

The Sun

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Mr. Higgins. Mr. FRANK WAYLAND HIGGINS has neither the character nor the ability to qualify him for the Governorship of the State of New York.

It Might Be Awkward. The Evening Star of Washington and the Springfield Republican have been discussing with enthusiasm the possibility that Mr. PARKER, if elected, might pass over DAVID BENNETT HILL in choosing Mr. HAY'S successor as Secretary of State and summon RICHARD OLNEY to that highly important post.

There seems to be only one obstacle to this, but that obstacle is well nigh insuperable. There is a radical difference of opinion between Mr. PARKER and Mr. OLNEY on the great questions of national policy as to outlying possessions and the military and naval equipment needed to enable us to meet the responsibilities of a full grown power.

Mr. PARKER, for example, has declared for treating the Filipinos precisely as we have treated the Cubans. Mr. OLNEY, on the other hand, has declared for the annexation of Cuba; that is, for treating the Cubans precisely as we have treated the Filipinos.

It might be inconvenient to risk a clash of opinions based on such a diametrically different conception of national opportunity and national duty. Mr. OLNEY is a very positive person.

No Test of Reciprocity. For reasons best known to its promoters, a movement is on foot to discredit the policy of reciprocity. Our experience with Cuba during the operation of our recent treaty with that country is now being used as an illustration of the fallacy of the system.

In furtherance of this movement the American Economist of Sept. 9 quotes, under the title of "Costly Blundering," a letter which appeared in the Des Moines Capital. The writer declares that "so-called Cuban reciprocity has resulted in loss and disappointment."

But the argument against reciprocity as a policy solely on the basis of its alleged failure in our experience with Cuba is as foolish as the specific argument against reciprocity with Cuba solely because certain expectations have not been realized.

The article quoted by the American Economist sets forth an array of apparently convincing figures of exports and imports. We bought more from Cuba during the first six months of 1904, under a reciprocity treaty, than we did during the first six months of 1903, when there was no treaty.

Therefore reciprocity is a failure. While we increased by some \$3,000,000 our exports to Cuba during the first six months of this year, in comparison with the corresponding term last year, if the exports of those months be doubled, to represent the business of a full year, they show no material increase over the full fiscal year 1902.

Therefore reciprocity is a failure, and we had better disabuse ourselves of any idea of adopting the system. "Cheated again," says the Economist.

As regards our imports from Cuba since Jan. 1, 1904, it may be said that had there been no reciprocity treaty they would have shown as high a value as they now do.

The chief article of import is sugar. We buy Cuba's raw sugars because we want them. For many years we have absorbed practically her entire output. Her crop for last season fell only a little below her banner crop of 1894.

Had it exceeded that year's production by 25 per cent, we should have taken that excess also, and no American interest would have been injured thereby. We should merely have bought so much less from other West Indian islands or from Asia or South America.

Cuba supplies only about one-third of our requirements of the article. Cuban sugar is good sugar, and we want it. Reciprocity has not at all affected thus far the volume of our purchases of that Cuban commodity.

The slight reduction in the duty on tobacco has had only a comparatively limited effect on our imports of the weed, and no one has been injured. We cannot grow the Vuelta Abajo leaf in this country, and for every cigar that we import from Cuba we manufacture two hundred at home.

We buy Cuban tobacco and cigars because we want them, and, as in the case of sugar, the modest reduction made in our tariff on those articles will have little or no effect on the quantity purchased from the island. The market price of sugar is not regulated by the Cuban output or by our tariff on it.

harked back to the year 1899, when our shipments to Cuba, including coin and bullion, were \$37,000,000, as compared with the \$28,223,500 in 1902, which he quotes to show that the \$14,000,000 worth of merchandise shipped during the first six months of 1904 represents "loss and disappointment."

Cuba's commerce and industry have been for five years in a state of transition and adjustment to new conditions. They are now beginning to find firm ground. For this, and for other reasons the institution of such comparisons is futile and unwarranted.

A brief six months trial of reciprocity with such a country as Cuba is no ground on which to condemn the system. Another fact appears, and that is one to which we have several times referred in earlier comment on our foreign trade.

A reciprocity treaty has practically no value unless our merchants and manufacturers take active and aggressive steps to secure the advantages presented through its terms. Reciprocity is useful only if use is made of it.

Otherwise it is as useless as an unmounted grindstone in a barn corral. It is only a bundle of papers in a Government pigeonhole. While there have been certain limited trade "agreements," some of which are still in force, no real trial of reciprocity has been made since the expiration of the Canadian treaty, in 1866.

The Hawaiian treaty lasted for twenty-five years and witnessed an increase of total commerce from the \$2,000,000 of 1875 to \$34,000,000 in 1900. The British North American treaty saw a trade increase from \$5,000,000 in 1850, four years before its signature, to \$57,000,000 at its termination. The Swiss treaty is an affair of minor importance, and the precise force of limited agreements is difficult of measurement.

Neither the treaty with Canada nor that with Hawaii can be accepted as a measure of reciprocal trade influences to-day. New conditions have arisen and radical changes have been effected in old conditions.

Reciprocity has not yet been tried, and there is nothing in the Cuban experience thus far to justify its condemnation. Under the former régime at the Metropolitan, MAURICE GRAU was required to furnish at every performance at least two stars.

They were selected from a list of six approved by the directors of the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company. This number included the most famous singers in the world. Sometimes the manager, to his great profit, put more than two famous singers into a cast.

Last season at the Metropolitan one star frequently provided all the brilliancy that the performance possessed. Mr. CONRIED is contemplating a revival of "Die Meistersinger" as a feature of the approaching season, and a knowledge of what New York demands has made it necessary for him to defer his announcement of particulars.

He has not yet engaged a German tenor for this opera and knows that the most expensive and careful reproduction of the life of old Nuremberg will never satisfy the lovers of WAGNER'S comic opera unless there is an adequate tenor in the part of Walter von Stolzing. New Yorkers have a standard for this rôle which it is necessary to approach in some degree.

The musical public of this city is the most exacting in the world. No other community hears such singers, and nowhere else is public taste so high. Any impresario of the Metropolitan must, like Mr. CONRIED, engage the best available singers. It is a credit to the discrimination of New Yorkers that they will be satisfied with no others.

Nor will stage management, opera schools or scenery be accepted as a substitute for them, as Mr. CONRIED has learned. The term of the Governor of New York during the period from 1877 until 1892 was three years. There were no elections for President and Governor simultaneously in any year between 1876 and 1892, except in 1888.

Many thousands voted in New York, as has been shown in previous elections, may support a Republican national ticket while rejecting, as Republicans, a Republican State ticket; or opposing, as Democrats, the candidates upon it. In 1900 the Republican electoral ticket carried New York by 143,000, and the Republican State ticket by only 111,000—a difference of 32,000.

In 1896 the Republican electoral ticket had a plurality of 268,000, and the Republican ticket for Governor 212,000—a difference of 56,000. In 1888 the Republican electoral ticket was successful by 14,000. The Democratic candidate for Governor was elected by 19,000—a difference of 33,000.

Thus, 32,000 is one record, 33,000 another, and 56,000 a third record of the discrimination and difference in the vote of New York on President and on Governor at elections when both offices were to be filled.

The Reform Club's Discoveries. Those earnest saviors of the republic who shelter themselves in the shadow of the Reform Club have been conducting a gum shoe campaign among the editors who are supporting the Democratic canvass to discover if they are sound on the tariff issue. The editor of the Malone Farmer is "in favor of wiping out altogether the old relic of barbarism."

He would "wipe it out lock, stock and barrel, and raise revenue by an income tax." The editor of the Maryland Journal, of Towson, in the Terrapin State, would "knock out the trusts which billet on the people" by knocking off the duties. In West Virginia the Argus printed in Kingwood, is ably conducted by an editor who would reduce the duties "with an axe."

From the Times of Tipton, Ind., comes the message, "Lower taxes have always been a winner." The Tribune of Rockville, Ind., thinks that "it is always wise to advocate the truth." Notwithstanding the defeat of Gen. KUROPATRIN at Liaoyang, it is scarcely possible as yet to say whether the retention of Port Arthur will prove as determinative a factor in the contest between Japan and Russia as did the retention of Ladysmith in the South African war.

There is not in the present conflict any such disparity of ultimate strength between the opponents as that which existed in the earlier. Yet, while the final outcome to which the parties are working remains still unknown, the process tends more and more in Capt. MAHAN'S opinion to confirm the forecast that the resistance offered by Port Arthur may prove the turning point of ultimate success.

Port Arthur, in a word, has meant, and still means, delay, the great need of all defense, and especially of that particular defensive which requires time to organize resources inconspicuously superior. Whether it will finally remain to be seen; but the influence exercised on the campaign by the retention of Port Arthur is obvious.

It has imposed upon the Japanese two objectives, so that they have had to choose whether to concentrate upon the one or divide between the two. These divergent objectives were Port Arthur and the discomfiture of the northern Russian army, a discomfiture indispensable if the Japanese were to control Korea and release Manchuria, the professed motives of the war.

Condensed in a sentence, these are the conclusions drawn by Capt. MAHAN from the war: that a grave error was committed in not despatching the Baltic fleet some months ago to Far Eastern waters, but that the mistake has been, to some extent, atoned for by the obstinate defence of Port Arthur.

Mr. Conried's Second Season. The prospectus for the second season of opera at the Metropolitan under the management of HEINRICH CONRIED, although still incomplete, shows that he has learned during his short term as impresario what New York public wants. He has increased the number of his stars and has attracted attention to them rather than to his scenery and costumes.

He talks more about the popular singers and the new rôles in which they are to appear than about his wonderful opera school. He knows now that the public is more interested in the stars than in the embryonic geniuses he may have intrusted to the fostering care of that institution.

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of Du Bois fears that "some Democrats will vote for ROOSEVELT," but the Courier of Prairie du Chien pledges itself that "on the issue of tariff for revenue Wisconsin will go Democratic," regardless of LA FOLLETTE, SPOONER and all their hosts. It is evident that for those who like the Democratic platform it is the sort of thing they like. But the Reform Club added a personal question. It was last on the list its investigators circulated. Here it is:

"Should this committee decide to supply copy for special articles, showing the evils and abuses of our present tariff, would you care to have it sent to you?" The editors had been long suffering, but some of them rebelled at this. Nine-tenths of them shuffled, and made conditions. Fourteen were "in doubt." An even 100 were brutally frank. From them came a mighty chorus of "No!"

They do and dare for Democracy; they pledge their faith to the platform; but when it comes to inflicting upon their readers the printed outgivings of the Reform Club they balk. The subscribers to these 100 resolute newspapers are to be congratulated.

New comes that, pending Gen. COBBIN'S arrival in Manila as the successor of Gen. WADSWORTH, Major-Gen. LEONARD WOOD is to become the military head of the American army in the Philippines. Let us hope that before his departure from Zamboanga he will arrange an armistice with that rascal the Datto ALI. It would be shocking if that irrepressible should go to cutting up, as soon as Gen. WOOD'S shoulder straps had disappeared below the northern horizon. He might also put MANDI and CALVI and JOKAMIN, and a few others, under bonds to keep the peace during his absence.

It is true that these gentlemen have never met in any trouble, but there is no telling what they might do if Gen. LEONARD WOOD was not there. Mr. FARRINGTON experienced campaigner. He knows what subjects to avoid. He steered his oratory clear of Newburg.

THE CAMPAIGN. The Hon. A. J. Warner's Forecast and Preference. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I was not quite correctly reported by the correspondent in Pittsburgh, as given in THE SUN of Sept. 5. I said, as showing how things were mixed politically, that, if Republicans had as much confidence in their candidate as they had in their party and in their platform, Roosevelt would be easily elected. On the other hand, if they had as much confidence in the Democratic party and its platform as they had in their party and in their platform, Roosevelt would be easily elected.

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THE PARTY AND MR. ODELL.

SARATOGA, Sept. 14.—Republicans who have gathered here from every county in the State have discussed the attitude of THE SUN toward the Republican organization of the State. It is the unanimous opinion of these men that THE SUN has performed a service of the highest value to the Republican party and the Republican voters of the State.

The delegates and the leaders who cannot for a moment be considered grafters have declared for the last few days that they can never express their gratitude to THE SUN for its attitude of fairness and upright criticism of the Odeell administration.

A group of these Republicans were on the Broadway piazza of the United States Hotel this afternoon and one of the most eminent members of the Republican party in the State expressed his views to his fellows as follows:

"THE SUN by its course in the last few years has warned the people of the State what was being done at Albany and elsewhere to destroy the Republican party in our great State. We all know that THE SUN has been a Republican newspaper since 1896, but a newspaper with independent proclivities and not timid about printing the facts in its possession. THE SUN has performed a great service to the party. The party has a number of hidebound Republican organization newspapers which for reasons of their own have shut their eyes to performances which have wrought ruin to the party. The attitude of these organization newspapers has been hurtful to the party in the State. We don't care what the Democratic newspapers say about our party, because we have been taught to believe that the Democratic press, for party purposes, is bound to distort all legislation and all other matters affecting the Republican party and to put us in a disadvantageous light. It is the duty of a Republican newspaper to call attention to the faults of the party and the wrongs that are being done to the party by men in public place who care nothing for the party save what they can slich from it because of their prominence in the party. THE SUN by its course has demanded that the Republican organization of the State give the followers of the party good government. It has fearlessly and valiantly decried the persons who are a reproach to the party and the party itself. It has shown that it will result in a cataclysm like that which overtook the Democratic party in 1864. Men in public life, Republicans and Democrats, have said that if the Democratic press of the State had fearlessly attacked the methods and systems and persons prominent in the Democratic party in the State from 1888 to 1892 there would not have been that direful defeat in 1894. The Republican papers, however, in the Democratic papers of the State, have not done this. They have been compelled to get their facts from Republican newspapers; and the Democratic voters in 1894 resented the conduct of their leaders just as much as the Republican party will resent the conduct of Mr. Odeell and the Republicans in his train. The value of THE SUN'S services in this direction cannot be calculated. We do not expect Mr. Odeell, Mr. Ward, Mr. Littaer and Republicans of that stamp to thank us for what we have done. We live there as comfortably and as economically as anywhere in the United States, and prefer to live there. We will not be driven to do so if he will observe the most ordinary rules of decency and hygiene."

THE ISTHMIAN CANAL. One of the most singular statements in the article is to the effect that the only water in the canal is that which is drawn from the immediate marshes. In fact, the canal already dug is almost wholly filled with salt water. The water which is drawn from the marshes is drawn from the marshes by the pumps of the canal. The water which is drawn from the marshes is drawn from the marshes by the pumps of the canal.

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SUMMER ON THE ISTHMIAN.

A Recently Returned Engineer's Observations on Mosquitoes, Water and Hum. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: In THE SUN of the morning I read with some surprise the account of an interview with Dr. R. O. Marcour, who is represented to have been in the service of the United States Navy on the Isthmus of Panama. The statements attributed to Dr. Marcour are so remarkable that I am impelled to correct them, especially since the present time is one of extreme importance to the people of the United States in general and of particular importance to the Panama Canal in particular.

I write with some confidence, since I have just returned from the Isthmus of Panama, where I spent two months, and those months which were the most unhealthy of the year in that quarter of the globe. With reference to this phase I may dismiss the subject in very few words by saying that never in my life (except for about two hours one morning, when I was oppressed by an unusually hot sun) have I enjoyed better health than I did on the Isthmus of Panama. This is worth remarking, since I observed no unusual price for the health of the Isthmus. The ground, in a hammock or in a bed as the circumstances of the night required, and I used a mosquito net certainly not more than half a dozen times during my whole stay. When, in many cases, I had removed from the hammock, I lived for months in the houses occupied by the marines at Bas Obispo, spoken of by Dr. Marcour, and during all of those months I did not see a single mosquito. One would meet a single mosquito in the city of New York. Indeed, without exaggeration, I may extend this statement to my whole stay on the Isthmus of Panama. I can, I think, quite net for my face, but did not remove it from the original wrapping placed around it for the Isthmus of Panama. I can, I think, quite net for my face, but did not remove it from the original wrapping placed around it for the Isthmus of Panama.

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