The Sun.

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A Model Message.

If our bureau of statistics has counted right, Mr. TAFT'S message on the tariff contains 322 words, exclusive of the address and signature. Its brevity is as grateful to a weary world as the end of the rain was to NOAH. May the Sixty-first Congress follow this example, use no surplus of words or time in making a tariff, fill up the deficiency of revenue, and go home, so that the strained nerves of business may rest. Be the medicine good or bad, down with it and have done!

The "Victory" of the Antijosephites.

Have the magazine "accelerators" of public opinion got the worth of the money they have poured out, in telegrams and otherwise, calling on Representatives in the Sixty-first Congress to break the yoke of "Cannonism," put a hook in the jaws of Behemoth of Danville, make over the infamous rules under which the House has done business for twenty years, restore free speech and action among the subjects of the "Czar"? As the smoke of overheated speech and writing clears away, what does the field of this battle between the accelerators and the man of sin reveal?

The man of sin is still Speaker.

The man of sin still appoints all the committees of the House.

The man of sin can make more friends and fewer enemies, since his consent is no longer necessary to call up a favorably reported measure that has been on the calendar for three or more days.

"Calendar Wednesday," founded in the last session of the last House, can be got rid of by a two-thirds instead of a majority vote.

After the previous question has been ordered on any measure henceforth it will be in order to move to recommit it to the committee whence it came—apparently a futile salve to the feelings of a minority.

These are the fruits of the glorious victory. The man of sin has practically the same power and somewhat less responsibility than he had before virtue was "accelerated." What power and what responsibility he has are his by the will of a majority of the House. So were his responsibility and power under the old rules, just amended so slightly. The "accelerators" can't seem to get this through their heads. To them Speaker CANNON is a monster and Mumbo Jumbo of arbitrary and irresponsible power. No doubt he is a pigheaded and impolite old Egyptian, but so far as the Speakership is concerned the breath of the majority makes him and can unmake him. And the House has to do business.

Northward Ho!

The Toronto *Globe* publishes the following despatch from Saskatchewan:

"NORTH PORTAL, Sask., March 10.—The big rush of settlers from the United States bound for points in Alberta and Saskatchewan is now on in earnest. Yesterday twenty carloads of settlers' effects passed through on the Soo line, and to-day forty others came in. All the passenger trains are crowded with settlers. Indications point to a very heavy immigration from the Western States to the Canadian west."

The emigrants from the land of the free and the home of the brave are not of the class that enters our national portals with a few dollars and a little bundle of wearing apparel. They are people with money in the bank and "effects," carloads of "effects," twenty carloads one day and forty carloads the next day at a single point on the boundary. They are a loss to us and a gain to Canada. They constitute a large percentage of that industrial and industrious host that is converting Canada's vast prairies into fruitful farms and ranches.

Manitoba became a province in 1870. Its population was 62,260 in 1881, 152,506 in 1891, and 255,211 in 1901. The value of Manitoba's harvest last year was a little short of $70,000,000. The census of 1906 gave Winnipeg, its capital city, a population of 90,000. There is nothing wild in a guess that its present population is not far from 120,000. Four years ago the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were carved out of a vast area formerly known as the Northwest Territories. Their population at the time of their organization as provinces was probably about 70,000 for Alberta and 90,000 for Saskatchewan. The number to-day is somewhat problematic, but a guess of more than half a million for the two provinces is quite reasonable. Saskatchewan is now producing crops worth nearly $40,000,000, and Alberta, which is a cattle country rather than a crop country, values its harvest at $15,000,000.

Canada's official census in 1911 will be a collection of vastly interesting documents. It may and probably will be a record of material development more rapid than that shown during any ten year period in the history of the United States. It will probably show an increase from 1901 to 1911 of 40 per cent. in population and it is not at all improbable that it will show even more than that. Curiously enough, the following comparison may be made: Population of the United States in 1800, 5,308,483; of Canada in 1901, 5,371,315. In 1810 the population of the United States was 7,239,881. What will be the population of Canada in 1911? From lack of records no similar comparison can be made between the Canada of to-day and the United States of a hundred years ago in the matters of total wealth and social revenue. Upon these points the Canada of to-day would undoubtedly show up with much the larger bundle.

If it were not for Canadian reports of their arrival it is probable that very few on this side of the line would know anything at all of the annual emigration of 50,000 or so Americans to this new land of opportunity.

Mexico and Central America.

The assertion made by our correspondent "G. D. S." that the absorption of the Central American republics by Mexico "would be the best thing that could happen for all" disregards some of the most stubborn facts of the entire situation. The peaceful union of these States with their larger neighbor is so extremely improbable under any conceivable conditions that it makes the consideration of such a plan a waste of time and words. The scheme was tried in 1821 and 1822 following the renunciation of allegiance to Spain by both Mexico and the kingdom of Guatemala. The kingdom (or captain-generalcy) of Guatemala included the provinces (or intendencias) which became the independent republics of Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

During the Spanish régime (1521-1821) the relations of the people of the two areas were at least unfriendly, and from such fragments as historians have been able to gather it is to be inferred that their relations before the arrival of the Spaniards were emphatically hostile. It is inferred that the Mexicans made numerous unsuccessful attempts to conquer their neighbors and to absorb their territory. The annexation under ITURBIDE (1821-1823) was unsatisfactory and short lived. The assembly which met in Guatemala on July 1, 1823, declared the unconditional independence of Central America, and a Federal government was organized, including the five States which some years later became independent republics. Never since that time, we believe, has Mexico sought or even desired the annexation of the Central American States, and never have those States or any of them sought or desired union with Mexico. A peaceful unification is almost inconceivable. It is doubtful if Mexico could conquer the five republics, and it is certain that to retain them after conquest would add so great a burden to our neighbor's treasury that domestic disorder would be almost inevitable.

The restoration of the original federation has been essayed again and again. Provision for such a restoration stands to-day in the Constitution of each of the republics, as follows:

GUATEMALA.

"ARTICLE 2. Whenever the Central American nationality shall be again brought into existence in a suitable, just, popular and advisable manner the Republic of Guatemala shall be ready to become a part thereof."

SALVADOR.

"ARTICLE 151. As Salvador is a segregated portion of the Republic of Central America, its capacity to concur with any or all of the Central American States in the organization of a national Government when circumstances shall permit it and when its interests may be promoted by it is left unimpaired."

NICARAGUA.

"ARTICLE 1. Nicaragua is a free, sovereign and independent nation; but she considers herself a segregated section of the Republic of Central America. Therefore she recognizes the primordial necessity of return to the union with the other sections of the dissolved republic."

COSTA RICA.

The Costa Rican Constitution of 1871 drops the specific declaration of the Constitution of 1847 that the country is "one of the political entities" of the Central American Republic and the assertion of its readiness to concur in a reorganization whenever its neighbors "shall be ready to negotiate a new compact." In an amendment promulgated in 1888 declaration is made that certain specified articles in the Constitution "shall not prevent treaties of political union" with any or all of the other republics of Central America. It also provides the various steps by which such a plan may be carried out.

HONDURAS.

"ARTICLE 1. Honduras is a State disgregated from the Central American Confederation. In consequence thereof it recognizes as its principal duty and its most pressing necessity a return to the union with the other States of the dissolved republic."

For two generations these countries have regarded themselves as only temporarily divorced. Ambitious men have sought and other ambitious men are still seeking a restoration of the old relations; in a few cases perhaps from broad and sincerely patriotic motives, but in most instances purely for the gratification of personal ambition.

Would CABRERA accept ZELAYA as President of a unified Central American republic? Not he. Would ZELAYA accept CABRERA as President of such an organization? Not he. Would Salvador, Honduras or Costa Rica accept either of them? Not they. Meanwhile the situation has become almost inextricably tangled by foreign and domestic loans, by depreciated currency and by bitter personal and political animosities. The dream of reunion persists, the desire for it and the hope that it may yet come remain. It may be that realization is possible only through the exercise of the kindly offices of the United States and Mexico in cooperation, through a sort of political receivership established with the consent of the five republics. Such a condition is hardly probable, but it is more probable and more feasible than peaceful absorption or conquest by Mexico.

As matters stand at present, Costa Rica minds its own business with highly commendable diligence, and there is strong reason to believe that Salvador would gladly do the same if let alone. Honduras has more than enough domestic troubles to occupy all its time and to limit any tendency to interfere in the affairs of its neighbors. President CABRERA, regarded by many as a potential mischief maker, has of late devoted himself particularly to the government or the misgovernment, as the case may be, of Guatemala. President ZELAYA is the restless spirit of the present time, and it seems impossible to learn just what he is doing or what he is trying to do. CABRERA'S term of office expires in 1911 and ZELAYA'S in 1912.

A few years ago we knew little and cared less what was done in Central America. The five republics now constitute one of our gravest problems. They worry the State Department, disturb the Executive, and keep a part of our navy busy. The problem is not solved by offhand opinions that Mexico should absorb the whole disturbing bunch. That would surely bring on troubles which may now be avoided by a little diplomatic (and naval) nursing.

Sugar Planting in Avoyelles.

We note an announcement to the effect that planters in the parish of Avoyelles, Louisiana, near the mouth of the Red River, are about to abandon the planting of cotton and take up sugar cane instead. The reason for this as given in the papers is the destruction inflicted on the cotton by the boll weevil. The planters have suffered so much from this cause they prefer to take up sugar cane, which has nothing to fear from either boll weevils or worms or any other insects.

After all, this is not an innovation but a resumption. Avoyelles was a sugar parish before the civil war. So was Pointe Coupée, and so indeed was Rapides, still further north up the Red River. After the civil war these lands were planted in cotton, there being at that time no available supply of seed cane, and as this crop was fairly successful the proprietors in Avoyelles and Rapides went on with it. Two or three years were required to equip an ordinary plantation with seed cane, and the expense involved in restoring sugar houses to anything like efficiency was for those days and circumstances appalling. So instead of squandering time and money getting ready for a big sugar crop, Avoyelles, Rapides and that neighborhood went on with cotton for nearly forty years until the boll weevil came along and sent them back to sugar.

Whether the change can be made profitable we are not so sure. That part of Louisiana is considerably north of the sugar belt proper and is liable to freezing weather much earlier than Lafourche, Plaquemine, St. Mary or even Baton Rouge. Possibly by establishing great central factories and dividing up the tributary territories into fields with small mills and facilities for reducing the crops to sirup very rapidly the planters might provide against the disaster usually resulting from a freeze in early December. But freezes are due about that time four years out of ten, and no sugar planter can afford to lose a considerable part of his crop as often as that. Harvesting ought to begin at least by the middle of October in Avoyelles, and to make everything safe the end of it ought to be in sight by December 1.

We do not see how otherwise sugar planting in that part of Louisiana can be prosecuted with a reasonable certainty of success. Sugar is an exotic in any part of Louisiana.

The Historical Mr. Watson.

In the opening hours of the Sixty-first Congress no member cut a larger figure than did the Hon. JAMES ELI WATSON, whose services the United States lost officially with the expiration of the Sixtieth Congress. In the ten days that elapsed between March 4 and the beginning of the extraordinary session of the new Congress no man was more active in Washington than Mr. WATSON. He visited the President; he communed with stubborn Republicans; he haunted the Speaker's room; he was the chosen messenger of Mr. CANNON himself.

What is to be Mr. WATSON'S status in the future? Is he to continue at Washington, the trusted unofficial agent of the Speaker, with headquarters in the House? Or will Mr. WATSON now retire gracefully to his home in Rushville, in the State of Indiana, and there engage at once in the composition of his political memoirs?

With characteristic unselfishness Mr. WILLIAM J. BRYAN hopes that some other Democrat than himself will be called to succeed Senator ELMER J. BURKETT, whose term expires on March 3, 1911; but if it must be, Mr. BRYAN would accept a nomination. This devotion to the people's cause reminds us that Mr. BRYAN was of the same mind in 1904, when there was a fusion on the legislative ticket. But his hopes were blighted; the fusionists elected only nine members of the Legislature—none to the Senate; and Mr. BURKETT, whom Mr. BRYAN is willing to replace in 1911, was chosen Senator.

In an article on the acquittal of THORNTON HAINS, printed on Friday last, THE SUN quoted certain remarks on the written and "unwritten" law attributed to him in *Law Notes* for March. Our comment was based on the language quoted. In justice to Mr. HAINS it is proper to say that he asks THE SUN to deny the utterance in question, and informs us that it is falsely attributed to him.

There is something infinitely reassuring in the announcement of the Hon. WILLIAM JAY SCHIEFFELIN, president of the Citizens Union, concerning the modest desires of his organization. "We are not trying to put our men in office," said he the other day, "but we want to have our data so unanswerable that when we say a man is worthy to go into office in he goes." The way for fusion is now clear.

By my method of association of ideas with a delicate machine for recording time I am able to determine whether an accused person is guilty of lying.—*Professor* MÜNSTERBERG.

This will enable the Taft Administration to start right, even if it has no retroactive force.

His Eponym.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* What do you think of Mr. Daly Justice, a policeman of this town? Q.

BELLEFONTE, Pa., March 15.

GEORGE WICKERSHAM.

A Sketch for a Cabinet Portrait.

A quarter of a century ago the full name of the new Attorney-General was Samuel George Woodward Wickersham. Euphony and utility caused him to lop off the superfluous Samuel. Nowadays in politics this same name of Samuel suggests rather Gompers than the Bible; therefore Mr. Wickersham was wise in advance. He is about 51 years of age and hails from Pittsburg; but to Philadelphia belongs the honor of fostering the talents of the youth. He was precocious; not in a febrile, wonder child fashion, but solidly so; if we may associate precocity with solidity of mental texture. An orphan, he lived with his grandfather Woodward, a retired merchant, near Logan Square. Young Wickersham did not let the languid grass of the Quaker City obstruct his progress. His old friends recall his intellectual ambitions. At 17 he had Herbert Spencer's "First Principles" at his tongue tip; indeed, as an individualist he promised to tread the narrow thorny road of radicalism instead of the primrose path of politics; but time mollifies the sharp edge of rash ideas. Wickersham took to the law. He often asserted that it was the swiftest vehicle in which to achieve political supremacy. Yet many years elapsed before he exemplified this statement, which proves that flukes often show which way the wind blows.

At the law school he absorbed Blackstone and Kent with the same facility that he did philosophy. If ever a man was a pragmatist before the dawn of the doctrine it was Wickersham. For him the concrete world existed. Nevertheless, with all this plunging into a troubled sea of new ideas there was another side to his practical nature. He loved and still loves literature and art. A student who is getting up mock cases for the law academy—and occasionally before the venerable Judge Sharswood—would be hardly suspected of swallowing Swinburne's poems, of reading in the original Spanish the works of Cervantes, Lope de Vega or Valera, or of passing his leisure hours in listening to classical chamber music. Precisely all these things he did. He found time to master Spanish before he passed his law examinations. As he was and still is temperamentally opposed to the use of tobacco and liquor—though not a fanatic—he had plenty of energy to master whatever intellectual problems attracted his ever curious, restless brain. Mr. Wickersham is curious of many things. An intellect sufficiently tough in fibre to crush the knotty lumber of the law and the dry facts of litigation, it is also supple enough to enjoy the subtleties of several literatures and the arts of music and painting. His love of music he fairly comes by, for his grandfather' house was one of the most musical in Philadelphia. There the string quartets of the masters were heard, and his aunt, Aubertine Woodward Moore, a well known writer on music and a pianist, played brilliantly the old and new repertories. When living in New York Mr Wickersham was a subscriber to the Philharmonic, and latterly to the Boston Symphony Orchestra concerts. He is also a persistent operagoer. An admirer of pictures, his taste was early formed in Philadelphia by visits to the engraving and étching collection of the late James L. Claghorn on Logan Square, and to the collections of other amateurs in the city. Travel is another passion of the Attorney-General.

After he became a member of the Philadelphia bar he inherited a comfortable fortune from his grandfather, and he married a Washington lady of position and means. He came to New York. He practised his profession. He eventually became a member of the firm of Strong & Cadwalader. He was successful from the start, and not once did he relax his varied intellectual activities. The story told of his early rising to master the vocabulary and grammar of new languages is true. Mr. Wickersham is a linguist. He is fond of the Romanic tongues. His ease in Spanish has been noted. He knows French and Italian and has a sound working acquaintance with German. His knowledge of the law is profound. Corporation law is his hobby; interstate commerce law he is versed in. His experience has been in what is called "office practice." He seldom appeared as a pleader, and never before was in the national limelight. It is said that he needed urging to enter the Taft Cabinet. His practice has been lucrative.

And what manner of man is Mr. Wickersham? He does not carry, mentally or physically, excess baggage. He has the torso of a big man, and he is a short man. He is more interesting than handsome. At first sight his drooping iron gray mustache and large eyes—the prominent eyes and insistent gaze of the myopic—have recalled to some E. H. Harriman. He can be as solemn as a sepulchre or as vivacious as a southern Italian. His laugh is hearty, and he is not morbidly modest. His mental alertness is reflected in his quick pace and sharply decisive movements. The brow is wide and high, the mouth and teeth aggressively large, the jaw salient. A masterful man, a good hater, a man of quick temper, a man with a stubborn backbone, a man compact of energy, seemingly more Spaniard than American; dark skinned, exotic, and a gentleman. His religion—now far from the Spencerian days—is Protestant Episcopal. Yet by temperament he is not a conservative. Mr. Wickersham's attitude toward politics has been consistently the same for over thirty years. He believes in the Republican party for the Republicans. A man and a lawyer may do that and not be a spoilsman, though it may be admitted that the example is as rare as a blue moon. He was at one time deeply interested in electricity, and he was once an accomplished telegrapher.

A more versatile and cultivated man will not assist at President Taft's councils than George Woodward Wickersham.

Vociferous Smell.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In the editorial article "A Hint to the House" in this morning's SUN this expression appears: "They smell very loudly at times." Is this grammatically correct? Might not one as well say "The meat smells freshly," or "The soup tasted pleasantly"? Or are such expressions permissible?

One hears frequently expressions like these: "I feel badly." "She looks finely." "He felt splendidly." Are they ever correct? I am impelled to ask, because never before have I noticed such a use of the adverb rather than the adjective on the editorial page of THE SUN.

NEW YORK, March 15. CONSTANT READER.

Let us not, as Mr. Lamb said, rake into the bowels of unwelcome truth to save a ha'penny, or thrust into a comic phrase a too schoolmasterly nose.

Work for the Irish Societies.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The Irish societies of this country should try to popularize the game of handball. They should petition to have handball courts erected in playgrounds and country school yards. These courts could be made of concrete and would last for a century or more. They would be a most appropriate monument to the Irish race. W. J. D.

NEW YORK, March 16.

ART NOTES.

One thing is certain: Zuloaga duplicates the success of Sorolla at the Hispanic Museum. Beginning Sunday, March 21, and ending April 11 there will be a riot in the art world of New York city. Just now it is the fashion to criticise Sorolla. Of course he can't paint, or if he can paint he is not a great artist—only a kind of glorified camera. Anybody can do his tricks of lighting and representing movement, but we are far too superior to indulge in such petty realism! We know that Mr. Chase admires the Spaniard, and there was a rumor that a man out Hoboken way, a painter, said that Sorolla had everybody "skinned to a finish." Being cornered he meekly confessed that he was a mere sculptor and had not heard of Sorolla. It's the attitude of the public that has set buzzing the tongues of Studio Land and Dealerville. All the king's horses and all the king's critics can't drive the free people of this town to a picture show if they don't wish to go there. Some magical password must have been given in the case of Sorolla. The world went, saw and was conquered. It no doubt learned a lot, and the reaction is bound to be favorable for art, notwithstanding Sorolla's swift and sensational methods; but this same world also went in droves to the German exposition at the Metropolitan Museum and apparently enjoyed mediocre art. It reminds you of Thackeray's agonizing story about the spoiled oysters, somewhere on the Rhine, which his hero left, with averted head, untasted, while his betrothed begged for them with tears in her eyes. And Zuloaga—is it by any means sure that he will hit the popular bullseye? We hope so, for he is a greater painter psychologist than Sorolla, and a much better portraitist. Yet little Sorolla ought not to be unhappy even if his name is anathema among the noble brigade of local brushmen.

There are a number of small exhibitions in the city this week sufficiently varied to suit different tastes. If you are lucky enough to secure a card of admission to the Century Club you will see some extraordinary Chinese paintings in the art gallery. There is naturalism, there is impressionism, decoration for the sheer sake of decoration, symbolism and the grotesque set forth in color schemes and techniques that are as eloquent as any in our western world; and what space composers! The collection is a part of that of Professor Isaac Taylor Headland, Ph. D. of Pekin University. At 373 Fifth avenue (corner Thirty-fifth street) Jay Hambidge is showing some of his spirited drawings in monochrome and color. On another wall are Betty Spiegelberg's examples of the German Secession school, clever and full of snap and humor (particularly the "Invocation to Pan" and that Berlin "Chimney Sweep"). Elsa Oppenheimer has some tasteful jewelry and flat metal work on view in the same room. Fifteen paintings by Louis Paul Dessar may be seen at the Rauer-Folsom Galleries, 396 Fifth avenue. It is practically a loan exhibition, as all but three canvases were lent through the courtesy of Messrs. A. C. Humphreys, John H. Rhoades, William H. Childs, Louis A. Lehmaier and the Engineers Club. Admirers of Mr. Dessar will not miss this opportunity to enjoy his tonal sentiment. At Knoedler's, Thirty-fourth street and Fifth avenue, Mr. Henry Clews, Jr., has several striking portraits, landscapes and marines.

Mr. Taber Sears, a mural painter, in another gallery of Knoedler's is represented by a number of water colors, intimate color notes of scenes in Tangiers Sicily, Spain, Venice. Mr. Sears was a pupil of the late Benjamin Constant and Luc Olivier Merson. Ceiling and wall paintings of his are in the Chemical National Bank and Aldermanic Chamber in the City Hall. Some examples of Barye's beautiful bronzes are at the Grolier Club, 29 East Thirty-second street, until March 27. Mr. Malcolm Fraser is again showing his "Comédie Spirituelle et Humaine"—with numerous new pictures—at the Clausen Galleries, 7 East Thirty-fifth street, which will be there until April 1. The Art Students League is holding its annual exhibition of the work of the Woodstock Summer Landscape School at 215 West Fifty-seventh street until March 27. At the Tiffany Studio, 547 Madison avenue, there is an exhibition of new turquoise favrile glass, the invention of Mr. Louis C. Tiffany, which captivates the eye. Drawings by Pamela Coleman Smith are at the Little Gallery of the Photo-Secession, 291 Fifth avenue, until March 27.

The Anti-Woman Suffragists in Massachusetts

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A letter that appears in THE SUN of March 15, with the signature of Julia Ward Howe, closes with this sentence: "The statement that they" (the Massachusetts Anti Suffrage Association) "have 14,000 members means only that in fourteen years they have collected 14,000 signatures."

The truth is that in Massachusetts anti-suffrage is actively organized in 245 cities, towns and villages, and that the association has a present membership of 14,000, after a recent careful revision of the list and the exclusion of all names that should be removed because of death, absence or other change. As a result of this intelligent organized opposition, since 1895 there have been increasingly significant decisions against woman suffrage in the Massachusetts Legislature. HELEN KENDRICK JOHNSON.

NEW YORK, March 16.

Far Seeing Economy.

Mrs. Knicker—They say there may be a stamp tax on checks.

Mrs. Bocker—That's why I'm trying to get all I can out of James ahead of it.

On St. Patrick's Day.

America, America, O noblest land and best!
To-day thine eyes behold a glimpse of green on many a breast;
And in thine ear to-day there sounds a weird and witching strain,
A lilt of mingled joy and grief, of merriment and pain.
For this is Erin's day of days, and many a son of thine
First saw the light of earthly life in Erin's valleys shine;
And so the Irish color gleams, the Irish poet sings,
And o'er the noises of the street the Irish music rings!

America, America, thou land of dreams come true!
We love thee none the less because we love old Ireland too.
These sprigs of green we wear to-day no treason symbolize—
They only show how tenderly old memories we prize;
They show what loyalty to thee and to thy righteous cause
Can fill the hearts that hungered long beneath a tyrant's laws;
They only show, these sprigs of green that 'round thy flag we twine,
The depth and fervor of the love we offer thee as thine!

America, America, we've given thee our toil,
We've helped to rear thy roaring marts and till thy teeming soil;
We've spiked the gleaming bonds of steel that bind the East and West,
We've digged the ore from out the mines that pierce thy mountains' breast.
We've thought for thee, we've wrought for thee—we've fought for thee as well,
We've helped to bear thy banner through the battle's blazing hell—
We love thee as our peerless queen, O gracious land and glad!
But ah, the dear old mother land, so lowly and so sad!

DENIS A. MCCARTHY.

THE OUTLOOK IN CUBA.

Some Disquieting Symptoms, But a Fairer Reciprocity Treaty Should Allay Them.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have read with much concern an article written by Mr. William E. Curtis, formerly Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, for the Washington *Star* and the Chicago *Record-Herald* which is a severe and unsparing stricture upon the appointment by President Miguel Gómez of Carlos Garcia Velez to succeed Señor Quesada as the Minister of Cuba to the United States. Mr. Curtis says that the new Cuban Minister is "violent in his anti-Americanism"; that Señor Quesada is regarded by the Administration in Havana as "too friendly"; that there are "some bad appointments by the new Insular Government"; and that there is "probability of trouble before long."

If it be true that Señor Garcia has a profound contempt and hatred for America and American institutions and that he represents the general attitude of the now dominant Liberal officials and leaders in Cuba, and that one of their first steps upon gaining the reins of power was "to prepare for the organization of a national army of 10,000 men, which is needed to fight the United States in case our Government finds it necessary to intervene again for the protection of American citizens and other foreign property holders," the outlook for the continued peace and tranquillity of the Cuban republic is certainly ominous.

To some careful American observers who have always had the welfare of Cuba at heart the revelations of Mr. Curtis come as no surprise. Two causes, it will be recalled, produced the deplorable civil strife and war in Cuba during the summer and autumn of 1906, which necessitated a second American intervention and resulted in the downfall of the Palma Government. One of these causes was purely economic, due to hard times brought on by the partial failure of the tobacco crop in Cuba; the other was an aggravated political situation, caused by notorious maladministration, corruption, deadly feuds and the clamoring of hungry adventurers and politicians for the spoils of office. Both Cuban parties, the Conservatives as well as the Liberals, were equally responsible for the malodorous condition of affairs in the distracted island. Under such circumstances the American Secretary of War, the Hon. W. H. Taft, set about restoring order and peace in Cuba. The late ex-President Palma, actuated by a lofty civic patriotism that impartial history will yet recognize, resigned his office and quietly withdrew to the obscurity of private life, leaving Judge Taft free to establish the American Provisional Government under the able guidance of the Hon. Charles Magoon.

Whatever may have been the defects of General Tomás Estrada Palma's independent administration as the first President of the Republic of Cuba, he stood preeminently for subordinating the military to the civil authority. A warm admirer of the best in American institutions, he had acquired, as the result of eighteen years exile and residence in the United States an American way of thinking and acting and thus when through the force of circumstances he returned to his native country in 1902 to assume the reins of power he found himself out of touch with the majority of his fellow countrymen, educated as they had been according to the traditional institutions of Spain. He was democratic and unassuming in his manners and utterly averse to the pomp and ceremony which play such a large part in Latin American republics. He was concerned not in creating a Cuban army and navy but in giving every encouragement to the enlightenment and comfort of the masses, in promoting public improvements and in fostering the ideals of civilian life as opposed to those of militarism. His second election, in 1906, as President was undoubtedly tainted with fraud, and he allowed himself to be surrounded by some bad and vicious Cabinet advisers. Such a man, with his austere, irreproachable life and his virtues and defects, was wholly unprepared for civil war when it broke out in Cuba and his Government was thus foredoomed to fall.

Under absolutely impartial American supervision the people of Cuba have held recently their second Presidential election and the majority of the qualified Cuban voters have deliberately chosen General Miguel Gómez as their Chief Executive. He is entitled to a fair trial to prove how well and patriotically he can guide the destinies of the republic. His past record has some good indications in his favor, but many more against him. Under the strict control of the first American intervention he was a fairly good administrator of Santa Clara province, but during President Palma's administration he was a notorious intriguer, deliberately encouraging opposition to the efforts of the central Cuban authorities to investigate the deplorable corruption of a number of Cuban cities and to bring offending and embezzling mayors and municipal officials to justice, and it is believed in one instance conniving at the burning of town records.

The candidacy of General Miguel Gómez was viewed with disfavor by the venerable Cuban veteran of the revolution against Spain, Bartolomé Masó, who publicly denounced him and his most intimate associates as dangerous incendiaries and Gómez as utterly unfitted to hold the Presidency of Cuba. Equally severe were the openly expressed strictures of Máximo Gómez, Jr., the son of the illustrious General Máximo Gómez, against all those responsible for aiding and abetting civil revolution and bloodshed in Cuba, in that fair land of the West Indies whose emancipation from the yoke of Spain was accomplished by the efforts and martyrdom of so many American, European and Cuban heroes.

The situation in Cuba is fraught with dangerous possibilities and will call for all the rare tact and statesmanship which President Taft is credited with possessing, and doubtless it will require very careful treatment by the Congress of the United States. The majority of the Cubans must learn by experience how to obtain true liberty and proper self-government, and how to conquer the inherent defects inherited from four centuries of the old Spanish régime. As they become more educated and a deeper religious feeling prevails among them they will turn away from false prophets and idols and will select as their rulers and leaders those enlightened, disinterested Cuban patriots who have the courage to tell them the truth and who cannot be swerved from the path of duty and philanthropy by the spoils of office.

America on her part has also to wake up and recognize that the people of Cuba have some very legitimate grievances which must be remedied before there can exist the most cordial and enduring bonds of friendship between the republic and the United States. The right of Cuba to enjoy freer trade with her natural market, the United States, must ultimately be conceded and a broader reciprocal treaty entered into which shall be better than the present unjust arrangement. It gives the United States the advantage of having her products admitted into Cuban ports at a reduction of from 40 to 60 per cent., while to those of Cuba are granted only a reduction of 20 to 25 per cent. before they can enter the American market. FREDERIC M. NOA,
Ex-Unitarian Commissioner to Cuba.

WASHINGTON, March 15.

A Churchman's Attack on "The Churchman."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Several times in the unfortunate controversy over various matters connected with Trinity Church I have observed that a newspaper called the *Churchman* has been credited with being the "official organ of the Episcopal Church." I would call your attention to the fact that this newspaper is not, and I think does not claim to be, the official organ of the Episcopal Church. Its title in addition to the *Churchman* is "An Illustrated Weekly News Magazine." It is published by a commercial organization which denominates itself "The Churchman Company." Possibly this name may have led to the mistaken notion that this paper is the official organ of the Episcopal Church. The inside title of this paper is as follows: "The Churchman" in large black letters; underneath, in smaller letters, "The Faith once delivered unto the Saints." As no punctuation appears, the title might lead the unwary reader to suppose that by "The Faith once delivered unto the Saints" this newspaper was meant.

In former days, when under different editorship, the paper had influence in the Episcopal Church. During the past few years this can hardly be said to be the fact. Indeed, during the past two or three years the paper has been notable for exactly such attacks upon the Episcopal Church as that against which a protest dated March 13 was published in THE SUN.

It is saddening to a churchman that this paper, which, though never the official organ of the church, has yet been highly respected within the church, should have fallen from the position which it once held; and for one, your correspondent hopes that the protest of March 13 may have the effect of awakening its proprietors to the consciousness that the publication of numerous ill natured attacks upon men and movements within the church plus a large amount of clerical gossip does not constitute either an official organ of the Episcopal Church or a paper which many churchmen will care to read. CHURCHMAN.

NEW YORK, March 16.

A KENTUCKY NOTION.

Titles of Honor for the Wives of American Officeholders.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You don't seem to have realized the momentous character of the scheme of Mrs. Kate Trimble Woolsey of Kentucky. With the warmth and vividness of a Southern imagination she has conceived the glory and superb effect of a titled democracy; of a democracy in which, even though only men bear the badge of office their wives shall reflect and reenforce their official glories. She would rouse up the simple minded gentlemen to realize that they are not to be regarded as merely the hardworking servants of the public but as very honorable and titled dignitaries—as of magnitude in whose radiance the satellite moons may shine.

"Government of men by men, for men," according to Mrs. Woolsey, is shocking, stupid, sordid. To the dogs with it! Let us not be content with mere governmental business, let us have official social distinction. Let us have not only the Mayor, but, far more important, let us have a Mrs. Mayor. This title does not roll melodiously from the tongue, but it will do. Mr. Secretary must be complemented by Mrs. Secretary. There must be discrimination. Mme Governor should at least be "Lady," and then we reach the "Lady President."

We see the shadow of a comet. But then suppose we have not only ladies of distinction in right of their husbands but ladies of distinction in their own right! We are soon to have women on the bench and in the Mayor's, Governor's and President's chairs, you know. It is prophesied! A woman, a Judge in her own right, will permit for a moment any danger of confusion as to her inherent right to her title, so we must have still more titles to meet the growing demand.

Then Mrs. Mayor will shine with a further unveiled glory in her own title of the Lady Mayoress, while the Lady Governor shall become the Honorable Governor. And then the Lady President! How shall we express it? She must be known—let us bow the head—as her Highness the Presidentess. Shadows of more than coronets!

Think of the robes and ermine that would follow! Gilded coaches, milk white steeds, two, four, six! More and more of radiance and robes and steeds, as when the "heir of all the ages," gathers in her little hands the political powers and perquisites of the great democracy. A [illegible] thing Mrs. Woolsey of Kentucky has done for us, and we are grateful. Let her have the first title and the biggest.

MRS. WILLIAM FORSE SCOTT.

YONKERS, March 16.

UNDESIRABLE EMIGRANTS.

An Additional Means Suggested for Their Exclusion.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Much has been said and written about the Black Hand and other undesirable emigrants, but no remedy has been suggested whereby this class of undesirable persons can be prevented from entering our country. I think I can suggest a remedy.

Congress should enact a law making it compulsory for a person emigrating from a foreign country to this country to produce a certificate from the place whence he comes, duly attested by one of the highest officials of said place, where he has either resided or been domiciled, that he is a person of good character and has been self-supporting and never been convicted of a crime; and after such certificate has been given to the emigrant and presented here to the immigration commissioners or officials of the United States where he intends to or does land, the same shall be duly reaffirmed by the oath and signature of such person that the facts contained in the certificate are true, then and then only shall he or she be permitted to land.

If it is otherwise discovered or ascertained that such declaration is false, then such oath so taken by said person shall be deemed perjury under the laws of the district in which the emigrant lands or makes his residence or domicile, and he shall be prosecuted by the criminal branch of the United States District Court in the district in which he lands or makes his residence or domicile, and he shall be punished in accordance with the laws in such case made and provided.

The mere deportation of an undesirable emigrant is insufficient to check the evil results that follow by emigrants that are undesirable being permitted to land. The laws on deportation can still exist and will not be affected by the law as above suggested or a similar law that might be enacted by Congress.

Any person, whether a born or naturalized citizen or an alien, cannot find fault with a law of this character, because such a law will elevate the country from which the emigrant comes as well as elevate the emigrant himself in the community where he intends to make his residence or domicile.

This letter is not written with the aim to any particular country, because there are good and bad from every country.

H. M. GESCHEIDT.

NEW YORK, March 16.

DISCOVERY DAY.

A Plea for a Holiday in Honor of Columbus and Tim Sullivan.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Opposition to the creation of a new holiday in honor of Christopher Columbus and the discovery of America, on October 12, 1492, seems to be based on two reasons. First, personal dislike to Timothy D. Sullivan and his Italian adherents. The fact that Tim Sullivan, of whose reputation some express disgust, is the advocate of this measure in New York State, whether from political motives or otherwise, should not militate against the measure or disguise the fact that the American people have been sadly lacking in proper recognition of Christopher Columbus and the great day on which he discovered this continent.

A centenary as celebrated in 1892 with elaborate public demonstration and enormous expenditure is not enough. We do not wait a hundred years to commemorate the birth of Christ or Washington or Lincoln, or to honor those patriots who assisted at the birth of this great nation or the heroes who died for it. No, we remember them every year, and so should the day on which this continent was discovered, not for any particular class of our citizens but for all, be honored and proper tribute paid to that great character whose exploit gave occasion for every other day we celebrate.

The second reason seems to be the commercial consideration that we have holidays enough. Have we? Out of 365 days in the year we have fifty-two Sundays and ten holidays. We often hear the cry raised that Americans apply themselves too constantly to business. Well, here's an opportunity to give our tired nature a rest. From Labor Day to election day is a long stretch. Let us create a day's relaxation.

For precedents we can go to the States of Montana and Colorado, whose Legislatures and Executives have decreed Columbus Day a State holiday. The city of Chicago has set it apart as a municipal holiday and bills are now pending in California and New Jersey for a similar purpose. VINCENT F. O'REILLY.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., March 16.

House King Henry VIII. Took a Fancy To.

From the Gentlewoman.

Stanwell Place, near Stames, the home of Sir Alexander Gibbons, is curiously enough the ancestral home of Lord Plymouth's family, and the way they came to lose it is a strange story. Henry VIII. took a fancy to Stanwell and made up his mind to have it. He had a pretty way of doing things, had Henry, and one fine day he sent word to Lord Windsor that he was coming to dine with him. Every preparation was made to entertain his Majesty royally and well; but after the banquet the King informed his host that he liked Stanwell so much that he had decided to possess himself of it and gave him the grant of Bordersley Abbey in Worcestershire instead. Lord Windsor begged hard to be allowed to keep Stanwell, which had been in his family for several centuries, but it was in vain.

Plea by a Bird Lover.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There are more marabou and heron (aigrette) plumes being sold than ever before, in spite of the efforts of societies of bird lovers to prevent the slaughter of birds for their feathers.

No one these days lacks knowledge of the wanton methods that attend the procuring of these adornments for vain women. For shame! I cry to my sex. I plead for the protection of God's defenceless creatures. J. O. SAWTELLE.

NEW YORK, March 16.

Nightmare of the Taxpayer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I do not doubt that Mr. Fletcher Du Bois is right and that many flagpoles in our city are endangering the lives of those who use the streets. They ought to be inspected; but I do hope that it will not be necessary to appoint a flagstaff commissioner and deputy commissioners and inspectors.

NEW YORK, March 16. TAXPAYER.