

The Sun

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The Japan That Is to Be.

Gen. WILSON'S remarks on the political future of the Far East are not long to be interesting in every paragraph and line. There is now no more fascinating subject for intelligent speculation than that which concerns the continuous development of the new Asiatic civilization and the probable course of history after the end of the present extraordinary chapter of war.

In the speech which Baron KANEKO delivered at a dinner in New York last week the political forecast from the Japanese point of view was comprehensively stated. Speaking of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, and the interest of the United States in its prolongation, Baron KANEKO said:

"England does not need any more territory. Japan does not want any more territory. The United States, guided by the policy of the illustrious statesman, JOHN HAY, has inaugurated the open door policy. If, therefore, this alliance continues, it will thwart the treacherous design for the dismemberment of China and give equal rights to all nations alike. This alliance will secure peace, not only for Asia, but for the whole world. France will remain assured that she will remain in undisputed possession of Tonkin and her other footholds in the Far East. Germany will remain in undisputed possession of Kiaochow. Russia will be permitted to remain untroubled in her proper bounds of Siberia. Last but not least, the United States may enjoy full occupation of the Philippines. Japan never had jealous eyes. We welcome the United States to the Orient, for the principles of individual rights, religious freedom and popular liberty are even more than the homeland to us."

Compare the foregoing with the outline of the settlement which seems desirable to Gen. WILSON:

"Peace should be equally fair and just to the belligerents, as well as to all other concerned. It should respect and guarantee the territorial and administrative integrity of Korea as well as of China. It should at the same time provide a place for the overflow population of Japan without the dismemberment of any other people. It should permit an outlet from Siberia to the free port on the Pacific. Above all, it should provide for the equal right of all nations for trade with every part of the Chinese Empire as it existed before either the Japan-Chinese or the Japan-Russian war."

There is a general accord here between this patriotic yet moderate Japanese and discerning American observer. One note, however, is naturally absent from Baron KANEKO'S recital of the probabilities and possibilities, while appearing quite plainly elsewhere in Gen. WILSON'S remarks. It is that of apprehension of those remote consequences of overwhelming victory on the part of Asiatics over Europeans which have been commonly but crudely described by the phrase Yellow Peril.

Questions for Senator Newlands. The tendency of the testimony by the representative experts of the railways who have been called before the Senate committee is calculated to convince the committee that railway directors do not, under the existing system, arrange by vote the rates, rebates and discriminations in each individual case, but that the important work is done by subordinate agents, and therefore it will not be feasible for an interstate commerce commission, sitting in Washington, to fix income from traffic in every part of the United States.

President TUTTLE of the Boston and Maine system has been reported as testifying that he had never known the directors of his road to be engaged in rate fixing. Chief Traffic Agent WALKER G. HINES, formerly vice-president of the Louisville and Nashville road, explained to the Senate committee, by way of showing how impossible it would be for the proposed governmental commission to fix rates, that the Louisville and Nashville system alone had sixty-six traffic officials to take care of the rates on its lines, and twenty-five or thirty clerks in addition. Taking as an illustration one of the Southern classification associations, which he said comprised only a small fraction of the territory of the country, he pointed out that it had 100 men who did nothing else but adjust classifications. Within the last five years they had made 12,451 changes in classifications, of which 9,230 had been reduced.

That testimony is important because, if the existing system of rate fixing is to be modified as President Roosevelt has proposed to Congress, it will be necessary to know what the system is. Mr. HINES has not been reported as defining the power over rates which, by the charter of the Louisville and Nashville system, has been specifically imparted to the directors. It may be that no power has been expressly conferred, but that rate fixing authority is only implied from a general authority, given to the directors by the charter, to manage the affairs of the corporation.

Senator NEWLANDS, who is one of the Senate committee, has advocated in the North American Review for April the compelling of interstate railways to state charters from Congress. If that shall be done, to whom will Congress give the power to fix rates? Will the shareholders have anything to say? When Government ownership follows, as Mr. BRYAN has predicted it will, as the sequence of Government control of rates, then the Government as owner of the shares will, of course, establish the rates, rebates and discriminations.

Forty years ago Congress empowered the directors of the Northern Pacific to prescribe rates. Does Senator NEWLANDS deem that power over rates a

personal trust conferred by Congress on the directors which they cannot delegate to subordinate agents, and if not, then how can an interstate commerce commission revise, directly and without agents, rates for every station of every railway in our whole land? It seems to be incumbent on Senator NEWLANDS, as a railway expert and member of the Senate committee, to extract from each competent witness a clear and concise exhibition of the process by which rates are now decided and published by the railway he represents, and then to demonstrate in what particulars the plan proposed by President ROOSEVELT, which the Senator is said to favor, will be better.

Precisely what, under present railway usage, do railway directors decide regarding income from traffic? Can Senator NEWLANDS now declare offhand and accurately which functions of their office, if any, railway directors can now lawfully delegate to their subordinates? Can shareholders interfere in rate fixing excepting by selecting directors? Is a director in that relation an agent of the shareholders or an officer of the State that gave a charter to the railway? Whose agent will the Interstate Commerce Commission be if Congress shall empower its members to fix rates?

Senator NEWLANDS has shown himself so filled with the details of the railway problem that he should not have difficulty in cross-examining witnesses before the committee in a way to exhibit the present relation of directors to rates, and to show why he claims, if he does claim, that putting an interstate commerce commission in the place of directors will be an improvement.

Fitzhugh Lee.

The life of FITZHUGH LEE, now ended, extended through the stormiest, the most critical, the most anxious period of American history, and the period also in which the national development was greatest.

In 1836, when he was born in Virginia, the forces which divided the Union into warring sections in his early manhood were already working ominously to that end; yet at his death on Friday in his seventh year that Union had been firmly cemented together for the first time since the federation of thirteen American States of diverse and conflicting interests.

Gen. FITZHUGH LEE typified in his life and character that period of struggle and of final reconciliation. He came from a long line of illustrious Virginians, and he shared by inheritance in their State pride and their theories of State sovereignty. Accordingly, his adhesion to the South in the movement for secession from the Union which followed the election of LINCOLN was both consistent and inevitable. When a question which had been disputed from the time of the adoption of the Constitution was submitted to the decision of war, of course FITZHUGH LEE was found on the side taken by his State.

When, however, that decision was rendered against him and his fellows of the South, he accepted it without reserve as final and conclusive, and when, thereafter, the restored Union became engaged in a war with a foreign Power, he proudly resumed the uniform of an officer of the United States Army which he had put off thirty-seven years before to serve the cause of secession and disruption.

FITZHUGH LEE dies therefore a hero of the whole American people. The illustrious name he bore, typical of the highest and purest American citizenship, is a proud national possession. It is a name almost unknown at the South, and at the North it is scarcely less honored.

Colored Caesars.

Some ancient Yankees recall vaguely, or have heard from their elders, that "nigger"lection day" used to be on the New England calendar. In the Journal of American Folk-Lore Mr. HUBERT H. SMITH, of Connecticut studies African institutions in America and gives a clear picture of a forgotten custom. In 1780 there were some 45,000 slaves in New England, New York and Pennsylvania. In New England they enjoyed considerable liberty and had certain holidays, one of which was election day, a general holiday. On these days they dressed up fantastically, had a parade on horseback or on foot, accompanied by "hideous music," followed their "Governor" through the streets, and afterward had a dance and dinner.

What was this "Governor"? Some say that he was the representative of the African kings; some, that the negroes, being without political rights, imitated the elections of their masters; some, that the "Governor" had a sort of jurisdiction over all the negroes in the State. It appears, however, that his jurisdiction was local. The late Senator JUDITH thought that the election parade of the whites did not begin in Connecticut till about 1880. Mr. SMITH does not attempt to decide whether the negroes had such inaugural parades before the whites. He argues that the blacks had elective kings or chiefs in Africa "and many practices of a judicial and social nature which bear a strong resemblance to those found among them in America." These were modified until the annual meetings became simply "a good time." In the United States these practices seem to have begun about the middle of the eighteenth century and to have ceased about the middle of the nineteenth.

A gravestone in Norwich bore the inscription: "In memory of BARNABAS TOWNSEND, Governor of the African tribe in this town, who died 1799 aged 65."

In 1778 a Hartford Governor resigned in these words: "I, Governor CUFF of the negro's in the province of Connecticut, do resign my governorship to JOHN ANTHONY, negro man to governor SALTER. And I hope that you will obey him as you have done me for this ten years past, when Colonel WILLIAMS' negro day he was the next. But being weak and unfit for that office do resign the said governorship to JOHN ANTHONY."

gross that he would treat them to the extent of \$20 if they would elect him. An early instance of that Connecticut corruption which wrings the heart of the Rev. NEWMAN SMYTH, TOBIAS BARNETT, Governor of Derby and grandson of an African "Prince," was six feet tall, witty and quick of speech. JUBA was Governor of Seymour. One of his sons was still Governor a few years before the civil war.

Prof. FOWLER tells us of many lines of colored CAESARS:

"The negroes would steadily or occasionally appoint a king, who was decorated with some of the emblems of royalty. One of these kings the present writer recollects to have seen. He had the appropriate name of CAESAR and held his court on the west side of the town. The person selected was usually one of much note among themselves, of imposing presence, strength, firmness and valour, who was quick to decide, ready to command, also to flog. If he were inclined to be a little arbitrary, brought to a master of discretion and was ready to pay freely for diversions, these were circumstances in his favor. The precise sphere of his power we cannot ascertain. Probably it embraced matters and things among the blacks—morals, manners and customs."

There was a great deal of whipping in the colored courts. The Governor or King kept his subjects in good order. The institution lasted longest in New Haven and Rhode Island, which communicated most directly with the West Indies.

STUART'S "Hartford in the Olden Time" shows us the Governor on parade: "His parade days were marked by much that was showy and by some things that were ludicrous. A troop of blacks, sometimes an hundred in number, marching sometimes two and two on foot, sometimes mounted in true military style and dress on horseback, escorted him through the streets. After marching to their content, they would retire to some large room which they would arrange for the purpose, for refreshments and debauchery. This was all done with the greatest regard for ceremony."

In all parts of Cuba these fantastic parades were celebrated with great pomp; and the freedom and the merry-makings of the negroes, the widely spread saturnalian license, Carnival and Twelfth Day were the great occasions. On Twelfth Day, in Guines, in 1844:

"Almost unlimited liberty was given to the negroes. Each tribe, having elected their king and queen, paraded the streets with a flag, having its same and the words 'Viva!' with the arms of Spain, palated on it. Their majesties were dressed in the extreme of the fashion, and were very ceremoniously waited on by the ladies and gentlemen of the court, one of the ladies holding an umbrella over the head of the queen. They bore their honors with that dignity which the negroes love so much to assume. Three of these tribes paraded at Guines, and an illustrious and fantastic dress accompanied the procession, performing a wild dance and all sorts of contortions. At Havana in 1866 the negroes were free by law until 4 o'clock in the morning; they decked themselves out in the oddest kinds of costumes and paraded the streets, screaming out the songs of their nations to the music of rattles, tin pans and tambourines; one had a genuine costume of a king of the Middle Ages, a very proper red, close coat, velvet vest and a magnificent silk paper crown. The negro, who was enormously tall and had a tolerably good looking head, was hand graven to a sort of fantastic blacksmoke who represented some queen or other. He walked with a deliberate, majestic step, never laughed and seemed to be reflecting deeply on the grandeur of his mission to this world."

Good old customs of the antique world. Dr. Parkhurst's Plan. The secrets of the Committee of Nine have been well guarded, but from GEORGE MCANENY the public has been allowed to learn one of the incidents which enlightened its sessions. The Rev. CHARLES H. PARKHURST, a reformer of no mean fame, was one of the gentlemen who enlightened the Nine with suggestions for the improvement of the police force of the city. His plan was simple in the extreme. He would have a man from the army, from another State, or from another country. The Nine objected that the Constitution of the State might interfere with the adoption of Dr. PARKHURST'S plan:

"Oh, well," said Dr. PARKHURST, "I don't know anything about the details. You are lawyers and you can settle them."

Dr. PARKHURST'S proposal for the separation of the good men from the bad in the department was charming in its ingenuity. A member of the committee asked how the vicious might be distinguished from the virtuous. Dr. PARKHURST was quick to answer: "Why, that's not hard," he said; "you can tell them by the looks on their faces."

Nothing could be easier. To be sure, some philanthropists wear the faces of murderous thugs, and many an innocent spectator in a court room has gazed in a fear and trembling on the victim of raciality while mentally appraising the scoundrel at the bar as a benevolent sociologist. Dr. PARKHURST'S eye is incapable of such errors.

The members of the National Municipal League laughed when Mr. MCANENY told them about Dr. PARKHURST'S suggestions. Thereby they displayed their ignorance of the real plan he had in mind. Dr. PARKHURST would enlist his infallible eyes in the service of the municipality. His intuitive knowledge of human character would be employed where clumsy city service rules and tedious court proceedings now prevail.

The Virtue of Japanese Ordnance. The attempt to forecast the outcome of the impending naval battle in the Far East would be seriously complicated if there were reason to believe that Admiral Togo's battleships might, at a critical juncture, be disabled for aggressive purposes through the blowing off of the muzzles of their guns after a limited number of rounds had been fired. We might have to assume that such disablement is not unlikely to occur if we could accept as well founded the charge made by the London Daily Graphic that the armament of many British battleships is defective, because many, if not all, Japanese battleships and armored cruisers are known to be equipped with British built guns.

What the London Daily Graphic asserted on Wednesday, April 26, was that the thirty-five caliber 12-inch guns installed in British battleships of the Majestic class are useless for more than fifty full rounds and that the fifty caliber

6-inch guns have failed under practice tests. The Graphic also alleged that in seven out of sixteen British guns mounted on Japanese battleships premature explosions of shells have occurred. Even if this latter allegation were true, however, it would prove nothing in regard to the ordnance, but would merely impeach the character of the projectiles. It is the former charge that is the grave one, and it is to a certain extent confirmed by the official statement issued on Thursday, April 27, by the Admiralty. It is admitted in this statement that one 12-inch gun on board the Majestic had cracked at the muzzle, and that a second gun showed a crack in the inner tube, after they had fired sixty-six and seventy-five full charges respectively. The Admiralty was only able to cite one 12-inch gun which had been fired with 162 full charges before being refired. It added, however, some negative evidence to the effect that the guns on board three battleships had fired more than sixty full charges apiece, and appeared still to be serviceable.

Such negative evidence, of course, does not counterbalance the positive proof of the Graphic's charge afforded by the Admiralty's previous admission. It has generally been taken for granted that not less than one hundred and fifty rounds was the life limit of a large gun, and it might obviously prove a matter of portentous import to a naval commander engaged in battle, if it should turn out that the life limit of such a piece does not exceed fifty or seventy rounds.

It will be remembered that on the United States battleship Iowa the muzzles of three 8-inch and one 12-inch gun were blown off, although the propellant used was smokeless powder, which is believed to be less wearing on gun linings than cordite, the ammunition preferred in the British Navy. Whether, in the case of the Iowa, the fracture was due to the excessive pressure exerted by the smokeless powder was disputed at the time, but the ordnance experts of our navy now seem inclined to think that guns built when old fashioned powder was employed are too weak in the muzzle to withstand the immense pressure exerted by the smokeless propellant, and consequently, where this type of ordnance is retained, the powder charges ought to be reduced, though from such reduction would, of course, result a smaller velocity and diminished striking power.

If it is true that much of the ordnance on the Japanese battleships consists of thirty-five caliber 12-inch guns, it is plain from the British Admiralty's admissions that they might be fractured after firing some seventy full charges. Now, there is reason to think that in the operations before Port Arthur some of these guns were discharged many times, and must therefore be approaching their life limit. It is therefore conceivable that, at a turning point of the impending naval battle, much of the Japanese ordnance might turn out to be unserviceable. Of what avail, then, would be Admiral Togo's tactical ability, or the skill of his gunners, or the efficiency of his seamen?

It is probable that the great naval fight between Togo and ROJSTVENSKY, of which we may expect to hear at any hour, will throw light on many a problem connected with ordnance, with propellants and with projectiles. It may be that the Japanese Admiral is destined to be handicapped by some material defect of armament, but, in all likelihood, his Russian opponent has quite as much to fear from the chapter of accidents.

Trustees and Trusts. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Referring to your editorial on the duties of those entrusted with the duties of a director in trusts, let me give you an instance of how it works when a man tries to do his duty. A prominent citizen of Chicago was asked to join the board of directors in a famous trust. He set himself to discharge what he considered to be his duty by investigating the securities held by the bank, and among them he found certain parcels of real estate on which amounts had been advanced far beyond their true value. When he brought the matter to the attention of his fellow directors he found that the one who was responsible for the loans was a "big man" in the bank's affairs, and that the loans had been made on his recommendation to a "friend" of his.

The newly elected director protested, and stated that if the matter were not set right at once he would resign. Not only did he resign but he had made enemies of all his former associates, many of whom were on the board. These men not only gave him the cold shoulder but they seriously injured his private business.

What is the amount of encouragement honest men get in such matters these days. R. F. F.

The Illuminated Sidewalk. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: While going through a prominent street of our city to-day I noticed that the flag sidewalk in front of a certain store had been replaced by a gorgeously colored mosaic advertisement. This, of course, was done and paid for by the people occupying the store. Now, why should the city be subject to this sort of abuse? If every tenant should adopt this form of advertising, what would our streets and sidewalks look like!

Take, for instance, one example out of possible thousands, a dentist's advertisement displaying a large set of highly colored false teeth placed in the center of a walk. What a hideous conglomeration of sidewalk we shall have. Let the city act and act at once. Where is the Municipal Art Commission? PLAIN FLAGGING. NEW YORK, APRIL 29.

The Basis of the Christian Religion. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I observe that no topics interest a greater number of intelligent persons, if I may judge from the number of publications, communications, and many other under discussion in your columns, than the future life and the religion of Jesus.

The occasional brief communications that you have published from Mr. Goldwin Smith have been more widely read and appreciated than many of his more formal writings and have served to introduce him to a vastly wider public than he has known heretofore.

In his letter which you published last Sunday he says that criticism of the Gospels has spared only the character and teachings of Jesus. But if these things are left we have an ample basis for a Christian religion.

It is not time for a new reformation which shall deliver the character and teachings of Jesus from the obscurity and theological darkness in which they have been so long immersed? Who shall deliver Jesus from the obscurity of the systems that have hidden him and place him where his light may illumine the world? SARATOGA SPRINGS, APRIL 28.

The South Needs Men. From the Southern Manufacturers' Journal. The shortage of labor necessary to do the full work of the South has again and again been emphasized. Mr. D. M. Thompson of Rhode Island, formerly president of the New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association, who has recently been making a close-at-hand study of Southern conditions, is quoted as estimating that at least 10 per cent. of the spinners in the South are idle because of the lack of labor, and that the only hope of relief for idle spinners and for new ones that are being installed is to get labor from outside of the South and to protect it. In that he is backed up by G. O. Gentry of Columbus, Ga., who is convinced that immigration of the right sort is called for to supply the necessary labor for farms and help for the mills. In agriculture and in manufacturing, in mining and in lumbering and in many other lines of wealth producing endeavor the South needs men. It cannot depend upon natural increase of population, and must look to immigration for the solution of its difficulties.

The women's club is the greatest educator I know. Thirty thousand clubwomen in Chicago gaze upon Mr. CLEVELAND with blazing eyes.

"Feminine admirers of the former President 'scent back' on him amid roared to long, harsh, scolding adjectives and cruel 'knocks' in giving voice to their contempt of his views on the woman's club."

It would be presumptuous to try to screen Mr. CLEVELAND from the volleys of the serious minded; nor would we lightly expose ourselves to those scented columns of petticoated "knockers." Yet, for truth's sake, we would dare much. For instance, what does Mrs. F. W. BECKER mean by these mysterious words:

"He would do better to write a treatise on ducks." Aren't the clubwomen ducks, every mother's daughter of them?

Don't Change the System. Assemblyman JOHN C. HACKETT, the Tammany statesman who represents the Thirtieth Assembly district, has introduced a bill in the Legislature providing for the erection of a 700-bed public hospital on the West Side of New York city, between Twentieth and Forty-second streets. Of the necessity for such an institution in this territory there may well be considerable doubt.

Leaving this question aside, however, Mr. HACKETT'S bill must be condemned because of its third section, which provides that the hospital, when completed, shall be under the control and supervision of the Commissioner of Public Charities.

Since 1902 the city has been trying the experiment of having its public and emergency hospitals under the direction of a board of managers styled the Trustees of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals. The results of the experiment so far have been thoroughly satisfactory. It is the judgment of those who are competent to speak on the subject with authority that the institutions managed by these trustees are performing their functions with more credit to the municipality than ever before in their history.

The hospitals so controlled are Bellevue, Fordham, Harlem and Gouverneur and the Emergency Hospital in East Twenty-sixth street. The Commissioner of Public Charities is ex officio one of the trustees, and thus has a voice in the hospital management.

If it is necessary to build a new emergency hospital in New York city, it certainly should be done under the direction of the body which now directs the other city hospitals in the same territory, and on its completion it should be under the control of the same body. To provide otherwise would be to introduce a new and discordant element into a situation which is already sufficiently complicated.

Keep within the law and you'll keep out of trouble. —The Hon. WILLIAM S. DEWEY to his spreading abolitionist driver.

Wise Mr. DEWEY dispenses good advice and helpful maxims of conduct daily and nightly at The Pump. Too infrequently his words are reported to the general public. Those that are recorded disclose good sense, good temper and a deep, wide knowledge of men and women. Mr. DEWEY should write a book.

Remember sitting beside Browning one evening in the hour of sunset. Six hours at dinner and the opera with Gladstone are to me an ever living memory.

The foregoing are not rare gems of their kind, picked out after diligent search among the seemingly unbroken continuity of Depew's vital deliverance. Truly, there would be only labor—not difficulty—in reproducing from Mr. Depew's speeches of the last three or four years a hundred or so of the gems which would be of use to the reader as they are unworthy the eloquent oratory and graceful personality of Senator Depew. It is time to suggest that too many of the kind of people who listen to the orator should be made to know independently of him to admit of his imposing his deficiencies upon the public indefinitely. At the rate he is going on there will come a big slump in his popularity as a speaker. He is not the politician who can be hastened to. Candidly, I think this would be a public misfortune. It is not a case where the excuse that "everybody makes mistakes" can be hurled at him. He is able to articulate such a large and varied assortment of misinformation.

AMSTERDAM, N. Y., April 29.

Mint Julep Near Virginia. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: There is a mint julep bet, if not a mint julep trust, and all Americans will be glad to know that the promise for "mint julep" month, which is good in Virginia at home and the center of popularity of the intoxicating beverage.

The mint is sprouting well. The leaves are green; the stems are strong; the aroma is refreshing; the mint used and required for the veritable, all-American julep, the promoter of cordiality, the restorer of harmony, and the drink of the roadside judge or honest juror. He is not the politician who grows wild and unkept on moist waste places. This is the *Mentha viridis* of the botanist, not the true mint of the Virginia country summer beverage. The real, genuine authentic Southern garden mint flourishes in the mint bed under the south wall, where the white flowers of Southern mints or natives in the Virginia country are the aromatic leaves to build the foundation for a julep for the statesman in black broadcloth who sits in the shady corner of the veranda with his feet on the rug and his glass on the ledge of the rail of his side.

The stars sugar with two tablespoonfuls of spring water, packed crushed ice to the top of the heavy goblet, pour in the whiskey and crown the work with some mint sprays over the crevice.

It is an old tradition, contemptuously rejected in Virginia, that brandy should be used in the making of the julep. In the South, however, it is a substitute. In Georgia peach brandy is used, but Virginia, not Georgia, is the julep State. Whiskey and mint come from the same region, from the same district, since they are both native to the same soil, but it lacks the palatable features of the whiskey julep and is not the Virginia grow which no doubt is of brandy can replace.

NEW YORK, APRIL 29.

Harsh Wish for the Rapid Transit Commission. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Can't some one throw light on the subway local service? How would you like to be thirty, thirty-five, forty or forty-five minutes every night riding from Eighth to 104th street and from Seventy-ninth or Eighty-first street to 145th street, and to be jerked out of your seats as well as cross?

Going down in the morning almost all take the express trains at 104th street. I scarcely count more than forty or fifty people in a local train, can you be doing it? I wish the Rapid Transit Commission were commended to use the local service to 104th street every morning. E. K. STEWART. NEW YORK, APRIL 28.

Prediction of a Big Slump in His Popularity as a Historical Lecturer, and Why. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: In all the wild abandon of his obnoxious wit, as we were again to find, in a speech by Chairman M. Depew an indication that he had tried to tell all things as they really were. He used to succeed in so doing fairly well; but it looks now as if he had drunk the nasty punch of some "mansion" and he feels encouraged to the recklessness of all the gods at once.

In his Montauk Club speech, April 23, he said: "A single remark by Benedetti, French Ambassador to Prussia, to King William at the watering place at Ems brought on the Prussia-French war."

Not if our Minister at Paris, Edith B. Washburn, knew it. In Washburn's "Recollections," Vol. I, chapter 2, he says the French Government and people were immovably determined upon war with Prussia before the incident at Ems occurred, and he shows how other incentives to war operated on both sides.

Of Gen. Winfield Scott, who ran for President in 1852, Mr. Depew says that "his canvass was exceedingly promising" until the "nasty play of some" mansion "jerked him out of the canvass." So, after forty years of conspicuous service in the army, with high and victorious commands in three wars, an unsuccessful attempt to honor a military man who had succeeded in "promising" prospect of election that he got only 43 electoral votes out of 296. Any one who knows anything at all of the Scott campaign of 1852 knows that the mansion "jerked" him out of the canvass. So, after forty years of conspicuous service in the army, with high and victorious commands in three wars, an unsuccessful attempt to honor a military man who had succeeded in "promising" prospect of election that he got only 43 electoral votes out of 296. Any one who knows anything at all of the Scott campaign of 1852 knows that the mansion "jerked" him out of the canvass.

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FAITH AMONG THE CLERGY. A Reply to Mr. Goldwin Smith by a Clergyman of the Episcopal Church. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Mr. Goldwin Smith, in his communication in