The Sun.

TUESDAY, JULY 23, 1907.

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

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

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

Postage to foreign countries added.

Published by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. President and Treasurer of the Association, William M. Laffan, 170 Nassau street. Secretary of the Association, Franklin Bartlett, 5 Nassau street.

Paris office, 32 Rue Louis le Grand. The daily and Sunday editions are on sale at Kiosque 12, near the Grand Hotel; Kiosque 77, Boulevard des Capucines, corner Place de l'Opéra, and Kiosque 19, Boulevard des Italiens, corner Rue Louis le Grand.

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.

Discussion of the Three Great Legal Blunders of Mr. Roosevelt.

The three capital blunders committed by President ROOSEVELT within nine months continue to engage the attention of many of our esteemed contemporaries. The exhibit, indeed, has an awful fascination for the mind:

I. The Roosevelt doctrine of sovereign power inherent in the Congress to deal with all subjects of national concern not expressly prohibited or reserved to the States.

II. The Roosevelt doctrine of Federal power to enter within State lines and regulate and manage private business of all sorts under the post roads clause.

III. The Roosevelt theory of governmental action through extralegal, not to say illegal, receiverships, established to enable the Administration itself to run the bad trusts.

Our esteemed contemporary the *Commercial-Appeal* of Memphis publishes some just remarks on the general significance of these three propositions. We venture, however, to call its attention to one inadvertent statement:

"Nothing, it seems to us, can be more detrimental to American liberty, especially as applicable to the individual, than infringements upon the Constitution. We have a written Constitution so plain in wording that the veriest schoolboy can understand it. There is absolutely no excuse for a public man's misunderstanding it, and it is an indefensible offence for any public official to ignore and violate it. It is a document that Americans were wont to reverence and that all foreign statesmen have learned to admire. Being a written Constitution, it is the best safeguard for the liberties of the individual. President ROOSEVELT has seen fit to make a football of this superb instrument, and unless there is emphatic condemnation of his attitude the Constitution will be brought into contempt."

We incline to the opinion that it is not the Constitution which will suffer most by these frequent and violent and indefensible interpretations of expediency. Somebody or something may be brought into contempt, but not the venerable document that is outraged in the name of "my policies." On the contrary, the more frequent, the more violent and the more preposterous the attempts of the Chief Executive to twist the fundamental law into the shape momentarily desired by him for the furtherance of his personal ideas of what is good for the public, the more alert and prompt will be the Supreme Court of the United States in rebuking the attempted perversions.

This has been shown satisfactorily in the opinion in "Kansas vs. Colorado" last May, when the court went far beyond the immediate demands of the occasion to register its unanimous and emphatic dissent from the Roosevelt doctrine of unenumerated national powers in the Congress, as promulgated by him at Harrisburg last October and as revived in the sophistical argument of his Solicitor-General in the irrigation case. We are not among those who have lost faith in the Supreme Court as the ultimate safeguard. We are not at present counting the Federal Judges and Justices to see how many of them were appointed by Mr. ROOSEVELT and how many are to be succeeded by jurists of his selection. Why, Mr. Justice HOLMES and Mr. Justice DAY were both appointed by Mr. ROOSEVELT, and yet we find the names of neither of them attached to any dissenting opinion upholding the Roosevelt Doctrine or Blunder No. 1, which the Supreme Court demolished and exposed two months ago!

The *Union and Advertiser* of Rochester does us too much honor when it attributes to our enterprise of research the solution of what it seems to regard as a mystery—the origin of Roosevelt Doctrine or Blunder No. 2:

"It is interesting to learn that the 'seductive reasoning' of Judge FARRAR led President ROOSEVELT into adopting the post road theory for interfering in the management of railroads within the States. * * * If such was the case, THE SUN has done good service in making known the source of the President's interpretation."

There never has been any secret or mystery about the origin of Mr. ROOSEVELT'S recent great interest in the post roads clause. On the second of last April Judge FARRAR of New Orleans addressed to the President a long letter cataloguing the supposed capabilities of the post roads clause as the warrant for an almost infinite expansion of Federal power over the highways within the States and the cities, and over almost every conceivable form of human activity that is incidental to the use of these highways. This letter was given to the press about a month after it was received at the White House, the statement being made that the publication was at the President's request. That was on May 5. Twenty-five days later, at Indianapolis, Mr. ROOSEVELT declared it as his "opinion" that in so far as the common carriers carry the mails their business is to the same extent under Federal control within the States as when interstate. Our friend in Rochester will see that no great amount of penetration or of perseverance was required to trace the second capital blunder of Mr. ROOSEVELT to the source of its inspiration.

As an example of the comment in certain newspapers which are possibly more intelligent than candid we quote from the *Journal* of Minneapolis:

"As to the first contention, THE SUN appears to find that while the people have the rights not reserved by the States, they have not been granted to Congress. The people have got to get together and amend the Constitution before these rights now floating nebulously about can be made effective. A very proper doctrine for the comfort of the trusts."

"THE SUN appears to find" and enunciate this doctrine, so "proper for the comfort of the trusts!" This is about worthy of the candor and intelligence of the *Boston Daily Advertiser* itself.

Doesn't the *Minneapolis Journal* really perceive that it is not THE SUN but the Supreme Court of the United States that is doing this talking "in the interest of predatory wealth"?

Yalobusha Moore.

A part of the platform of the Hon. WILLIAM VERCINGETORIX MOORE of Yalobusha county has been printed in THE SUN and all of it is worth reading and repondering. Some "planks" thereof may be still unknown in the North. For example:

"I favor the nomination of WILLIAM J. BRYAN or some one just as good."

Mr. MOORE is, perhaps, the only distinguished Democrat to praise Mr. BRYAN'S imported Swiss fancy stock:

"I am opposed to the reelection of ROOSEVELT for the third term, unless the initiative and referendum be called in; as, however, there seems to be a movement on foot in this direction just now, it is quite likely that this great question will be settled directly by the American people without the consent of any other nation."

Is not MOORE of Yalobusha just as good as Mr. BRYAN? Is he not even better? The Mississippian's attitude toward corporations is notably saner than the Nebraskan's:

"My position in reference to the great railroads and similar corporations is simply this: I believe in and favor such laws as will permit the stockholders a small but equitable interest on the capital invested, will pay the employees adequate but not excessive salaries for the risk of their lives and the talents they possess in filling their respective positions from section hand to president, will protect the public in courteous treatment, in their lives and in their property, and with passenger and freight rates at the lowest possible figure consistent with the aforenamed purposes. When these objects are fully and perfectly attained I shall favor the building of more railroads; until then I shall favor the building of more railroads anyway, letting us work the problem out as best we may, as time progresses, until Mississippi is covered with a network of same, giving many of its citizens positions that will enable them to buy the truck farmers' products, the merchants' goods and pay for all the necessities of life; that will fill our public schools with their children on week days and our churches with their families on Sundays."

Where in all Mr. BRYAN'S painfully gathered collection of issues, paramount, not so paramount, pretty paramount, subordinate, negligible and dead, is there a burst of beneficent ideas like these:

"I specially favor better crops, sweeter sugar, purer and longer lives with more pleasure in them, lower prices for all things we have to buy and higher prices for all we have to sell."

Here is a moral and an economic grandeur and simplicity scarcely to be found elsewhere. Mr. MOORE is thoroughly a voice of the people. Shall WILLIAMS or VARDAMAN be Senator? It is all the same to MOORE of Yalobusha, who will vote "the choice of his constituency." Likewise as to a candidate for Governor. MOORE will let the people, that is, the Democratic people, name the candidate. Mr. BRYAN will let them pick out the issues for him but insists upon picking out the candidate himself out of a list of one. Isn't MOORE the better Democrat?

See how jovially MOORE of Yalobusha paints the situation in his home:

"My wife is now at home, our spring cleaning is not over. We have washing done when we can get it. Our cook milks when the cow comes from the pasture, and the cow does not come regularly without driving. Since the rain the vegetables in the garden are growing—so is the grass. Our stove wood is getting scarce; every one is so busy no one brings any to town. Our hired boy broke his leg last week and the doctors say he cannot work any more for three months. Our merchant tells me that flour is worth $7 a barrel for cash and none at all for sale on a credit. Other things are correspondingly high on similar terms. My stock of cash is small. I hear that there will be a good many picnics this summer. Under these circumstances my friends have urged me to become a candidate this time, and cannot find it in my heart to resist their importunities.

"With a pleasant 'GOD be with you till we meet again,' I hope to see the most of you at the public gatherings that will likely occur between now and the primary election. My own engagements are such and family environments precluding the handshaking and house to house canvass I should otherwise make."

There is a thoroughly burlesque Fairbanksian touch to this lugging in of the cow, and the whole picture drips with homely humor. Mr. MOORE appeals to everybody but what he calls the "cymling headed"—squash headed. In his scorn of that large class and in his possession of humor he is entirely different from and superior to the Nebraskan.

An Indian Tribe in Court.

It has just been announced that a suit has been commenced in the Supreme Court in this State by the Montauk Tribe of Indians against the executors of the late AUSTIN CORBIN and ARTHUR BENSON and others to recover possession of an extensive tract of land at Montauk Point, of which it is alleged the defendants unlawfully claim to be the owners.

A similar suit was instituted in the year 1897, for the same purpose, against the Long Island Railroad Company, in which the plaintiff was described as "the Montauk Tribe of Indians, by WYANDANK PHARAOH, Their Chief and King." The Long Island Railroad Company interposed what is known in law as a demurrer to the complaint, that is to say, an objection to its legal sufficiency, on the ground that the plaintiff had no legal capacity to sue. The demurrer specified that this incapacity was due to the fact that the plaintiff was not a natural person, or a corporation, or an unincorporated association permitted by law to maintain an action in the name of any of its officers; and furthermore that the plaintiff was not authorized by law to maintain an action as a tribe.

The demurrer was argued at Riverhead in Suffolk county in October, 1897, before Judge SAMUEL T. MADDOX of the Supreme Court in the Second Department, who decided that the objection was valid and that the Montauk Tribe of Indians had no legal capacity to maintain a suit of any kind in the courts of this State. An appeal was taken from the judgment entered on the decision of the demurrer to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court sitting in Brooklyn; and the opinion of that tribunal was written by Mr. Justice CULLEN, who is now the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. The Appellate Division sustained the decision of the lower court. Judge CULLEN showed that as long ago as 1845 it had been decided by Chancellor WALWORTH that while the Indians in this State had the undoubted right to the beneficial use and the occupancy of their lands, no provision had up to that time ever been made by statute to permit them to bring an ejectment suit to recover the possession of such lands, and that as a body or tribe the Indians had no corporate name under the law by which they could institute such a suit. It is true that in 1891 the Court of Appeals did sustain the right of the Seneca nation to sue in ejectment to recover one hundred acres of land in the county of Erie; but this right was upheld solely under the provisions of a statute expressly empowering that particular tribe to maintain such a suit. While there have been decisions in the Federal courts which tend to establish the doctrine that Indians may sue in those tribunals by their tribal name, without special statutory authority, the Appellate Division in this case of the Montauk Tribe unanimously held that they had no similar privilege in the courts of this State. "Still," said Judge CULLEN, "the Indians are not without redress. They may apply to the Legislature for authority to maintain an action like the present, or it may be that an action might be instituted by one of their number on his own behalf and on behalf of the other Indians of his tribe."

Acting under the intimation contained in this opinion, repeated applications were made to the Legislature in behalf of the Montauk Tribe for the enactment of such a statute as that suggested by Judge CULLEN. These applications, however, were unsuccessful until last year, when the Legislature of 1906 passed Chapter 177 of the Session Laws of that year, which is entitled "An act to enable the Montauk Tribe of Indians in the name of their chief or head to maintain actions in the courts of this State to establish and enforce their rights in and to certain real and personal property."

This statute empowers the Montauk Tribe of Indians, in the name of its chief or head or his successor, in behalf of the tribe, to commence, maintain and prosecute suits at law or in equity against any person or corporation, to establish the right, title and interest of the tribe in and to any property, real or personal, and to recover possession thereof, together with damages for its taking and detention. The law requires, however, that any proceedings for this purpose must be commenced within two years from the date when the act took effect, namely April 10, 1906. The suit must be brought in the Supreme Court in the First or Second Judicial District and it must be confined to property situated in the towns of Easthampton and Southampton in the county of Suffolk. Furthermore, the statute makes it a condition precedent to the institution of any such suit that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs of this State shall have granted his consent in writing to bring and prosecute the action. The statute concludes with these words: "Nothing in this act contained shall be held to confer tribal rights or relations upon any individual or individuals, and the question as to the existence of the Montauk Tribe of Indians shall be a question of law and of fact to be determined by the court."

This final clause indicates that it was the intention of the Legislature to compel the plaintiff to establish the existence of the Montauk Tribe as a tribe of Indians in the first instance and before it could proceed to the assertion and enforcement of any alleged property rights in the lands at Montauk Point. The suit which has now been instituted under this law is in this respect a novelty in our jurisprudence, and the outcome will be watched by the legal profession with much interest, quite apart from the prominent character of the property to which the litigation relates, occupying as it does a very considerable portion of one of the best known promontories on our Atlantic seaboard.

The Japanese in Corea.

Should a national insurrection take place in Corea the Tokio Government would be confronted with a task which doubtless it would be able to perform, but not without much waste of life and an expenditure of money which it could ill afford. The subjugation of the Coreans, numbering as they do not far from twenty millions, could not be accomplished so quickly and easily as was that of the Hovas by France in Madagascar, especially as arms and ammunition could doubtless be procured surreptitiously from the Russian territory bordering Corea's northeastern frontier. The friendly agreement between Japan and Russia, which for some time has been discussed, has not yet been signed, and now may be postponed indefinitely in view of the Corean situation. The St. Petersburg Government, however, could not openly give aid and comfort to Corean rebels against the Japanese, for not only was Japan's assumption of a protector's part formally recognized by the Peace of Portsmouth, but both Great Britain and France have bound themselves by treaty to uphold Japan's preponderance in the Corean peninsula. The Czar's subjects in the contiguous Ussuri district, however, will as individuals naturally wish the rebels well, and can hardly be prevented from attesting their sympathy in substantial ways.

Experience has lately taught the Japanese that it is one thing to annex a country and another to obtain the acquiescence of the inhabitants in the transaction. It is now some twelve years since they acquired the island of Formosa, and not yet have they succeeded in subduing the aboriginal tribes that occupy the southeast corner of the island. The considerable progress which they are now making in that direction is due principally to their employment of the Chinese resident aliens, for the climate works havoc with natives of Japan.

The Marquis ITO, as Resident-General at Seoul, has unquestionably striven to avert the crisis which now seems to be impending. He desired to leave the Corean sovereign the semblance of authority so far as internal affairs were concerned and to exert his own supervisory influence through the medium of a Corean Cabinet. The success of the plan depended on the disposition of the native ruler to recognize accomplished facts and to make the best of a difficult position. He proved unfitted by temperament and character for the exercise of discretion, and thus his reign has been brought to a summary end. There is no reason to believe that his successor is intellectually or morally his superior, but he may be more timid and more plastic, in which case he may be suffered for a time to play the part of a puppet sovereign.

The Independence of a Senator.

The story that the Massachusetts Senators have had a scene and that WINTHROP MURRAY CRANE spoke his mind to HENRY CABOT LODGE seems to be a figment of a lively but not a diseased imagination. The expected does not always happen, but rumor sometimes makes a record of it without much provocation.

The materials for the story were ready to any man's hand. There was a coldness in the White House toward the junior Senator who had been welcomed to Washington with open arms; "My policy" had encountered an obstacle in him, and he had committed the unpardonable sin of showing friendship for the proscribed FORAKER of Ohio and sympathizing with his efforts to obtain a hearing for the men of the dismissed battalion. A just man not made perfect, but human, tolerant, clear headed and sane of purpose, is W. MURRAY CRANE; never emotional and not given to thinking aloud; therefore bound in course of time to rub the fur of infallibility the wrong way.

On the other hand, the senior Senator to whom the latchstring of the White House was always out, whose ear was ever inclined, who might demur but always ended by agreeing, who did not mix with the objects of the spear that knew no brother, who was proud to be known as the mentor of infallibility and expected deference and power at home on that account.

The two Senators did not meet and clash at Dalton, and for that reason the whole story that W. MURRAY CRANE read a declaration of independence and defied HENRY CABOT LODGE falls to the ground. The story wasn't at all necessary to establish Senator CRANE'S reputation as an honest and deliberate critic of the Rooseveltian policies and a man who would go his own way and fight for his own opinions. It seems to be significant, however, of a rift in the lute of party harmony in Massachusetts which Mr. LODGE always makes a great show of playing upon with a majestic sense of being the only performer by right of precedence and prestige.

The Spool.

Some of our tariff revising contemporaries are watching, not without a melancholy happiness, the jumps of the price of thread. From four cents to five, from five to six; where will its unbridled audacity—or that of the trust—be stayed? May not the price of a spool of thread be ten cents yet? What are the maids, wives and widows of America going to do about it? Will they not rise as one woman and call upon their husbands, sweethearts, fathers, brothers to smite the accursed tariff?

With no veneration for that palladium of our prosperities, and fully understanding that the female voice on tariff propositions as on others is omnipotent and final, we may be permitted to doubt if the women folk will cause the feared catastrophe and hang the tariff high on its own thread. And for two reasons:

1. Automobiles seem to be the sole necessity of life at present.

2. Even assuming that thread is a necessity of life, the compulsory arbitrator at Washington will make the manufacturers put the price down.

3. The Home Market Club will prove in its inimitable way that anybody who objects to costly thread is an accomplice of the loathsome Cobdenite and importer and a friend of "pauper labor."

The Hon. HENRY M. WHITNEY of Boston has something to say about the merger, forbidden by the yellow ridden Massachusetts Legislature, of the Boston and Maine and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroads. He avers that the two roads are connecting, not competing, lines. He quotes this sentence from the Interstate Commerce Commission's report:

"It is the interest of the public to facilitate the consolidating of connecting lines."

The merger being "in accord with President ROOSEVELT'S Indianapolis speech favoring consolidation of connecting lines," are Senator LODGE and Governor GUILD going to "repudiate" Mr. ROOSEVELT'S position?

We leave it to Mr. LODGE and Mr. GUILD to establish their Republican orthodoxy, but we must say that this Mr. WHITNEY cannot be a Democrat from the point of view of a good many Bay State "Democrats" of the modern school. He is too intelligent. He doesn't talk buncombe. He even dares to inject common sense into his speeches. He doesn't "throw a fit" at the mention of "capital" and "corporation." Wouldn't the Massachusetts Democracy be represented much better by thinkers and statesmen like the Hon. BUTIN MORAN of Suffolk or the Hon. JOHN RANTER THAYER of the Worcester Fair Club?

Bosses generally are very materially losing their grip.—*Utica Press.*

They're out of a job. One Universal Boss, one Wisdom Trust, has driven the poor devils out of business.

Pretty Girls of Limerick.

From the Liverpool Daily Post.

If asked "Where are the prettiest girls in the world?" I would immediately reply, in Limerick, Ireland, says one who knows. There is a freshness of face, lustrousness of eyes, healthfulness of color and complexion about the Limerick girls that carry off the sweepstakes trophy. The Limerick face is the perfection of female beauty—a human ceramic without a blemish.

The Ornithologist.

Knicker—Does Jones claim to be a naturalist?

Bocker—Yes, he knows a small hot bird when he sees one.

THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITION OF JAPAN.

V.—Japanese Railways.

The Japanese Official Gazette of March 31, 1906, contains what is known as the railway nationalization bill. The record shows that there were in operation at that time 1,531½ miles of State owned railway and 3,247½ miles of railway of private ownership. The private lines represented thirty-seven different companies, large and small. The Nippon company controlled 860 miles, while the Ryugasaka line was only a little more than two and a half miles in length. The Sanyo line had 406 miles, and the Kyushu 446 miles. There were three lines of respectively 280, 207 and 156 miles. There was a line of eighty-five miles, another of seventy-three miles and one of seventy miles. The remainder were all less than fifty miles.

A report recently made by the Department of Finance makes the following comments on the conditions of that time: "In view of the necessity for a definite post bellum programme and for the increase of national wealth and development of national resources, it has become of the utmost importance to introduce effective means of internal transportation and communication; and yet on looking at our railway system we find that in addition to the Government lines there are more than thirty private railways and that even trunk lines are under the control, some of the Government and others of various private companies, so that the traffic on them lacks order and uniformity. The consequence is that they offer no facilities for direct traffic over long distances, thereby raising the cost of transportation and causing delay therein; in short, they hardly appear to keep pace with the general progress of society. For these reasons the Government decided upon the State ownership of all railways which are used for general traffic, leaving out those of merely local importance."

Under the bill as it passed the imperial Diet seventeen companies, representing 2,812 miles of line, are to be purchased and paid for by a public loan bearing 5 per cent. interest on the face value of the bonds. The amount of the loan is calculated at not less than $210,000,000, and it is assumed that the obligation thus incurred will be discharged within thirty-two years after the purchase is made, the redemption fund coming from the net profits of the purchased lines. It is further assumed that the lines, after the redemption of the loan bonds, will yield to the State an annual revenue of a little more than $25,000,000. Some of these lines have already been taken over and the entire list is to be taken up by or before 1915. The plan includes the purchase, made last year, of the Seoul-Fusan line in Corea. The loan to be issued on account of this line is $10,000 000.

Japan is also the proprietor of a railway system in south Manchuria, taken over as a result of the late war. The capital of this enterprise is $100,000,000 (£20,491,803), of which sum one-half was "contributed" by the Government and one-tenth was subscribed by the public. These lines were taken over by the civil authorities from the military on April 1 of this year and are now under Government control and management.

The authorized capital of the seventeen lines bought or to be bought by the Government, the bonding of which "is calculated at not less than $210,000,000," is about $121,000,000. The paid up capital is very close to $100,000,000. The capital of the lines already owned by the Government is not given in the report of the Finance Department. The reported cost of construction for the 1,531 miles of line owned by the Government prior to the passage of the bill of March 31, 1906, is $79,959,223, or about $52,000 a mile. The reported cost of construction of the lines acquired and to be acquired is $113,300,000, or about $40,000 a mile. A little combination of some of these figures, even without the capitalization figures of the older lines, indicates that the system when completed stands a very good chance of being capitalized for a little more than the reported cost of construction and even for a little more than the old figures.

Japan's railways are thus shown as in a transition stage, and figures quoted for equipment and operation must be those of the latest year reported, 1905-06. The total number of locomotives on all lines is 1,717; passenger cars, 5,340; "freight wagons," 27,183. The total number of passengers carried was 113,675,403; total passenger receipts, $17,000,000. The total freight carried was 21,530,064 tons, and total freight receipts $12,600,000. The passenger mileage was two and a half billions and freight mileage 1,352,000,000. The average passenger receipts a mile were .68 cent and average freight receipts .93 cent a mile a ton. The receipts a ton and a mile were higher on the State lines than on the private lines. The gross earnings for all lines are reported as $34,516,582, the expenses $16,077,587 and net earnings $18,498,995. The average receipts a mile were, for State railways, $8,182; average expenses, $3,785; average earnings, $4,397; and for private lines, receipts, $6,915; expenses, $3,233, and earnings, $3,682.

Perhaps the most striking feature in Japan's railway statistics appears in the fact that passengers are carried for two-thirds of a cent a mile, while our railways make considerable fuss over an attempt to drive American prices down to two cents a mile. All protest in this country would undoubtedly disappear at once if our 1,500,000 railway people would throw off 90 per cent. of their wages or salary and so bring their earnings down to the level of those of their Japanese contemporaries. If American wages were on a level with Japanese our railways could make money carrying us from New York to Chicago for $5 and from New York to San Francisco for $15. There are, however, certain compensations in our present system.

There can be no doubt that Japan knows her own business better than any one else does. They have a way over there of doing national business with a good deal of foresight, penetration and thoroughness. Yet from the figures submitted it appears that Governmental lines have cost more for construction than private lines, that it costs more to operate the State lines and that both freight and passenger rates are higher on the average on State lines than on private lines. Unless this is susceptible of explanation or unless a change is proposed in operating policy it is not quite easy to see just where an economy is to be effected by nationalization that will be of material benefit to commercial Japan.

When the present deal is completed the Japanese Government will own and operate all railway lines of importance throughout the islands. If new lines are needed the Government will build them. The entire system will be unified and there will certainly be improvement in the convenience and promptness of shipping. Whether there will be both cheaper rates and fair dividends remains to be seen.

Japan has not as yet gone very far in the matter of trolley lines. The first electric line was laid in Kioto in 1895 at the time of the national industrial exhibition held in that city. There were in 1906 nineteen lines in the islands, with a paid up capital of about $20,000,000 ($23,000,000 authorized), 264 miles of track in operation and 142 miles under construction. A few of the lines have paid very well, but most of them have not been particularly successful. Some of the lines show actual loss. The net earnings of the entire group were about $1,275,000 in 1906. It is generally believed that a better showing will be made in the next few years.

CHURCH MUSIC.

A Layman's Opinion of Roman and American Choirs.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Since I read your editorial in reference to church music I have watched every day for an answer. Why such an ominous silence? It is because there is no defence. To us of the laity who are able to judge between comic opera and a psalm tune the action of the "powers that be" in this country seems inexplicable. The head of the Church never issued any mandate on a matter of discipline into which he put more force of authority than in his "Motu Proprio," and with what result? In many dioceses his words are completely ignored, in many others they are laughed at, and as a rule the inferior clergy, copying the apathy of those who ought to be their leaders, stultify their consciences by dismissing the whole subject with: "It was never intended for this country."

Within the last few months in one of the metropolitan churches there was a solemn pontifical mass at which many Church dignitaries were present. A mixed quartet gave an operatic concert by Haydn during the mass, with a 'cello andante for the offertory and a cornet solo, "The Lost Chord," for a communio. "The March of the [pagan] Priests" from a sensuous opera was played as they marched back to the sacristy. To cap the climax a cablegram was read in which his Holiness gave his special blessing to the zealous pastor and his flock and the mixed choir came in for its share of the papal blessing.

To us of the laity all this looks like a farce. Did the Pope intend it to be obeyed or not? If he did, then are not those who ignore his commands guilty of a grave act of disobedience, not to speak of the sin of scandal?

To know the mind of the Pope we must go to Rome. What is understood in Rome by a choir? To those who have visited the Holy City and remained there for any length of time it must be evident that in most of the churches it means a loft or organ gallery very much like what we have in our own country but filled with male voices only, and it is in such choir lofts that women are forbidden to sing. In very few if any of the Roman churches do we find the choir in the shape of stalls such as may be seen in the Paulist Church, New York, and where such arrangement exists it is for the canons of the Church, not for the singers—in fact, the choir singers are frequently in the organ gallery at the end of the church or in one of the transepts. Therefore, according to the Roman idea, the choir of modern times consists for the most part of trained male singers set apart in some elevated spot in the church and not in stalls surrounding the high altar.

The abuses that existed in Rome consisted in the theatrical style of the music as well as in the orchestral accompaniments. In our own country, however, we added to this the female singers screeching out their "O Salutaris" and "Tantum Ergo," or smiling sweetly at their male partners as they sing in feeling tones: "Veni Amor Mi." Any pastor who has interest enough to visit his choir loft regularly or who takes an occasional glance at it from the pulpit knows that it is a great place for conversation, especially during sermon time. The proprietor of the nearest beer saloon can always tell when the sermon begins by the advent of the tenor and the basso and sometimes of the organist himself.

Now, while such flagrant abuses exist, why should the hierarchy waste powder in condemning such innocent and soul stirring hymns as "Lead, Kindly Light" and "Nearer, My God, to Thee" and forbidding them to be sung in church? If they are heretical, point out the heresy. If they express the most exalted aspirations of the human heart and at the same time the lowliest humility and if the common people have learned to love them, why condemn them? Why strain at a gnat and swallow a camel? Can the hierarchy expect obedience in a small matter of this kind when they themselves disobey the head of the Church? CHURCHMAN.

NEW ROCHELLE, July 22.

KARMA AND "SCIENCE."

Teachings of the Buddha and Mrs. Eddy Compared by a Doctor of Divinity.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If we compare the principles of Karma with those of Christian Science we shall find a certain similarity. The teachings of Gautama were not final, and during the process of centuries the Buddhist has created a mystery regarding the transit of the soul which it is impossible for the human mind to unravel.

The Buddhist believes a continuance of conscious life a positive evil. Future life is one of the great evils, and love of it is one of the ten fetters of the soul. The true discipleship is untarnished by such a thing as a desire to live forever. It is here that Christianity and Buddhism differ mightily. In believing in the immortality of the soul there is nothing in Christianity to forbid one believing that the "ego" has passed through successive reincarnations. But it is the beauty of Christian belief that it presents a self-conscious future existence as one of the great rewards of this life. For example, St. Paul says in Romans ii., 7: "To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality [is granted], eternal life." The same apostle writing to Timothy (I. Tim. vi., 16) presents Jesus Christ as one "who only hath immortality, dwelling in light unapproachable" (see the Greek). And the familiar chapter on the Resurrection (I. Cor., xv.,) seems to be explainable only by believers in reincarnation or life after life. "But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased Him."

It would therefore seem to be perfectly in harmony with Christian faith to believe that the soul passes through many reincarnations before it attains to "life in Christ," and that this "life in Christ" must be brought about by living the Christian Karma; that is, by recognizing "cause and effect" in this present life—accepting its condition and striving after a conscious immortality such as Christ promised when He said, "I go to prepare a place for you."

Otherwise, what does St. Paul mean when he writes (Phil. iii., 11): "If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead"? Reincarnation need not be a law forever. There are individuals who live from the highest centre "where truth abides." Reincarnation for them would be needless. It is here, as I have said, that Christianity and Buddhism part company. With the Buddhist "Nirvana" is an endless extinction, with the Christian it is what the Bible calls "the power of an endless life."

In my intercourse with Mrs. Eddy's followers I find that some of them feel that they are now actually living this "endless life." This seems to be expressed in the text I. Cor. ii., 9-10 (which refers to the present, not to the future): "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him, but God hath revealed them unto us by His spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." Remember, I am not preaching Buddhism, but the Christian theory of reincarnation, which I believe throws considerable light on the Bible. D. D., LL. D.

BROOKLYN, July 22.

Geneva Gives Up Calvin.

From the Guardian.

The disestablishment of the Church of Geneva, now ratified by popular vote, is an event of historic (not to say antiquarian) interest rather than of political or religious importance. It is significant that out of 25,150 electors inscribed on the rolls, not more than 14,476, or less than three-fifths of the whole, exercised their right of suffrage. Of these 7,653, or less than a third, voted for the suppression of the *budget des cultes*, but as they exceeded the opponents of change by 834 votes, they are to have their way—a fact which throws some useful light on the value of the referendum as a means of gauging public opinion. At any rate, the Church of Calvin's foundation could not, in its native home, find enough support to retain its position as the Church of the State.

To the Big Three.

You Fates, who hold within your hands
  The destinies of man,
To you we earnestly appeal
  And bring the latest plan.

Grave Clotho, spin with greater care
  The fragile filament,
It grows more precious day by day
  And no one dares dissent.

Stern Lachesis, we humbly beg
  Petitions you receive,
And of the priceless gossamer
  A worthy pattern weave.

Dread Atropos, before you cut
  We pray you ponder twice—
The very thread of life itself
  Has now gone up in price!

McLANDBURGH WILSON.

THE SOUTH ON THE CANDIDATE.

It Is the Northern Democrat, Not the Southern Democrat, That Needs a Certificate.

From the Charleston Evening Post.

The argument is heard in some quarters against the advisability of the Democrats nominating a Southern man for the Presidency that we would gain nothing by putting up a representative of a section which will give its votes to any Democratic nominee, whereas we may at least risk the chance of losing thereby votes we might win by nominating a candidate from a doubtful State or region who might appeal to his particular locality. There is Governor Johnson of Minnesota, it is suggested, who would almost surely be able to carry his own State and several of those adjoining, his popularity being very great in the Northwest and the people of that section having large confidence in him. Johnson, it is argued, would carry the South as readily as would Culberson of Texas, and he might carry the Northwest, or a considerable section of it, which Culberson perhaps would not be able to do.

But it is to be considered that the vote of the South, together with the vote of the group of States regarded as being within the sphere of Mr. Johnson's influence, would not go very far toward electing a President. The Democrats will have to capture some of the populous Eastern States, with their great vote in the electoral college, if they are to carry the country. There is excellent prospect of carrying New York for the Democracy with a sound candidate, especially if, as now seems most probable, President Roosevelt is again the candidate of the Republican party. It is not at all certain that Governor Johnson would appeal to the East, which seems to have a constitutional suspicion of Western statesmen, whereas it is entirely likely that a Southern man of good political record would command the support of that section. In New York there is no prejudice against the South. The fact is New York has little enough sentiment of any sort. It has interests.

There is, too, this important point to consider: A Southern Democrat is a perfectly natural and entirely acceptable figure in the North. It is understood that the best people of the South are affiliated with the Democratic party. But certainly, since the great Bryan schism of 1896, a Northern Democrat must be explained. He must justify himself before he can claim any serious regard. Not that he may not explain satisfactorily and fully justify his position nor that there are not men of the highest character and ability in the North, but their affiliations with the party are for the most part due to special causes, which have to be cited before they can get attention. This is a great handicap, and it is one of which a Southern man would be entirely free. This is a matter of no small consideration in estimating the practical availability of a candidate for the Presidency. It is a point which a good many people in the South overlook. If there is prejudice in some sections of the North against a Southern Democrat because he is a Southerner, there is just as stiff prejudice in other and more important sections against a Northern Democrat because he is a Democrat.

Platforms.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Here is a somewhat more concise and grateful platform for the Persona Grata Society or Party than anything previously produced:

Resolved, That the past failed to produce his equal.

Resolved, That the present affords him no worthy intellectual companion.

Resolved, That we have no right to expect that Providence will ever produce his like.

Possibly even this could be improved by reverent diligence in the choice of words.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., July 17. PACIFIC.

Senator McCreary's Age.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I do not know who Senator "James M. McCreary" of Kentucky is, but I do know that James B. McCreary of Kentucky was born in the spring of 1838 and is therefore only 69 years of age. As your "Uncle Jim," as the boys call him, is a little sensitive on the age question, will you kindly correct your statement that he is 71? O. O. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 22.

Senator James B. McCreary was 69 years old on July 8. This correction is made with a celerity that should offset the error of a twist of a type as to the Senator's middle name.

Schools of Arizona and New Mexico.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The 1906 report of the Governor of Arizona states that the public school system of the Territory embraces primary, manual training and grammar schools, high schools for the principal centres of population, two normal schools and a university, an excellent outfit for a Territory as young as Arizona. The university is at Tucson. The normal schools are at Tempe and Flagstaff, and, says the Governor, compare favorably with the best normal schools of the older States.

The statistics of Arizona's schools for 1906 are (Governor's report):

Children of school age	30,230
Enrolled in district schools	23,223
School districts	290
Schoolhouses constructed in year	12
High schools	6
Primary schools	377
Grammar schools	165
Male teachers	110
Female teachers	444
Total number of teachers	554
Teachers holding first grade certificates	379
Teachers holding second grade certificates	175
Average monthly salary, male teachers	$89.41
Average monthly salary, female teachers	$71.10
Revenues of schools	$579,385.00
School expenditures	$581,885.00

The 1906 revenue exceeds that of 1905 by nearly $50,000, and the increase in expenditures was only a little less than $110,000.

Of the school revenue 87.8 per cent. is devoted to teachers' salaries, a ratio surpassed only in Alabama, which so devotes 98.2 per cent. Georgia ranks with Arizona with 87.8 per cent. While Arizona pays its female school teachers $71.10 a month, California pays $64.60, and Nevada $68.30. In monthly salaries for male teachers Arizona, with its $89.41, is exceeded only by Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey and Nevada. California's male teachers' salaries average $80 monthly.

The worst difficulty in Arizona school administration is the indifference of Mexican parents. It is extremely difficult to secure the attendance of Mexican children, says the Governor.

According to the 1905 report of United States Commissioner of Education Dr. Elmer Ellsworth Brown, Arizona has 498 schoolhouses, and the estimated value of her school property is $800,207. The average daily attendance is 14,009, or 64.29 per cent. of the enrolment. The aggregate number of days schooling (all pupils combined) in the 1904-05 school year was 1,896,819. School sessions were held 135.4 days in the year.

New Mexico makes a good showing in the matter of public schools considering the difficulty she experiences in common with Arizona in getting the Mexican parents to compel the attendance at the public school of their children.

New Mexico, with an estimated total population in 1905 of 212,825 and an estimated population of school age, 5 to 18 years, of 65,167, had a school enrolment of 37,670. The age for free attendance at public schools is 5 to 21, and for compulsory attendance, 7 to 14.

The schools of New Mexico in 1905 averaged 114 days sessions, with an average daily attendance of 27 705 and an aggregate of 2,980,370 days schooling. Male teachers in the public schools numbered 405, female 422, with an average monthly salary for all, of $54.26. School buildings number 690, and the estimated value of public school property in 1905 was $800,777. The school revenue for the year was $367,641 and the expenditure $362,225.

New Mexico has more than 4,000 of her school children in private schools, while Arizona has less than 2,000. WALTER J. BALLARD.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., July 17.

A Frugal Housewife.

Knicker—My dear, we should plan to economize.

Mrs. Knicker—Well, buy an auto so we can do without it.