The Sun.

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Trade With the West Indies.

In the years immediately preceding the Spanish-American war the sales of this country to the islands of the Caribbean Sea region averaged about $26,000,000 a year. Sales to the same countries last year were $95,000,000. In both cases the figures include exports to Cuba, Hayti, Santo Domingo, Porto Rico and the insular possessions of Great Britain, France, Holland and Denmark. Some allowance must of course be made for the trade disturbance caused by the revolution in Cuba during the earlier period. The trade of recent years shows explainable fluctuations, but the increase has been substantial. The records of the last five years stand: 1905, $79,341,068; 1906, $86,721,427; 1907, $98,633,745; 1908, $85,970,504; 1909, $94,788,883.

Last year's sales to the 7,000,000 or so people who inhabit those islands exceeded by 40 per cent. the sales to all the people of Asia, including the Chinese, the Japanese and the East Indians, a total population of approximately 800,000,000. On a per capita basis East India purchased about two cents worth for each of its population, China about five cents worth, Japan about 50 cents worth, while the average to the West Indians was about $13.70. The Asiatic accounts are made up in very large part of a few specialties, while shipments to the West Indies include an endless variety of articles, from chewing gum to automobiles and from boots and shoes to million dollar sugar mills.

Porto Rico bought more American merchandise last year than did either China or Japan, while the purchases of Cuba exceeded by $5,000,000 the combined purchases of China and Japan. The British East Indies, with a population of 300,000,000, took $9,700,000 worth of merchandise from the United States in 1909, while the British West Indies, with a population of less than 2,000,000, took $11,400,000 worth. Hayti bought three times as much as did Asiatic Russia. Sales to the Danish possessions, St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John, with a total area of 138 square miles, mere spots in the sea, with a total population barely exceeding 30,000, were over $700,000, while direct shipments to Corea, with an estimated area of 82,000 square miles and a population of more than 10,000,000, were valued at $490,000.

On the other side of our account with these 7,000,000 islanders stand our purchases of $150,000,000 worth of their products needed in our business.

An Insurrection in Monaco.

Constitutional reform is in the air. The sacrosanct traditions of the British Constitution are upset and a metamorphosed parliament is promised; China has instituted legislative assemblies, and only Prussia holds to a rococo system. It is but natural that the wideawake citizens of Monaco, with the cosmopolitan crowd at Monte Carlo always before their eyes, should chafe at feudal restrictions and demand a constitution. They are likely to get it, for they have attacked Prince ALBERT's most sensitive point, his love for oceanography.

In an age of bacteriological research nothing that is microscopic can be deemed unimportant, and it may be that in Monaco the constitutional microbe may be studied better than in larger bodies. Small as the principality is, the statements regarding its size are strangely divergent. It lost its larger part to France half a century ago; when Italy paid Savoy and Nice as the price for French help in the war against Austria the Prince of Monaco gave up Mentone and Roquebrune. The part left to him, according to the "Almanach de Gotha," contains one and a half square kilometers, less than a mile square, the "Statesman's Year Book" makes it eight square miles, "Whitaker's Almanack" three miles by one and a half, and the trusty "Baedeker" gives it an area of five square miles and a quarter, as the product of dimensions of two and a quarter miles in length by from 150 to 1,100 yards in width. Whichever of these is accepted, the magnitude of Monaco is not excessive. The population is less than 20,000.

The place is of great antiquity, for HERCULES stopped there on his travels. From the tenth Christian century to the eighteenth it was the private possession of the Grimaldi family of Genoa. Then it passed on through a daughter to the GOYON DE MATIGNONS, who still rule under the Grimaldi name. The rule is an absolute monarchy, the Prince regarding the principality as his private property, though both he and his subjects are dependent for income and livelihood, and in other matters too, on the main industry of Monaco, the gambling house at Monte Carlo.

The Prince has hitherto appointed the Mayor and the councillors for the town of Monaco himself. What rights the Monacans ask for in a new constitution the cable refrains from telling; probably they wish to elect their own town officers, since if financial relief is called for it is to the Casino rather than to the Prince that they would apply. They go so far as to threaten that they will make a row when the new Museum of Oceanography is opened, that monument to Prince ALBERT's scientific investigations and to the prosperity of the Monte Carlo establishment which provides the money. It is a microscopic row only that Monaco can get up, and a few imported French gendarmes could quell it, but the demand itself is so small that the Prince, rather than have any trouble, will probably grant it. If plots were still used in comic opera there is one here; VICTORIEN SARDOU, however, in "Rabagas" anticipated the Monaco revolution by thirty years, so that the libretto is ready.

The Art of Being a Juror.

Difficulty attends the trial by one's peers. If the peer is capable of weighing evidence and is such as would "true deliverance make" he is too often eager to avoid the annoyance of jury duty. Many are exempt by the law, more are exempt by the facile complaisance of the law's administrators.

Even when the panel is drawn the litigant or the accused is by no means sure that the twelve will be his peers. Panel after panel is exhausted in the voir dire, and in almost every case of note venire must succeed venire before the jury box is filled.

When all the preliminary obstacles have been overcome, when the twelve good men and true have been put upon their oath, not even then is trial by jury all that it should be. Sometimes the juror does not know how to be a juror; he seems lacking in the sense of what his duties are, utterly without comprehension of the dignity of this solemn function as a citizen.

Twice in this week the course of justice has been halted in Supreme Courts of this vicinity and a mistrial declared by reason of the misconduct of a juror. In one case a juror had discussed a case with the representative of the plaintiff, expressed an opinion on the case so far as presented, and declared his intention when the case should be submitted to the jury. Searching examination by the Court made it clear that the juror was innocent of evil intent, it was simply that he did not know how to be a juror.

In the other case, on the same day but in another county, the Judge halted the case when he observed a juror smiling at counsel for the plaintiff in a suit to recover damages for injury. Here again it was established that the juror's act was not of wrong purpose, he also did not know how to be a juror.

These are but two instances; mistrials chargeable to the ignorance of jurors are far more frequent than they should be. These are cases which come to light before the cause has been given to the jury for its determination. What sins of ignorance are committed when the jury retires for the consideration of its verdict it is impossible to reckon; they must be many.

Yet the instructions to the jury are very direct, very straightforward; they should be comprehensible to a very ordinary intelligence. Such evidence that plain language often fails to be plain to the average juror may be thought to lend some weight to the common opinion that innocence is safe with the Judge, while guilt prefers the jury.

The War on Lagnappe.

News of grim, red handed war comes to us from New Orleans, where the retail grocers, backed we suppose by the moral influence of the druggists, the marketmen, &c., are about to appeal to the Legislature for a law prohibiting lagnappe and making its practice a misdemeanor. Lagnappe is a picturesque survival, the bestowal upon small purchasers of trivial donations, regulated by the size of the transaction, of gumdrops, candy and the like. They have tried to fight it by combination and mutual agreement, but have failed. Some of them would not "tote fair." The institution is more than a hundred years old, and it dies hard, so after the modern fashion of running to the Government on every trivial provocation the grocers are about to ask the Legislature to protect them against a custom of a century and a half's standing, of inconsiderable importance in itself and so easily "evened up" in practice as to make it negligible.

It seems to us that New Orleans might better devote itself to more serious affairs; for example, to its grave losses in the cotton exportation trade, brought about by the tyrannical extortions of the labor unions, especially the longshoremen and the "screwmen," against which neither the energies of the Progressive Union nor the ingenuities of the entire business public have prevailed. Innumerable thousands of bales of cotton which by logic or convenience would go to New Orleans for transfer and shipment abroad are annually diverted to Savannah, to Galveston, to Norfolk, and all because these labor unions have made the port intolerably expensive and subjected the traffic to equally intolerable restrictions; and it is in this town, strangled by gigantic labor corporations and losing its cotton commerce every year, that we hear a clamorous Macedonian appeal to the Legislature for help against a trumpery observance that has lasted a hundred and fifty years without harming anybody and that expresses itself in the bestowal of a stick of candy, a dozen gumdrops, a pinch of shrimps, a carrot or an onion.

New Orleans, under the advance of so-called civilization, is gradually losing all its ancient graces. Even the old city, walled and ditched as it once was, is disappearing beneath the Boeotian touch. No longer is the summons of the *hazard à la fourchette* heard upon the river's brink. The venders of the gigi and the calla cakes have practically disappeared. "MOREAU'S" is now a department store, the old time blanchisseuses have given way to modern washerwomen, BEGUÉ'S is turned into a quick lunch beer saloon, and while some admirable eating houses still survive, the ancient lingering charm is vanished and sanded floors and humble tableware and celestial cookery withal are on their last legs or thereabouts.

Just as well, perhaps, that lagnappe should go the way of other time honored habits, though exactly how we cannot say. Statutes are good things, however, in these piping times. Why not invoke them also against toothache or warts?

The Peril of the Grand Young Man.

In spite of all the patronage Mr. TAFT has bestowed on the Grand Young Man, "the trusts, the standpatters and all the interests represented by Cannonism and Aldrichism mean to crush Senator BEVERIDGE in the coming campaign in Indiana." Such is the jeremiad of Mr. LUCIUS B. SWIFT, who recently achieved fame by taking the President to task for the company he keeps and received a reply that shocked him. The correspondence has not been published, for reasons best known to Mr. SWIFT, but the scandalous fact has leaked out that the President did not agree with his mentor about the public services of Senator ALDRICH and the Speaker.

Mr. SWIFT declares that nothing but "an uprising of the people" can save Mr. BEVERIDGE. "With such an uprising," writes the man who sought to save Mr. TAFT himself, "we shall gain a victory that will be heard around the world." This sample of Mr. SWIFT'S epistolary skill convinces us that the President's retort was probably not severe enough. The Hon. ALBERT J. BEVERIDGE may distribute his postmasterships where they will do the most good—the President has been very liberal with him—and yet quake with apprehension about the result of the fall elections. The Senator himself has alienated many Republican voters in Indiana, and the Democracy is flushed with a great victory and has only to walk straight to command success again. In the Legislature of 1909 the Democrats had a majority of 20 on joint ballot, and in the Presidential year they elected their candidate for Governor, THOMAS R. MARSHALL, and all their candidates for Congress but three. As Governor MARSHALL has lost none of his personal popularity and has given the State a satisfactory administration the party is in high feather and confident of carrying the Legislature again.

The Grand Young Man is really something of a white elephant to his party in Indiana. He may exhibit his patronage as proof of his standing with the Administration, but the Republican platform must applaud him for voting against the Payne tariff bill or sustain Mr. TAFT'S view that it is a creditable piece of legislation or straddle. Whatever the selection shall be, the party will be on the defensive during the campaign, and if the Grand Young Man explains his vote he cannot fail to give aid and comfort to the enemy and irritate Republicans who agree with Mr. TAFT about the Payne law.

If there is "an uprising of the people" in Indiana next November it may turn out to be against the Grand Young Man himself, who manifestly is playing "both ends against the middle."

Jewish Removal.

According to the ninth annual report of the Jewish Removal Office, the number of persons sent away from this city, 3,504 in the twelvemonth, was smaller by 1,500 than the corresponding number for 1908. This falling off is attributed to the industrial depression, which forced many cities in which agencies had been maintained to suspend their cooperation. The improvement in the industrial situation in the latter part of 1909 was reflected in the activities of the office, and in December more persons were removed from New York than in any other month of the year.

The lack of opportunities in the communities to which the office had looked hitherto for outlets for the objects of its efforts may not have been entirely without good results, for it led to the extension of its work over the larger cities of the Pacific coast. Owing to the predominance of agricultural interests on the Pacific coast, this region did not suffer from the panic of 1907 as severely as did other parts of the country, and the necessity of including it in the scope of the office has brought about a systematic cooperation likely to prove highly valuable in the future. REUBEN ARKUSH, chairman of the Removal Office, speaks with particular gratification of the fact that while the task of its committees was made doubly difficult by reason of the practically exclusive demand for highly skilled workers, with but few exceptions the selections made answered the requirements.

Since 1901 the Removal Office has sent 45,711 persons to communities outside of New York, and while no statistics are given to show how many of these remained away from this city, the fact that the work is kept up indicates that the transplanting process results in success in a proportion of cases sufficiently large to make it worth while. A table showing the nationalities of those transferred to other cities last year is not without interest:

Russian	2,608	Turkish	4
Austrian	323	Scotch	1
Rumanian	281	Dutch	1
Hungarian	241	Persian	1
American	37	French	1
English	24	Egyptian	1
German	11	Total	3,504

The overwhelming preponderance of transferred Jews of Russian birth is due to the enormous immigration from the Czar's dominion. There was a decided increase in the number of Jews arriving here in 1909 over 1908, the figures being 61,145 as against 45,172. These figures can give small comfort to the Zionists, and substantiate the assertions of many far sighted Jews that America is the land of the future for their people.

Accurate as ever, and full of inspired knowledge, the Hon. JOSEPH W. FOLK bursts once more upon our sight, instructing us as to the sources of evil in American city government and generously pointing the way to better things. "The best plan that has been devised thus far is the commission form of government," he writes, with a finality that must convince. No one would dare to question this impressive outgiving. Is there any person so lost to all respect for one of our leading Chautauquans as to ask whether he is right in saying:

"In the four largest cities of America one can count on the fingers of one hand the business men who habitually take an active part in the management of party machinery."

We have no intention of suggesting that Mr. FOLK has been guilty of an understatement. Rather we love to believe that his "one" lives in a glorious land in which the inhabitants are more gifted in the matter of fingers than are the unfortunate human beings with whom we have acquaintance. Thus we are able to retain our complete confidence in Mr. FOLK and at the same time to reconcile his statistics with the common facts of political experience.

CITY GOVERNMENTS.

A Progressive Increase of Cost Everywhere Until 1907.

The special annual report of the United States Census Bureau for 1907 on the statistics of 158 of the largest cities, which is in press, shows that the per capita running expenses of the government in 148 of the largest cities increased from $13.36 in 1902 to $15.91 in 1907. There has been a progressive increase in nearly every department of the government. The per capita increase in the fire departments was from $1.33 to $1.61, in the health departments from 22 cents to $1.29, in charities and correction from 86 cents to $1.06, and in education from $3.85 to $4.70.

Of special interest in a comparison of the general expenses of the cities are payments for the maintenance of the health department. In several cities the State maintains a dispensary, or health bureau, but in most cities nearly all the expense of the care of the public health is borne by the city alone. New York paid $1,691,560 for the maintenance of its health department, or more than six times as much as any other city. The other cities paying more than $200,000 for the maintenance of this department were Chicago, $261,614, Philadelphia, $253,709, and San Francisco, $240,198.

Cities of over 300,000 population with notably small payments for their health departments were: Detroit, $32,987; Milwaukee, $40,417, and Buffalo, $44,358. In the smaller cities the large expenditures of Los Angeles and Oakland, California, reflect payments for the suppression of the bubonic plague.

The payments for schools, libraries and art galleries of the cities considered were 29.6 per cent. of the total running expenses of the government. Of the cities of over 300,000 population the percentage spent for education was highest in Cleveland, Ohio (35.1), in cities of from 100,000 to 300,000 population the highest percentages were in Scranton, Pa. (51.5), and Seattle, Wash. (46.2); in cities of from 50,000 to 100,000 population, in Salt Lake City (48.2), and Des Moines, Iowa (46.3), and in the smaller cities, in Topeka, Kan. (54.5), and Lincoln, Neb. (53.5). Payments for outlays are not included in the above computations.

CIVIL PENSIONS AGAIN.

Social and Moral Obligations of the State.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have read with interest "R.'s" letter on "Civil Pensions" in THE SUN in reply to mine on the same subject. He concedes that "no financial obligation exists" on the part of the Government toward its superannuated civil employees, but declares that an obligation does exist which "is moral or social and not legal in its nature."

Now, if the Government has discharged all its "financial" and "legal" obligations toward those employees, what "social" or "moral" obligations can be predicated in their case that could not with equal validity be predicated in that of any other "actually needy" superannuated worker?

Nothing is known, however, of the "social" or "moral" obligations of which "R." speaks, except that they are not "financial" or "legal", but it is only to satisfy "financial" and "legal" obligations contracted in the necessary exercise of governmental functions that a government has the moral right to levy and collect taxes, and, precedent notwithstanding, taxes levied and collected for any other purpose, unless each individual taxpayer had consented thereto, would in the last analysis operate to deprive an objecting payer of his property without due process of law and would be not only immoral but unconstitutional.

If it is objected that the Government for the care of the sick and indigent levies taxes on those who will derive no immediate personal benefit from their expenditure, the answer is that while as a matter of fact many—the great majority—are not beneficiaries of these benevolences, it is recognized that every one who contributes to their support has an exact and equal claim on their bounty with every other contributor to their maintenance, and may, under the prescribed conditions, assert it.

To sum up, no tax is morally defensible that does not return at least an approximate equivalent to every person from whom it is collected.

Of course I by no means assert that military pensions are indefensible, or any others for that matter. The element of defensibility depends in each case upon the essential circumstances of that case.

TAXPAYER.

NEW YORK, March 7.

Horses.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There are well authenticated cases of horses standing by their fallen masters or searching for them after battles; they have been known to save drowning people, and so on, but conscious or self-conscious heroism in a horse is too big a dose, even for a person who disagrees with John Burroughs and his august friend and patron. It is well known that a horse will not step on a fallen man if he can avoid it, but this is out of regard for his footing, not for the man.

When a horse is killed on a run to a fire he is sometimes the victim of bad driving, but more frequently a sacrifice to the criminal carelessness of drivers or pedestrians who deliberately disregard the rules of the road and the rights of the Fire Department. If the department or the city or the S. P. C. A. would take up such cases and prosecute, and the Magistrates, backed up by public opinion, would inflict a few exemplary sentences, more good would be done than by sentimentalizing over equine heroes. I am sure that the "veteran fireman" quoted in THE SUN this morning would agree with me.

J. B.

NEW YORK, March 7.

In the Jerseys.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The criticism of your Bayonne correspondent as published in last Sunday's SUN is strictly in order. The charge as to the change of name in the *Jersey City Evening Journal*, owing to one of those inscrutable mysteries of journalism incomprehensible to the lay mind, is true, but we do not all glory in its truth. When the same *Jersey Journal* was first advertised some people thought it a hoax. Since then it has proved an unpleasant reality.

Thanks to the Bayonne man for "voicing" this protest. Possibly if other cities would intimate that the vague use of the name "Jersey" suggests, although elusively, an encroachment on territory outside of Jersey City, good results might follow.

While change is all right when it means progress, sometimes old things are best.

JERSEY CITY, March 7. NEW JERSEYITE.

What Does This Mean?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In Richmond to-day I observed the following signs on a building:

WOMAN'S EQUAL SUFFRAGE LEAGUE

and just below it:

ANTIQUES IN THE ROUGH.

RICHMOND, Va., March 7. C. F. S.

A Lay to the Hen.

From the Somerville Journal.

I sing the hen, that noble bird
With shiny yellow legs,
Who, when she feeleth so disposed
Supplieth us with eggs,
Whose gentle, soothing "Cutter-cuaw!"
Cheers up our spirits some,
Since we're reminded by the sound
That gentle spring has come.

I sing the hen! The Plymouth Rock,
Rhode Island or Shanghai,
Or any other brand men think
The only kind to buy.
Long may she "Cuo-co-dah-cut"
In the good old fashioned way,
And may this little lay to her
Inspire her to lay.

AROUND THE GALLERIES.

It's like a three ring circus now at the American Art Galleries in south Madison Square this week. Mr. Kirby will have his hands full. He has to dispose of the collections of the late James S. Inglis, Frederick C. Hewitt and Justice Charles H. Truax. There are many excellent pictures in these groupings, though some of the attributions are startling; this applies to pictures of the early English school and several of the Italian and Dutch masters. Nevertheless, those examples that can be reasonably challenged are works of great merit and close enough to originals to be worthy of a welcome in any "gentleman's collection." With the moderns it is another thing: Corot, Rousseau, Daubigny, Dupré of the so-called Barbizon school are present; and Monticelli, Georges Michel, Courbet, Isabey, Alfred Stevens, Diaz, all of fine quality, down to such latter day painters as Sisley and Degas—the latter represented by a pastel which for science, solidity, power and brilliancy kills every picture in its vicinity. The subject is just the sort that will not appeal to your confirmed frequenter of picture auctions. The silvery silences of Corot, the rugged sincerity of Rousseau, the mellow temper of Daubigny, the placid ducks of Dupré—these are the immortal Johnnies (if we may be permitted to use London studio slang) that sell like hot cakes. But who can tell? A Raffaelli at a recent sale in these galleries fetched a fair price and is now in the collection of a man of taste. So the lady who has just finished her bath and is prosaically drying herself may do well even if she is only a pastel and by Edgar Degas.

You may consume an entire day under Mr. Kirby's rooftree, for there is a lot to see. The late Mr. Inglis succeeded the late Mr. Cottier, who founded Cottier's galleries, now on East Fortieth street. Any one who had the pleasure of knowing these men knew that they were experts to their finger tips, men of taste as well. The exuberant and magnetic Cottier was among the first dealers in America to bring over modern Frenchmen. He knew most of the Barbizons personally and wandered in southern France with Monticelli. When he imported the early Monticellis they were looked upon as a joke. Yes, very sumptuous in color, but not compositions; merely designs for "tapestries"! Diaz was the rage. His essentially commonplace imagination and conventional composition were forgotten in the swelter of his rich hues. To-day we know better, know that Monticelli is a magician; also that there are Monticellis and Monticellis and that the pictures of his third or Marseilles period are often mere smudges, but emotional ever. He had genius, this unfortunate, until the little green fairy Absinthe came into his glass and made his hand to fumble and of his marvellous vision an incandescent blur. Study the "Garden of Love" (No. 96), with its strange revellers in gorgeous habiliments, listening, we may fancy, to the whispering suggestion of the *Amorini*. And the "Autumn," a landscape aflame. Here is genius for you, yet rapidly running to seed. It is all too luscious for the mental palate, and as Henley said of Whistler's "Ten O'Clock," it causes an indigestion of strawberries, though a feast for the high gods. You turn finally to the honest and savant Georges Michel, to his "Sand Hills" (No. 106), and let your eye linger on the structural quality of the composition. Not that Monticelli did not know how to draw; we had seen works of his (notably in the Mesdag Museum at The Hague) which dealt with the gaunt, bare ribs of old Mother Earth, evading no problem, balking at no ugly fact. Yet Michel is cooler, saner, if not as sweet.

Corot's "Danse des Amours" holds the place of honor in this salon. When it hung in the Cottier gallery we described it in these columns. Formerly known as the Dana Corot, it found its way into the possession of Mr. Inglis. A large canvas, eminently decorative, for despite the splendid luminous sky the composition lacks the intimate Corot we have encountered in smaller canvases. Stately it is, and altogether "important."

Let us make a hasty survey of this collection. It is wide enough in range, alphabetically at least, to begin with Arango and end with J. Alden Weir. There are sheep by Rosa Bonheur, gracefully generalized when compared to the more precise portrayments of the gifted Mauve; striped bass by our doughty countryman Chase, a still life once exhibited in the Montross gallery; a forest interior by Courbet, not a remarkable specimen, though the paws of the lion may be seen; Daubigny's "Open Sea," an unusual Daubigny in theme and treatment, though tame water. Homer, Dougherty, Waugh—these three Americans could have told the amiable Frenchman something about the perturbed sea. But Daubigny was essentially a river god, to whom large surfaces and spaces did not appeal; he had the comfortable genius of his nation. The Rousseau is especially interesting and is the sketch for a landscape.

In the Mesdag gallery are a number of *frottis*, painted in preparation for a projected composition and by celebrated painters. The value of these sketches to the student is great; in them he may trace the evolution of an art work. The four big Delacroixs, allegories of the season, hung for years in the Cottier galleries. They are suitable for a museum. A landscape by Dupré and Fragonard's "La Ferme" are excellent; the Frago is characteristic in color and composition. Harpignies has two pictures, Isabey one, "The Morgue," a Parisian episode. Jongkind's "Honfleur" and a number of Lessor water colors attract. A curious canvas is "The Horsemen" and is the joint work of Monticelli and Mathew Marsi (otherwise Matthys). These two painters were friends. Both Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Meedag are represented; so is Joseph Neuhuys. Raeburn's portrait of a lady is as pretty as Theodule Ribot's "Mandolin Player" is strong. A good Ribot is rare nowadays. His note is almost as Spanish as Ribera's. There are four finished Diazes and one sketch. Albert P. Ryder is always worth studying. The Stevens, Alfred of Belgium, is a charming example of his artificial but exquisite art. A lady sits awaiting her carriage. She is elaborately gowned, and this gown is wonderfully painted. No hint of the fair one's psychology; surfaces, not soul states, were the chief concern of Stevens. A modish picture still, though painted many years ago.

The Twachtmans, water colors and oil, are interesting and hold their own. We pass the Van der Meer water color Dutch landscape and stop to admire a still life by Weir, closely observed, broadly brushed. It is not necessary to dwell upon the merits of the two other collections. Among the Truax pictures are a Claude Lorraine and a fine Mauve, also three larger Daubignys. In the Hewitt section, besides many objects of art, tapestries, et cetera, is a Corot, a well painted figure of a girl with a mandolin. The remainder of this collection has been, with the Truax collection, already described in THE SUN. The Inglis pictures are to be sold Wednesday and Thursday evenings of this week. The others Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons and Friday evening. The first night's sale of the Inglis collection is to take place at the American Art Galleries, and on Thursday night at Mendelssohn Hall.

IN A NUTMEG TOWN.

Some Remarks on Railroads, Legislation and Real Estate.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I live in a little town in Connecticut not far from Bridgeport. The people of our town can get to Bridgeport by the New Haven road or by trolley. The trolley is mighty convenient because we can go every twenty minutes, while the other way we can go every four or five hours.

In the wilds back of us is an ancient settlement which is four miles from any steel mode of transit. The isolated and lonely people of that town must travel to Bridgeport or to our trolley by horse conveyance, automobile or walking. They envy us, and they covet and yearn for our trolley. So I thought I would try to find a means of providing one for them.

I went up there armed with credentials from a first class New York banking house which was willing to risk a large part of the cost of the undertaking, with a subscription list to the stock of a company to be formed to provide them with the means of access to and from their benighted town. They were unanimous in favor of the project and cock sure of its tremendous success, but not a single Tom-Harry of the natives was willing to take a chance on its building.

So we built it ourselves, taking all the chances, and charged a ten cent fare for using it. The road made money.

Now the people of the town it is serving and to whom it is a boon of inestimable value and convenience are asking the Legislature for a bill reducing the fare to five cents with privilege of transfer from our town through to Bridgeport because, they argue, we are making money and are holding a public franchise.

I bought a house once for $5,000. When I bought it it was renting for $500. A little later I got $600 a year for it. Now I am getting $1,000 for it. I have not added a brick to it; the area of ground is unchanged. It is just exactly as it was when I bought it. Nobody is going to the Legislature asking for the passage of a bill forcing me to reduce my price for the rent of this house.

Therefore, it seems that if I take a wild gamble on building a railroad, which the community it serves craves but refuses to take a risk on, I am robbing the public if I take a profit out of it, but in other directions I can realize on my ventures to their extremest capacity without exciting notice, comment, ill will or envy.

United we fall; divided we stand.

FAIRFIELD, Conn., March 8. C. C.

NUMBER OF SALOONS DECREASING

Complete Liquor License Statistics in Census Bureau's Report.

There was in 1907 a decrease of 6 per cent. in the number of saloons throughout the country, according to the United States Census Bureau's forthcoming report on the statistics of the 158 largest cities, which had a population of over 30,000 each that year.

The report, prepared by chief of division E. H. Maling, contains complete statistics of the number of liquor licenses in force at the close of the license year of the cities and the number of inhabitants to each dealer selling liquor by the drink.

More than one-fourth of such dealers in the 158 cities were reported from New York and Chicago; the cities of over 300,000 population with the smallest number of saloons were Washington, 521, and Pittsburg, 181. In the cities of this class the largest number of saloons in proportion to the population were in Milwaukee and New Orleans, where in the former there was one dealer selling liquor by the drink to every 142 inhabitants, and in the latter to every 200 inhabitants. The number of inhabitants to every dealer in Philadelphia was 761, and in Boston 738. The other cities having less than 200,000 inhabitants to each dealer were: Galveston, 134; East St. Louis, 143; Mobile, 153; Houston, 158; Hoboken, 183; Sacramento, Cal., 188; San Antonio, 179; La Crosse, Wis., 183; Springfield, Ill., 188, and West Hoboken, 191.

The smallest number of saloons in proportion to the population is shown for the cities of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, and the largest for those of Texas, Ohio and Wisconsin.

In comparing the number of retail liquor dealers in 141 cities reporting for both 1907 and 1905 it is shown that there was a decrease of 6 per cent. in the number of saloons in 1907. The decrease was general in nearly every part of the country, except Rocky Mountain and Southwestern States.

CHANGES AT MOUNT VESUVIUS.

Encroachment on Observatory Studies of Lava.

Rome correspondence Pall Mall Gazette.

Frank Perret, who went through the last great eruption of Vesuvius at the observatory with the director, Prof. Matteucci, being quite surrounded by the fresh lava, has just brought out a most interesting pamphlet about the volcano and its phases.

He says that the encroachment of the new Vesuvius, formed by successive eruptions on the old, where the observatory stands, is very visible. Comparatively little now remains of that oasis in a wilderness of lava, and he thinks that two more eruptive periods, say within sixty years, will efface it altogether.

The last eruption not only changed the shape of the mouth of the crater but the interior also. Before it might have been likened to a funnel, while downslips have altered it to more nearly resemble a cup. The average height of the inside walls is about 125 feet and the width 312 feet.

The study of the lavas Mr. Perret finds most interesting and instructive. Those of 1881-83, 1885-86, although too much cooled for research, are, wonderful to say, still warm, while those of 1891-94, 1895-99, ten years afterward, were so hot that they charred a stick in Mr. Perret's hand which he had stuck into a crevice. The lava of 1905-08 has cooled very slowly, so that two years later Signor Mercalli found that it fused lead wires but not zinc, indicating a temperature of between 326 degrees and 412 degrees centigrade, and on September 3, 1908, it was 140 degrees, and in July, 1909, it had fallen to 65 degrees centigrade. Another stream of greater depth of the same eruption at the same date had a temperature of 175 degrees centigrade.

Down With the Duel.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* One of the chief glories of England and America is that they have abolished the duel—the cowardly, brutal, foolish duel. When will they abolish it on the Continent? Hard to say. I noticed in THE SUN of to-day that a certain Italian Deputy had half a dozen or more challenges on his hands. Could anything be more absurd?

Calling a man out, as the phrase is, is no evidence of courage. It simply has to be done under certain cast iron conventions, and often the coward or the offender will send the brave man or the offended to his death. England and America saw this and they abolished the duel. By doing so they showed themselves at once brave and sensible, and woe betide the Continental nation that calls either of them out.

NEW YORK, March 7. STRIKER.

Mr. Bean of Arkansas.

From the Huntington Herald.

Billow Bean was a business visitor to Booneville one day last week.

Abusing the Baby.

The baby wept with bitter tears
That pierced my heart to see,
And loud it cried until I asked:
"What might the matter be?"
It stopped its wail to answer me,
"My ma has gone to Albany."

"Oh, wicked woman," I replied,
"Away from you to flee,
Deserting you in helplessness
To make a suffrage plea!
The Babe and Home are Heaven's key,
And not the halls of Albany."

At this the child but louder bawled.
Then woful answered she:
"My ma's an anti-suffragist,
I like her gall, b'gee!
It is to keep the vote from me
That ma has gone to Albany!"

MCLANDBURGH WILSON.

NICARAGUA'S NEXT MOVE.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The Estrada revolution in Nicaragua is in a very feeble condition, if it has not actually collapsed. Although it was of independent inception there can be no doubt that the special force and the prolongation of the movement are properly attributable to the moral support extended last December by the State Department in Washington. In his letter of December 1 to the Nicaraguan Chargé d'Affaires Secretary Knox tentatively indorsed the Estrada rebellion by this declaration:

The Government of the United States is convinced that the revolution represents the ideals and the will of a majority of the Nicaraguan people more faithfully than does the Government of President Zelaya, and that its peaceable control is well nigh as extensive as that hitherto so sternly attempted by the Government at Managua.

A more direct recognition of the revolutionary movement appears in the same communication, where the purpose of the United States is said to be:

To hold strictly accountable for the protection of American life and property the factions de facto in control of the eastern and western portions of the Republic of Nicaragua.

Two weeks later Zelaya, the offensive and abhorred, resigned and prepared for his departure. Madriz became President. Encouraged by the moral support accorded by the Washington authorities the Estradistas advanced toward Managua and in several conflicts defeated the forces sent to oppose them. During a struggle that has lasted for more than four months several thousand men have been killed, other thousands have been wounded and crippled, and much property has been destroyed.

Of late little has been heard of the valiant Estrada, to whom the Washington indorsement was given, and much has been heard about the gallant and dashing Chamorro, who had he entered Managua in triumph would in all probability have declared himself provisional President while the disappointed Mr. Estrada wept and issued noticias and pronunciamientos regarding the high handed theft of his personal rights. Chamorro's failure probably puts him out of the game, and Estrada will probably be the man in the limelight in the next act of the fading revolution. Secession and the creation of a new republic in the eastern part of the country is suggested. If that step is taken recognition of the new "nation" should be flatly refused. Five Central American republics are quite enough. With such a precedent there might soon be twenty engaged in hopeless wrangling and in efforts to obtain "foreign loans." Another suggestion is the maintenance of a guerrilla war. Nothing could be worse for the country. If Estrada and his associates have a shred of patriotism and a single grain of common sense they will denounce any scheme so foolish, so wasteful and so fruitless.

The one obviously wise course for the Nicaraguans to-day is to accept conditions as they are and endeavor to improve them. Whether he is rightly to be regarded as constitutional President or merely as a provisional President, José Madriz now holds the post of Chief Executive. He has his personal enemies and his political opponents, his supporters and his detractors, just as would Estrada, Chamorro, Irias or any other who might hold the position. If there is a leader who can reconcile the many factions, who would command the loyal support of all, he is the most remarkable "dark horse" in political history. The next regular Presidential term begins on January 1, 1912. Pending the election of next year the Nicaraguans may well employ themselves in economic, financial and political preparation, and that work can be done under the leadership of Mr. Madriz. At least he can have a fair trial as the head of the nation. Zelaya is in exile, Chamorro has been defeated, and the Estrada revolution has evidently failed. The Nicaraguans cannot do better than to cooperate heartily with Madriz in the restoration of the country. The reported scheme of maintaining a guerrilla war for the definite purpose of compelling the intervention of the United States is emphatically offensive.

Broke Down in Maiden Speeches.

From the London Chronicle.

Of the many members of Parliament who have broken down in their maiden speeches there is no more distressing instance than that of Gibson Craig in 1837, thus graphically described by Disraeli: "Gibson Craig, of whom the Whigs had hopes, rose, stared like a stuck pig, and said nothing. His friends cheered, he stammered, all cheered; then there was a dead and awful pause, and then he sat down, and that was his performance."

Another breakdown in a maiden speech was by a happy thought turned into a success. This was by Lord Ashley, who was a stanch supporter of a bill to grant the services of counsel to prisoners indicted for high treason, but when he rose to make his maiden speech he found himself devoid of language. The House cheered encouragement. At last he managed to blurt out: "If Mr. Speaker, sir, I, who now rise only to give my opinion on the bill, am so confounded that I am unable to express what I proposed to say, what must be the condition of that man who without any assistance is pleading for his life and is apprehensive of being deprived of it?" The elaborate speech he had prepared would have been less effective.

Mr. Dugmore's Photographs.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN of March 5 in a notice on Mr. A. Radclyffe Dugmore's "Camera Adventures in African Wilds," which we have recently published, you state that Mr. Dugmore's photographs seem to have been "touched up." We cannot overemphasize the denial of this assertion, for not a single photograph of Mr. Dugmore's has been "doctored" in the slightest degree.

Mr. Dugmore, you will bear in mind, is in no sense a hunter, but a photographing naturalist, while Dr. Schillig, to whose photographs you allude, is primarily a hunter, and many of his photographs are automatic flashes set off by the animals themselves. DOUBLEDAY, PAGE & CO.

NEW YORK, March 7.

The Barn Gallon.

From the Farm and Home.

The old form of milk measure—