan a tract of land of from 1,000 to 1,500 acres.

This will be divided into farms of about forty acres each, and sufficient money will be loaned to the settlers to buy implements and stock. The land may be bought by installments after the loan is repaid. The plan has received approval and a promise of financial support from the New York society.

Cyrus Sulzberger, president of the society, said yesterday that the matter had been left in charge of Mr. Rich, and that the land probably would be ready for the settlers some time next spring.

MRS. LOTTIMER WANTS JUSTICE.

Alleges That Lottimer Estate Has Diminished in Executors' Hands.

Surrogate Thomas reserved decision yesterday on the application of Mrs. Helen Sheffield Lottimer, widow of William Lottimer, to compel William A. Lottimer, the sole surviving executor and trustee of the estate of William Lottimer, who died in 1876, to make an accounting. The executor is Mrs. Lottimer's father-in-law, and her husband assigned to her his share in the Lottimer estate, which amounted to over a million dollars.

Mrs. Lottimer alleges that the estate has diminished in the hands of the executors, and that if the beneficiaries are to get anything a speedy distribution is necessary.

John Bloodgood, a well known banker and broker, who died some years ago, was one of the executors. When his firm failed, it is alleged, a large portion of the estate's assets was lost.

HOW RUBE OGLESBY WON.

His Fiancée and Fifteen Pretty Girls Worked for Him.

From the Kansas City Independent.

The one really charming feature of the noisy nerve-racking convention at Jefferson City was Rube Oglesby's campaign committee of sixteen young girls from Warrensburg, his home town. From time immemorial candidates have availed themselves of the aid of some one or two charming relatives, but it remained for Mr. Oglesby to work the plan on a wholesale scale. The gallant sixteen, arrayed in their best bibs and tuckers, descended upon Jefferson City like a shower of confetti, and even bearded delegates, with large families, tripped over their feet in a mad rush to win a sight of them.

Every Missouri county seat town boasts more than its fair measure of pretty girls, who have inherited beauty and breeding from a long line of Southern ancestors, but, until another convention brings forth a similar feature, Warrensburg will remain the Mecca for all worshippers of the beautiful. In all that sixteen, chaperons included, there was not one that wouldn't have made a man twist his neck to the breaking point. And about them there was the joyousness of youth, the freshest sort of enthusiasm, so small wonder it was that they found no one hard-hearted enough to turn down an Oglesby badge, or say them nay when asked to vote for the Warrensburg man.

Some of the opposition, alarmed at the inroads thus made upon their forces, gravely assured Luther Hickman, Oglesby's manager, that the introduction of girls into the campaign was "bad politics." Perhaps it would have been had the girls been less charming, less innocent, less enthusiastic, and less eager in a warm-hearted desire to do all in their power to help one whom they had known all their lives.

It will be many years, perhaps never, before a convention witnesses another dramatic scene like that consequent to Oglesby's nomination. The white robed girls, massed in bouquet form upon a table, high above them their victorious candidate and his fiancée, born, upon the shoulders of stalwart supporters, and all surrounded by a cheering mob of delegates.

GAYNOR OUSTS WORSTEL.

Decides That He Was Not Eligible to Become Superintendent of Baths.

Supreme Court Justice Gaynor in Brooklyn yesterday handed down a decision which affects the positions of John P. Worstel and John P. McNamara as superintendent and assistant superintendent of public baths and comfort stations in that borough.

The suit was brought by William H. Hale against Worstel and McNamara, Comptroller Grout, President Littleton, Public Works Commissioner Brackenridge, Superintendent of Public Buildings Wise and the Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Hale, who is a lawyer and who holds a third grade clerkship in the borough government, alleged that he was on the civil service list for appointment as superintendent of public baths. William L. Beers, acting Fire Marshal, and Edward C. Kirchmer, an inspector in the Tenement House Department, were also on the list. These three headed the list. Mr. Hale averred that Worstel, who was seventh on the list, was transferred from his place as bath attendant to superintendent of baths and McNamara, who was seventeenth on the list, was transferred from a third grade clerkship to assistant superintendent. He asks that these men be transferred back to their original places, as they were not veterans and their transfer was a violation of the civil service rules. He also asks that the Comptroller be restrained from paying them their salaries as superintendent and assistant superintendent.

Justice Gaynor, in his decision, says the transfers were palpably illegal, as their duties were entirely different to those which they had been performing, and the taking of their names from seventh and seventeenth on the list was improper, and that the plaintiff could not be crowded off the lists in any such manner. He gives judgment for the plaintiff and enjoins the Comptroller from paying Worstel and McNamara their salaries as superintendent and assistant superintendent of public baths and comfort stations.

GIRL PLEADS FOR PRISONER.

Recorder Commutes Longshoreman's Sentence After Her Argument.

Twelve-year-old Kate Schultze of 800 Madison street, Hoboken, pleaded with Acting Recorder James Laverty in that city yesterday to reconsider the sentence of Charles Schmidt, a longshoreman, of 362 Newark street, who had been committed to the county jail for fifteen days for being drunk and disorderly. The girl said she represented the man's wife, who was unable to express herself in English.

In answer to questions by the Acting Recorder, the little attorney made this statement:

"I am sure if you let this man out of jail he will behave himself. His folks need him at home, and if he is sent up they will be the sufferers. His wife told me he promised her in his cell that he wouldn't drink any more.

"I know a whole lot about longshoremen. Most of them drink and a good many of them get very drunk. My father used to, but he doesn't any more and we are all very glad. Longshoremen's families have a hard time of it when the men folks drink. There is only one thing to do, and that is to try to get them to stop. The families have the harder time when the heads are sent to jail."

The girl said she had asked several longshoremen to take all their money home and not spend it for drink, and some had promised her to swear off drink.

The Acting Recorder reconsidered Schmidt's sentence and fined him $5. He complimented the little missionary and told her she would make a good lawyer some day.

KILLING OF WAY AND LATTIMER.

Consul Tells How the Two Americans Were Murdered in Mexico.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—The State Department received to-day a preliminary report from Louis Kaiser, United States Consul at Mazatlan, Mexico, in regard to the assassination of Clarence Way of Boston and Edward Lattimer, two Americans, at Aguas Calientes de Vaca last week. Consul Kaiser says that the alcalde of the town, who is a nephew of Gen. Torres, went to the house of the recorder and asked him to arrest Mr. Way, which the recorder refused to do, stating that there was no reason therefor.

The alcalde then made out the warrant. The commissioners met Mr. Way in front of his house and showed him the order of arrest. He replied that he would accompany them as soon as he had eaten his breakfast and changed his clothes. They objected to this and undertook to carry him off.

Mr. Way called the cook, Lattimer, who came out unarmed and tried to prevent the arrest. After Mr. Way had been forcibly taken, Lattimer started into the house and Commissioner Castro, thinking that he had gone for arms, shot and wounded him. Mr. Way then attempted to enter the house, whereupon Castro fired twice, killing Way instantly. The alcalde and the two commissioners are now in jail.

In a previous report to the State Department Consul Kaiser said that the trouble between Way and the alcalde began when the latter called at Way's home while drunk. Way refused to talk with him and told him to return when sober. He then ordered Way's arrest.

COLUMBIA IN THE CAMPAIGN.

Boxes of Republican Documents Received at the University.

One of the first of the Republican party's campaign books has made its appearance. The book is a finely printed affair of fifty-seven pages, on heavy paper and in big type.

It contains two speeches—the first an address delivered by Secretary Hay at Jackson, Mich., on the occasion of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Republican party, and the second the speech delivered by Elihu Root as temporary chairman of the Chicago convention.

The pamphlet is called "The Republican Party, a party fit to govern," and is labelled as "privately printed in New York."

No less than a dozen big packing cases containing about 35,000 of the documents were addressed to Columbia University and will be sent out from there by the secretary's office. President Butler of Columbia was one of the delegates to the Republican convention.

WANT A NEW HOSPITAL.

Police Surgeons Say There Ought to Be One Near Oak St. Station.

Police Commissioner McAdoo received yesterday a letter from Dr. S. G. Cook, president of the police surgeons, suggesting a new emergency hospital in the vicinity of the Oak street police station. For many years there has been need of better hospital service east of Broadway and below Canal street. Recently the Police Commissioner ordered a number of new ambulances, to help out in case of accidents, but they have not yet been delivered.

The Commissioner said yesterday that he thought Dr. Cook's suggestion a good one. He would refer the matter, he said, to the proper authorities.

Mild English Criticism of American Trousers.

From London Men's Wear.

I notice that visitors from the United States this summer—and especially the younger men—are wearing very loose trousers, and while there is at present no tendency in this country to depart from the rather close fit which has been for a long time prevalent, possibly this may eventually