The Sun.

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

Mr. Bryan.

Mainly for the benevolent purpose of keeping an esteemed correspondent's pores open in these canicular rages, we print his views about Mr. BRYAN and Mr. ROOSEVELT and THE SUN. Indeed, his artless misunderstanding of our feeling in regard to Mr. BRYAN recommends pleadingly and persuasively the publication of his letter. We like Mr. BRYAN. He amuses us. His swift assimilation of often erroneous and usually superficial ideas, his position as the Greatest Conservative Force, a conservative who proves his conservatism by showing that he is more radical than ever; the gratitude with which the Democratic party welcomes his Jeffersonian dictatorship; his pathetic cry that he saw the trust monster and the railroad behemoth first; his rôle of Taint Killer, surrounded by Democratic taintees and plutocrats: Mr. BRYAN is a boon, a comfort, a pure well head and fountain of entertainment.

His many excellent and amiable qualities are known to everybody. He is a healthy and hearty chap; a gripper of hands, a compeller of hearts; a voice of many tinkling cymbals; a fine, melodramatic figure of a man. He means well whether he carries out his intentions or not. He has damnable iteration. He has given the Democracy medicines to make it love him; he has, as Mr. LOWELL or somebody else said of GLADSTONE, a genius for "improvising convictions." He blows across and around the world like a hot wind over dryest Nebraska. The energy, the spirits, the vigor, the ebullience, resonance and reverberation of him win the interest of all admirers of salient personality and perpetual motion.

The Democratic party tried PARKER, and PARKER didn't "work." Now it stands tiptoe on the shore waiting for the coming of the old favorite. The tones are silver, if the silver trumpet blows no longer. New strains, more seductive than the Pied Piper's, are in the throat of the adapter of the Cross of Gold melody; and the Jeffersonian children are ready to troop and follow.

Dislike Mr. BRYAN? We love him for the speeches he has made and the trouble he is making. We shall be faithful to him when even GEORGE FRED WILLIAMS has deserted and MOSES CINCINNATUS WETMORE, finding no more trusts to sell out to, has become a trust himself. Psychology and sociology are our favorite studies, and we shall always keep the Lincoln Lincoln under observation.

"Tennesseean's" remarks about Mr. ROOSEVELT are rather frank than amene; but these are trying times, and it is better that he cleanse the stuffed bosom of the perilous stuff and perspire freely. Mr. ROOSEVELT advertises, does he? Well, he has the goods. Does knowledge of this fact suffuse with bile the once limpid eyes of Mr. BRYAN?

Where New York's Money Goes.

According to the Census Bureau, the city of New York expended for municipal purposes in 1904 four times the money that Chicago did. As the population of the Illinois city was about half that of New York, it is evident that the per capita cost of city government here was double that in Chicago, and there is no reason to think a comparison of the expenditures for the current year would show a different proportion.

In every department of the city government New York pays the highest wages. Its school teachers, policemen, clerical employees of all grades, and laborers, skilled and unskilled, receive higher compensation than the corresponding employees of any other city or the workers engaged under similar conditions in private employ. The city is conducted on lines of extravagance that would bankrupt a private concern, and the constant tendency is toward higher relative expenditures, rather than lower. Yet there is little complaint from citizens of the amount of money disbursed. Taxpayers growl at inefficient service, poor pavements, badly lighted streets and similar annoyances, but seldom is a voice raised to protest against the expenses of the government.

The complete ignorance of most persons in regard to the details of the city government's affairs is responsible for this general silence among the taxpayers. They do not know how their money is spent. The reports of the various departments give few clues that are worth following. If the Mayor and the Comptroller engage in a dispute over the debt incurring capacity of the city, as they did this spring, how can the average citizen be expected to find out where there is waste and the best method of checking it? Comptroller METZ has confessed that the bookkeeping in the Department of Finance is a mystery to him. The reports of the various departments are not enlightening, if they are intended to be. A clear and concise statement of their operations and transactions is never made.

The auditors strike a balance, the system of checks renders downright robbery of the city treasury practically impossible, and the most that can be learned from the numberless documents printed in the *City Record* is that the sums that have been disbursed have been drawn from the bank in accordance with the provisions of the law. Whether they were wisely invested or wasted, whether they went to pay for needed improvements or services, or represent money thrown away, cannot be told.

New York needs an intelligent and a scientific system of bookkeeping, by which clear and trustworthy records of its expenses in every department might be compiled at frequent intervals. Such a system would reveal many leaks and much reckless spending. Until it is adopted the taxpayers must live in ignorance of the manner in which their funds are distributed.

Exploring Magellan Straits.

The Chilean navy in the last few years has been carrying out geographical explorations and surveys of much importance to its own country and to all sailors in the extreme southern waters of South America. One or more vessels are now constantly engaged in making a complete survey of the Magellan Straits region, one of the most intricate systems of waterways in the world. This is the latest extension of the marine surveys that the Chilean Hydrographic Office has for years been conducting along the storm tossed and often shallow coastal waters of southern Chile.

For about three years the Hydrographic Office has been publishing from eight to ten large scale charts a year of its new surveys in Magellan Straits. The sheets are well engraved and printed; the work is controlled by scientific standards and a very large amount of information is given. Thousands of soundings are made from shore to shore of the channels and their lakelike widenings; every islet is marked; the shore lines are minutely and sharply defined, all the land forms within view from the waterways are mapped, and the height of every important elevation is given.

We have only to compare the best maps of Magellan Straits made in 1900 with those of 1906 to be convinced that there was a great deal to be learned about the geography of this region on both sides of the main channel connecting the Atlantic and Pacific. Such a chart, for example, as that of Skyring and Otway bays and the adjacent channels is full of new facts for the maps, such as the outlining of many new fjords and the discovery of long channels connecting Otway and Skyring bays.

One result of these explorations is that sheep farmers have already opened ranches on the eastern side of these bays more than a hundred miles inland from the Pacific. These large watere xpanses are connected with the ocean only by narrow and tortuous channels, and the conditions are very favorable for grazing industries. Chile's new surveys are thus not only of economic value to herself, but also of maritime and geographical importance.

The Politician Retaliates.

For a time it seemed that the politicians would be driven from statesmanship to real work by the triumphant, all conquering novelists who left the pen for the platform and announced themselves as ready to rule the nation. The onslaught was so sudden, the movement so well planned, that resistance appeared hopeless. Now, however, the politicians have recovered from their first fright and begun their desperate defence, and it is announced that M. B. EXCELL, a member of the Cleveland Board of Public Safety, is to write a novel with Three Cent TOM as its hero and excerpts from the history of Cuyahoga county to supply local color. Thus the struggle is carried into the camp of the invading story tellers.

The politicians can make a splendidly aggressive campaign if they act together. Their opportunities are limitless. ODELL created a sensation merely by threatening to write a history of New York politics. MURPHY'S "Twixt the Devil and the Deep McC" would be a most engrossing study of contemporary life. The Hon. P. HENRY MCCARREN could indite a problem novel worth reading. Mayor DUNNE'S "The Promised Land" would be found among the "best sellers." "Hired and Fired" would be an appropriate title for the product of collaboration between the members of a famous New York politico-legal aggregation. The novelists would be nowhere. Their campaign funds would dwindle to the vanishing point. The politicians could easily beat them at their own game.

Nor would the public suffer. Not even a politician could produce "literature" more useless and trivial than the bulk of the stuff that comes from the pens of the word spinners now at the top of their success.

The Pan-American Congress and Arbitration.

Much will have been accomplished by the Pan-American Congress of 1906 even if it shall have done nothing but furnish an occasion for the visit of Secretary ROOT, which has substituted trust and sympathy for the suspicion with which the United States had begun to be regarded in Latin America. Something, however, will also have been effected for the furtherance of intercourse between the commonwealths of the New World in the matter of a general naturalization treaty, in furtherance of railway intercommunication, and perhaps in promotion of an interchangeable coinage. On the other hand, we cannot draw the inference from the vague reports thus far cabled that the effusive talk at Rio de Janeiro about the reference of disputes to arbitration is likely to result in substantial progress toward the achievement of the capital aim of the congress, which is to prevent hereafter recourse to war by the republics of the Western Hemisphere.

It was a narrower but much more practicable object which the last Pan-American Congress tried to effect, and which it was hoped that the present Congress at Rio de Janeiro might be able to attain. Leaving to optimists the pursuit of a treaty by which strong foreign Powers should bind themselves to refer to arbitration every species of controversy with weak American commonwealths, the congress which met in the city of Mexico confined itself to trying to bring about an agreement between American republics not to fight against each other. Even so restricted a covenant would have provided the peaceful remedy of arbitration for innumerable boundary controversies which have caused, or may at any moment cause, a resort to warfare. The boundaries of Brazil, for instance, have not been settled to the satisfaction of herself or of adjoining States on the north, west and south. Bolivia has had disputes about delimitation with both her Portuguese speaking and Spanish speaking neighbors. The dividing line between Colombia and Venezuela has been, and remains, a matter of contention. The same thing might be said about the boundary between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, or about the geographical relation of Guatemala to Honduras on the one hand or to Salvador on the other, although the three last named countries have lately agreed to refer all questions, including even those affecting delimitation, to the arbitration of the United States and Mexico.

By far the most urgent and dangerous controversy, however, concerning boundaries in Latin America is that which has existed for some thirteen years between Peru and Chile about the interpretation and execution of the Treaty of Ancon. Peru, believing her claims to be on the face of the papers indisputable, has repeatedly offered to refer them to arbitration; but Chile, alleging that her honor or vital interests are involved in the matter, has persistently refused the offer. To this day she continues to occupy the districts of Tacna and Arica, although by the Treaty of Ancon, signed in October, 1883, they were to be held by the Chileans for ten years only, and then allowed to decide by a plebiscite whether they should belong to Chile or Peru. There is no doubt that Peru, smarting under what she deems gross injustice, would resort to war for the recovery of her lost territories could she acquire adequate financial resources or sufficiently powerful allies. The knowledge of this fact and of the likelihood of Bolivia and Argentina becoming involved in a contest between Peru and Chile caused the most earnest efforts to be made at the last Pan-American Congress to secure the assent of Chile to a treaty providing for the arbitration of all inter-American disputes. The Santiago Government, however, showed itself intractable with regard to the Tacna-Arica affair, which remains accordingly a smouldering fire that may set at any moment a large part of South America in a blaze.

It was hoped that what could not be done at the city of Mexico might be brought about at Rio de Janeiro. According to one telegram, the project unanimously recommended to the congress, and adopted, does provide for the arbitration of all disputes between the countries represented. It does not follow that the project has the slightest chance of being signed by the Chilean Government. But if Spanish American republics cannot even agree to arbitrate their own boundary controversies, with what face can they ask the great Powers represented at The Hague to refer to arbitration all contentions affecting frontiers or other matters between those Powers and Latin American commonwealths? Why, for instance, should Great Britain and France agree to refer to arbitrators the southern boundaries of the British and French Guianas, when Chile will not consent to settle in that way her own geographical relation to Peru?

If the present Pan-American Congress shall, like its predecessor, fail to establish permanent peace between Latin American republics it will be mainly due to the fact that Chile is recalcitrant.

President Pulliam and the Rowdies.

President PULLIAM of the National Baseball League has announced his complete satisfaction with the acts of Umpire JOHNSTONE in the dispute between the New York and Chicago clubs, and his intention of supporting the umpire, even to the extent of withdrawing entirely from the professional game. Lovers of the sport will hope that the League will back up its president. There appears to be no excuse for the conduct of the New York team in the game on Monday or in preventing Tuesday's contest. The attitude of its managers substantiates to a degree the charges of rowdyism that have been made against the club this year.

It is highly improbable that Inspector SWEENEY of the police suggested the exclusion of JOHNSTONE, the umpire, from the Polo Grounds Tuesday, as President BRUSH of the New Yorks implies. The inspector denies that he took the initiative. If he did he exceeded his powers and should receive attention from 300 Mulberry street. JOHNSTONE himself says he was prevented from entering the grounds by an employee of the New York club and that the police had nothing to do with the matter. The only business for the police at the ball grounds is to preserve order. This they can and should do, as Inspector SWEENEY is quoted as saying, without interfering in the affairs of the League.

The New York team's management showed scant consideration for the public when it disappointed 10,000 spectators by preventing a game. The popular good will it has enjoyed will not last long if its conduct continues to be as discreditable as it has been this week.

Gambling going on in Albany? I never heard of it. Yes, I have lived there for a time, and I guess I ought to know something of what is going on there.—*Governor* F. W. HIGGINS.

The Governor should join a "Seeing Albany" party and find out something about the capital city.

The few unregenerate Massachusetts Democrats who have not been moranized have thrown up the sponge. They wanted to have the State convention held in Worcester or Springfield or somewhere else "away from the immediate sphere of MORAN'S influence." There is no such place in the State; no cubbyhole into which ME'S gerfalcon eyes do not peek, no cellar he can't see through, no deserted village that is not peopled by his all absorbing and all pervading Ego. He is as universal as the casing air. Majestic and millipedal, he stands everywhere, inescapable. His convention will be held in Boston. Since the Massachusetts Democrats cannot elude ME, they are wise to rush upon their fate manfully where the highballs rain hardest.

An Ohio rising against DICK.—*Columbus despatch to* THE SUN.

Rising against DICK? Rise against the impenetrability of matter, gravitation, the precession of the equinoxes, but not against DICK, fixed, final, ultimate and absolute DICK. Remember King CANUTE and Dame PARTINGTON.

A straw vote in the Marquette, Unity, Ashland, Chicago Opera House and First National Bank buildings of Chicago gave YATES for Senator 2,319 and CULLOM 1,030. In spite of this blight on his hopes Uncle SHELBY snowed YATES under at the primaries, receiving a plurality of 18,000 in the city. As an index of the defeat of candidates who use it to prove they will be elected the straw ballot seldom fails.

THE RATHBONE CASE.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Fair play in the Rathbone case demands a rehearing and a full investigation. The points of law involved in the matter are important and interesting. Rathbone was tried by a Cuban court under Spanish laws and before Judges who with one exception held their posts as appointees of the Military Governor of the island, Gen. Leonard Wood, to whom Rathbone asserts the Judges were subservient, and whose instructions, he declares, they followed. As the courts were organized at that time the decision of the Judges of the Audiencia was final. There was no trial by jury and no opportunity for appeal.

There is hardly a doubt that the trial of this case in an American court would have resulted in the acquittal of Major Rathbone. The irregularities of the proceedings in the Cuban court were many and flagrant. Probably no Judge or lawyer in the United States could review this case, or even read the argument submitted by the late Senator Hanna, in January, 1904, without reaching the conclusion that Rathbone did not have a fair and impartial trial, and that he is fully justified in his demand for a rehearing.

President McKinley and Senator Hanna believed firmly in Rathbone's innocence. So have many others who knew the case. Since his return to this country after the passage of the Cuban Amnesty act, four years ago, he has been loud in his demand for justice and untiring in his efforts for an official investigation of all his acts in Cuba.

There is probably no way in which this case could be brought before any court of law now, but as an act of justice to an American citizen condemned by a Cuban court for a crime alleged to have been committed while he was holding an important official position under the United States Government, the Rathbone case should be fully and fairly investigated.

Ben and Bender.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You are in error in to-day's article in which you say that Harry H. Bender's retention in office was some sort of a victory for Mr. Odell. Nothing of the kind. Bender is William Barnes, Jr.'s, man and always has been. It is true that Governor Odell first appointed Mr. Bender to office, but he did it for Mr. Barnes, and Governor Higgins has now kept Mr. Bender in office for Mr. Barnes.

It is a victory for William Barnes, Jr., chairman of the executive committee of the Republican State committee, and at the present time Governor Higgins's selection as Mr. Odell's successor as chairman of the Republican State committee. REPUBLICAN.

ALBANY, August 8.

For a Cool Sleep.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If your readers who find any trouble in getting a good night's sleep during these hot spells will put a piece of floor matting on their mattress and sleep on the matting they will have no trouble in getting a good night's rest. In this way a certain amount of ventilation passes between the body and the mattress, and it is this lack of ventilation and the body coming into contact with the mattress that cause one to be restless on a warm night. The writer has adopted this method for many years during hot seasons and has had no trouble in obtaining a good sleep on hot nights.

NEW YORK, August 8. C. S. T.

A Summer Reformer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Me for the sensible dress hereafter. No more starched collars or starched neckbands, with a cravat circling my throat. No more the stiff derby, the heavy straw or the hot alpine in mine.

My dress hereafter shall consist of knee drawers, sleeveless undershirts, socks, sandals, a soft shirt with soft collar, a light butterfly tie, such as I wore when a child, a crash-suit in two pieces and a crash hat with wide, rolling brim. When any garment gets soiled into the wash it shall go. I shall be cool and comfortable, and I think my dress will be more cleanly and more attractive than the duds I'm wearing now.

It is just dawning on me that New York is subtropical as to climate three months in the year. I've been a dozen years finding it out.

NEW YORK, August 8. REFORMED.

"Southern Chivalry" Again.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "Subscriber" seems to think that my remarks on "Southern chivalry" were caused by "natural prejudice." I wish to correct this erroneous idea, for I do not think that Southerners bear any natural prejudice toward any one. Their generosity and chivalry would not allow them to entertain such ideas, for they accord to all the right to act and think as their conscience dictates.

It is a rule and not an exception that Southerners show their courtesy and chivalry everywhere. That is why public attention, has so frequently been called to Southerners visiting or residing in the East. This being a fact, it hardly seems probable that they would act otherwise in New Orleans or in any other city. DAN MEEK.

NEW YORK, August 7.

Talking Crow at Large.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Two of the ladies in my family waking yesterday during the early morning hours, their rooms being some distance apart, heard amid the singing of the birds and other after dawn sounds the cawing of a multitude of crows apparently in conclave, when to their surprise there shrilled out among the other callings, "Come here, come here, come here," with unmistakable corvine throatiness and accent. From this it would seem that some one misses a pet crow or that our winged black friends, like some whites in nature's scale, like to give and receive orders.

LENOX, August 6. TRISTRAM.

Supplement to the Bromide Book.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The Book of Bromides is not complete without these:

"Why hasn't some manager the enterprise to revive the Gilbert and Sullivan operas?"

"You can have a good time in Philadelphia if only you know where to go for it."

"The pee-pul don't want Shakespeare; all they care for is musical comedy and a lot of girls."

NEW YORK, August 7. FREDERICK DONAGHY.

The Tu Quoque Bird.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The real name of the "Tuque Tuque" bird is the "Yuranotha." Its full note is "Tuquoque, tuquoque."

It is getting quite warm here within a few days since. How is everybody in New York?

BOSTON, August 8. O. DU BON.

Question of Etiquette in the Jerseys.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Is it a proper caper for a married man to give his individual calling card to a young lady whom he has known less than a week, meeting her at a mountain resort?

GLEN RIDGE, N. J., August 7. CURIOUS.

The Wayfarer.

Knicker—Did he leave any footprints on the sands of time?

Bocker—No, I understand he merely beat it.

MR. BRYAN.

A Faithful Follower Lands Him and Carps at Mr. Roosevelt.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your recent editorial under the caption "In It for All He Is Worth" was interesting, as usual; but allowance should be made for THE SUN'S chronic animosity against William Jennings Bryan before taking too seriously its opinions of that distinguished American citizen and notable Democrat. It has been said that the best test to use before adopting any opinion or assertion of Lord Bolingbroke's is to consider whether in writing it he was thinking either of Sir Robert Walpole or Revealed Religion. When either of these objects of his hatred was before his mind he scrupled at no artifice or exaggeration that might serve the purpose of his malignity.

I would not apply the whole force of this citation to THE SUN, but a good test to use before adopting any political opinion or assertion of THE SUN is to consider whether in the writing it was thinking either of William Jennings Bryan or the Democratic party.

Is it not a fact that the revival of the Bryan boom for the Presidency is due, in a measure, to the growth of popular demand for Federal regulation of railroads and of other great corporate agencies whose chartered mission has been perverted by the reckless greed of their managers? Is it not a fact that the partially successful efforts of President Roosevelt to effect reform along lines clearly drawn in the last two national Democratic platforms are in the direction of a vindication, not only of the Democratic position on these momentous public issues, but of Mr. Bryan's personal views also? Is it not true that the Democrats of Missouri, Indiana, South Dakota and Arkansas, either in party conventions or through their Legislatures, almost simultaneously declared for the nomination of Bryan as the next Democratic candidate for President? Has THE SUN any proof or can it cite any hearsay evidence that these kindly expressions for Mr. Bryan were worked up by any authorized agent of his or brought about in any way to show that they were not sincere and spontaneous? Has THE SUN a scintilla of evidence that Mr. Bryan, either directly or indirectly, inspired the demand for his nomination? If Mr. Bryan is employing "circus and camp meeting methods as a candidate for the highest office," will THE SUN give its readers the benefit of the evidence upon which this interesting accusation is based? Certainly THE SUN can afford to be as charitable as its party's popular leader asserts that he is, and give an honest American citizen a "square deal"—though that citizen be William Jennings Bryan.

The value of your charge that Bryan "is a man who has no claim to constructive statesmanship, whose information on any economic subject is superficial, and whose administrative ability his partial friends seriously doubt," may be fairly appraised by THE SUN'S allegiance to the leaders in its own party, chief among whom is Theodore Roosevelt. If Mr. Roosevelt is, by inference, everything which THE SUN would have us believe Mr. Bryan is not, would it have the public accept the solemn reassurance with which it serves its readers the news, namely: "If you see it in THE SUN it's so"?

You speak of Mr. Bryan as "advertising in his inimitable way." As a close and affectionate student of Theodore Roosevelt, how could THE SUN see Mr. Bryan in the light of an "inimitable" advertiser? If THE SUN were not proverbially innocent of the picture collecting habit, its attention might be directed to the hundreds of snapshot poses of the indomitable and picturesque "Teddy," likenesses of whom are available *ad nauseam* in all the attitudes possible to one who combines vanity of person with athletic attainments. In all the other means of getting before the public he is singularly proficient. Who is there among the representative men of the nation more skilled in the art of publicity than Theodore Roosevelt? What President or candidate for a high public office has ever acted in a whiter light, or given more gratuitous advice to the public upon nearly every subject, from the innocent pandemonium of the nursery to the depressing gravity of the Supreme Court chamber? If Mr. Bryan is "inimitable" as an advertiser, how would THE SUN classify Mr. Roosevelt if it did not happen to be on his side in politics? Unquestionably, Mr. Roosevelt has made advertising pay. TENNESSEEAN.

WASHINGTON, August 8.

The Squirrel That Beat the Lightning.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The chipmunk does climb trees, and that not rarely. His usual cry may be represented as cheep, cheep. His cheek pouches are very distensible. I have often removed as many as ten or fifteen beechnuts from them. Just how large a single thing he may be able to tuck into them I cannot say.

The red squirrel is a lively, destructive and pestiferous wretch. There is no other animal of his inches so full of the devil.

Old Tom Weaver used to tell a story that well illustrates the impishness of the red squirrel. One day he was out in the edge of the clearing when he heard a red squirrel chattering, screaming and whistling for all he was worth. Weaver soon located him in the tip top of a tall cottonwood tree. He was in high glee, twisting and turning and audaciously defying the whole world.

A thunderstorm was approaching, and soon out of a dark cloud a bolt of lightning made directly for the tree top where sat the squirrel. The red imp evidently saw it coming and he darted down the tree, with the lightning after him. It was nip and tuck as to which would get down first. When within three or four feet of the ground the squirrel gave a spring and landed some distance from the foot of the tree. The lightning went straight into the ground.

"Chitter-r-r," said the squirrel. "You didn't catch me that time." A. W. ADSTO.

BROOKLYN, August 7.

Mike Walsh and Charles the Bold.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have been deeply impressed by the bold and decisive deliverance of the Hon. C. W. Fairbanks on the question of tariff revision—as reported by you in to-day's SUN.

It reminds me of a similar declaration by the Hon. Mike Walsh some fifty odd years ago, in the Congress of that day: "Mr. Speaker," said he, "on this question I shall take an open, bold and manly stand. I shall either vote for this bill, vote against it, or dodge the vote altogether." (Immense applause.)

I think Mr. Fairbanks ranks well up toward the lofty mark of New York's famous "subterranean" statesman—Mike Walsh. A. E. LEWIS.

MILFORD, Pa., August 7.

Is the Man With the "Divine Call" a Welcher?

From the Griffin News.

The Hon. Hoke Smith, one part Sunday school teacher, one part barroom owner and the other third politician, is not such a dead game all around sport as he thought he was. In his joint debate with Mr. Howell, at Rome, Mr. Smith offered to put up $1,000 to the support of Miss Berry's school up there if Mr. Howell's statement on the North Carolina disfranchisement proposition was not wrong. Mr. Howell accepted Mr. Smith's proposition and put it in writing, with his own signature to it, but Mr. Smith refused to sign.

Beware of Servian Bank Notes.

From the London Globe.

There is dismay in the Servian Ministry of Finance. In the strong room in this department, in a special safe, were stored the engraved plates from which Servian bank notes were struck. These plates were engraved in Paris and cost a sum of £1,600. All these plates have within the past few days been found to be stolen from the safe, without any visible sign of the safe having been tampered with.

Autos and Tobacco Chewing.

From the Lewiston Evening Journal.

One of the largest retail tobacco dealers in the United States says that the consumption of chewing tobacco has increased almost 50 per cent. in five years. He attributes this increase to the automobile, because it is impossible to enjoy a cigar or pipe while whizzing along in a motor car. There is also danger of sparks or ashes from the lighted cigar or pipe getting into the eyes.

Perfidious Suggestion.

From the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

It would be exceedingly wise for Mr. Fairbanks in his Milwaukee speech to make it plain that he merely took to buttermilk as a brief temporary expedient.

Superlative.

From the Kansas City Times.

"Pete" Drummond still insists that "these are the tight [illegible] times politically" he ever saw.

HUSH! HERE COMES ANTHONY.

Let Art Shift and Bedeck and Bedrape Her and Watch Out.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It may be a huge joke to let a man like Anthony Comstock wander at will among the community, but what right has he to enter the Art Students' League and condemn its productions?

We look to the artists among us to tell us what is beautiful. We all humbly acknowledge that they can point out to us the beautiful where our untrained eyes would not have perceived it. We defer to their judgment as to what is lovely and what is unsightly.

Ten years ago New York was an ugly city. Since then charming houses have been built under the supervision of artists, and Riverside Park has arisen over unsightly railroad tracks. Ten years hence New York will be a city beautiful. We owe this improvement to the artists among us; and how do we show our gratitude to them? By allowing a man who knows nothing about art to enter her sacred temple and hunt about among the works of her younger votaries to see if he cannot find something impure or indecent there. This Anthony must have amazing conceit to deem himself a better judge of what is seemly or unseemly than the artists themselves.

According to Mr. Comstock, the more clothes a person has on the more modest and respectable he is.

As for the statues, I presume he would like a gown of Doucet's for the Venus of Melos and a Roman toga for the Apollo Belvidere. I wonder how the Marble Faun, in the Capitoline Museum, would look in a frock coat and a silk hat?

If I were called upon to suggest some appropriate piece of dress for somebody, I might venture upon the hint of a straitjacket for Mr. Comstock. M. D. L.

SOUND BEACH, Conn., August 7.

Was He Justified?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Perhaps Mr. Comstock was justified in making the raid. Have you or has Mr. Moses Oppenheimer seen the drawings? Perhaps the latter would like his children to discuss them. NO SAINT.

NEW YORK, August 8.

Comfort for Comstock.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The position THE SUN has taken with reference to the seizure made by Anthony Comstock I am sure is because you have not seen the work. If you had seen it I am sure you would not let your children see it—nor would you reproduce the pictures—some of them—in THE SUN.

I think it fortunate that we have a man of the convictions and the courage that Mr. Comstock has. Now, in the name of purity and protection let us encourage such a man in his work—a work that he has practically no friends to help him do. Don't let the influence of THE SUN be such as to discourage him. Give him a helping word.

NEW YORK, August 8. C. A. HOLBROOK.

Superior Virtue of America.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Answering Moses Oppenheimer, I am glad to say that something has "established among us a higher standard of purity and virtue as compared, for instance, with those of Germany, France or Italy"—and I may add England. In America obscenity does not flaunt itself. Unspeakable photographs are not peddled on the streets. Art students themselves do not run naked through the city. Here if a visitor wants nastiness he must hunt for it; it is not obtruded.

If Mr. Comstock is measurably responsible for the difference he is entitled to the thanks and encouragement of the American people.

It may be that the law under which he operates has in some instances been used oppressively or for the purposes of blackmail. Almost every law can be perverted. A wise law must be wisely administered, or, like vaulting ambition, it o'erleaps itself and falls on the other side.

I make no comment on Mr. Comstock's recent raid, but I say generally that there is a deal more cant about the sacredness of art than is justified.

It is true, of course, that to the pure in heart all things are pure; but purity of heart depends upon purity of thought, and thoughts, unfortunately, depend upon whatever cause awakens them. E.

NEW YORK, August 7.

Mr. Roosevelt and Harvard.

From Harper's Weekly.

The opinion that Theodore Roosevelt will never be invited to become president of Harvard College is not held with unanimity in Cambridge. There are those who consider that he would make Harvard the Coney Island of the educational world, but there is also a strong and numerous Harvard company that wants him, and believes that he would be an exceedingly valuable president for the university. If the question really comes up, the division is likely to be between conservative minds that are solicitous that Harvard shall retain its old time flavor and traditions, and more ambitious spirits who wish to extend the influence of the university, especially throughout the West. For the latter purpose Mr. Roosevelt would be incomparably the best man in sight. The young are for him. They think he is the man best qualified to get football out of the pillery and make a pleasant sport of it. To be sure, Mr. Roosevelt will continue to be in politics as long as he is alive, but a college president can be in politics, and might even be a member of the United States Senate.

Noises of London.

From London Truth.

Our immediate forbears complained of the cries of London, beginning with the sweep and the milkman in the morning and lasting until the evening bell of the muffin man. Now there is such a constant racket that the whoop of the sweep and the jodel of the milkman cannot be heard amid the din. Even the barrel organ is only partly audible between the roar of the trains, the hoot of the motor fire engines and the scrunching, grinding, brain racking noises of the motorbuses. Traffic of the ordinary sort grows heavier and heavier with every year. Vans, drays, wagons, milkwains are not only twice as numerous as they were five years ago, but they go about at double the rate of speed. It may be that the motor van has accelerated the pace by creating rivalry, but whether that be the cause or not, certain it is that the leisurely jog trot of the dray or van is now replaced by a degree of speed that adds at least 200 per cent. to the noise it makes. The cart horses in London must wonder why their wonted amble no longer satisfies their drivers, why they are now expected to tear along with the unwieldy bumping of the vehicle sounding crashingly behind them, why the whip is plied so much more freely than it used to be. Suburbia is the prey of the motor fiend noise and dust and horrid petrol smells are now the accompaniments of every hour from midday to midnight.

Swiss Doctors of Journalism.

From the London Times.

In view of the proposed establishment of a university of journalism in New York, the United States Consul at Brunswick draws attention to the instruction that is being given in this subject in the universities of Germany and Switzerland. During the present summer session lectures on various aspects of journalism are being delivered at the universities of Leipsic, Berlin and Heidelberg, as well as at the Technical High School of Danzig and at the commercial colleges of Leipsic and Cologne. At the University of Berne a course is being given on the "editing and news service of a newspaper, with practical exercises," while at Zurich, as the Consul points out, the degree of doctor may now be obtained in journalism as well as in any other political science.

Calumniating the Pink of Perfection.

From the Washington Star.

James Hamilton Lewis is not a dead game sport.

Loathly Words From the Red Planet.

'Twas in August, 1920,
That they gazed upon the stars,
For the scientists expected
To communicate with Mars.

All preliminaries finished,
To their telescopes they glued,
Waiting for the promised message
With excitement deep imbued.

Would it solve creation's riddle?
Would it be a word of cheer
From a more advanced existence
To the plodding spirits here?

Then they held their breath in wonder
And the awestruck silent grew,
While they spelt the starry flashes:
"Is it hot enough for you?"

[illegible]

THE PLEA OF INSANITY.

Should Legislation Remove It From the Arsenal of Criminal Defence?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Respect for the law is absolutely essential to modern civilization, and lawyers should be the leaders in promoting that respect. It has been for many years my own earnest conviction that if a drunkard who commits murder can find no excuse for his act but must suffer the penalty because the condition is produced by himself, so also should the so-called insane man be held responsible. I know I am offending the taste of humanitarians in general by this proposition, and yet we are heading toward a goal far more dangerous than that. We are nauseated daily by the detailed reports of a murderous incident and its participants, even the cachinnations of counsel being reported verbatim, and all with the single thought that a murder committed occurred while the murderer was either insane, temporarily suffering from aberration of mind, or influenced by an impulse produced by great mental worry. It is not for me to emulate counsel by trying a case in the newspapers, but I take the opportunity to urge and drive home the proposition that a law be enacted removing insanity as a defence in homicidal cases. By insanity I mean, of course, to include any lesser variations of that condition.

Uncontrolled impulse is insanity; so also is depraved impulse, and perhaps any variation from the true line of sober action. We are largely creatures of mere impulse, and are called upon constantly to keep this aberration from gaining ground for fear that it may control us.

If we find a tendency in the general jury mind to regard an act committed under an impulse as an act not amenable to law, we may look for an increase of homicidal acts under the guise of protecting honor; and correlatively, if we know that we cannot avail ourselves of a plea of insanity we shall have fewer murders and less insanity. We should see a startling improvement in the public mind toward the taking of life; we should find that murderers, instead of receiving what is equivalent to apotheosis, would receive an implacable punishment for the act, not as a means of ridding the world of a murderer, but as a deterrent.

Lawyers must do their best for clients, whether the latter are guilty or not, and there is that in every active lawyer's mind which makes his wits the keener when he is called upon to get a client out of a tight place. The love of victory is controlling, and we must not decry any effort in a barrister to win for his client; but let us remove from his hand the chance of using a factitious or fictitious plea of any variation on the line of insanity, and we shall then see that we shall have fewer insane people committing homicides, fewer disrespectful allusions to law, and fewer reasons for the unhealthful exploitation of criminal acts by sensational newspapers. A. P. B.

NEW YORK, August 7.

Staring America.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "D. G.'s" letter to you on "Staring America" ought to be read, marked and inwardly digested. Having travelled in my time nearly all over the world I can safely assert that the average American is the greatest adept at staring I ever came across, with the exception, perhaps, of some half civilized tribes, who don't know any better.

The habit can easily be eradicated by right education. No attempt is made in this direction. On the contrary, it is rather fostered. The child on the car will most assuredly stare you out of countenance. That, you are told, shows its independence. Once in a while the mother will say with a half expostulation to her offspring, "Don't stare so much, dear!" but she doesn't really mean it. The child sees she doesn't mean it, and goes on staring. In my youth if I was told not to stare and I continued staring, the punishment awarded me would most certainly have made the eyes stare out of my head involuntarily. But there! They manage these things so much better nowadays!

The man's stare is merely the growth of the child's impertinence, and is thereby intensified; but, with all due deference to the sex, save me from the woman's stare! Bold is scarcely a strong enough epithet. Ladies on the other side are brought up to cast their eyes down immediately when they become aware that they have been unconsciously staring or consciously stared at. They do not bring into the limelight the foolish retort, "Well, I am just as good as he or she is!" If you have the courage to question a woman over here as to why she was staring so hard at a particular person the answer invariably given is, "Oh, I was merely studying character!" This retort is obviously absurd. If a person thinks his character is being studied, and the stare might bring such thoughts into his head, your chance of divining his peculiarities would necessarily be lost. He would naturally hide his idiosyncrasies, whereas—and it is so very easy to do—if the starer looked straight ahead at nothing in particular, he or she could just as easily observe the person whose character was in question.

Staring in America, and the women are by far the worst offenders, is an abomination that immediately calls for remarks from a foreigner. It is alien to him, and should be alien to every well mannered, gentle minded child, woman or man. OBSERVER.

STATEN ISLAND, August 8.

Dying American Forests.

From Arboriculture.

The National Hardwood Lumber Association, recently in session in Memphis, Tenn., accepted the committee report that, from the best estimates possible to be had, "there now stood in the United States approximately 1,475,000,000,000 feet of lumber, but that 45,000,000,000 feet were being cut every year."

At this rate our forests would last nearly thirty-three years, at which time the production of commercial lumber must cease altogether.

But there are several other contingencies which must be considered in such calculations. The annual fires in forests destroy an incredible quantity of standing timber, including all the younger growths which have started and the seed as well, and seed trees from which future forests must be produced.

Including the consumption of wood for pulp and paper, lumber cut for export and for domestic use, telegraph poles, cross ties, piling and fuel, of which much is still used in many locations, the timber used in mining operations and that destroyed by forest fires, there are seventy-five billion feet of timber consumed each year, with an increased quantity yearly. It is evident, therefore, that we have not enough timber standing to continue commercially for more than twenty years in all the United States, including the Pacific Coast forests.

Separate Counsel for Each Charge.

From London Truth.

In some comments on the expensiveness of the Bath Quarter Sessions—which last year cost the city £458 for four sittings of a day or less than a day each—the *Bath Herald* mentions a curious custom in regard to the conduct of prosecutions. It seems that if two or more charges are made against the same prisoner, two or more counsel are briefed for the prosecution. Thus at the Sessions last week a youth was indicted for two separate but similar larcenies, and two barristers were retained for the prosecution—one for each charge. Not long ago four exactly similar and quite trivial charges were preferred against a prisoner, and on that occasion four learned gentlemen each received a brief and a fee for the prosecution. There are not very many briefs going at Bath, and I dare say that this distribution of "soup" is grateful and comforting to the junior members of the Sessions bar.

Hospitable and Enlightened Indian Territory Town.

Kiowa correspondence South McAlester Capital.

Kiowa has always been a white man's town, and the negroes who attempted to locate here met with discouragement of such a pronounced nature that none ever settled. Not long ago a colony of Mexicans dropped in and since that time considerable lawlessness has occurred, which was laid at their door. Last night a committee of gifted orators waited upon the "greasers" and represented the advantages of a residence elsewhere in such glowing terms that the dark skinned venders of hot tamales and chili departed immediately.

Remuneration.

Knicker—How are your boys getting on?

Bocker—One gets a five dollar salary and the other ten dollar wages.