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The Raid on the Prosperity of New England.

We invite the attention of those statesmen at Washington who are trying to skin the great transportation systems by means of the Panama Canal bill to the extract, reprinted on this page, from an editorial article of a sober and responsible Democratic journal, the Hartford *Times*.

Of course we cannot for a moment believe that the most illustrious honorary railway manager in the United States is engaged, if he is engaged, from any other than the noblest impulses of amelioration in the task attributed to him by our Hartford contemporary of putting a hook in the jaw of that leviathan monopoly the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company. Even if he wants to do ill to it, it is that good may come to somebody else and that the reign of economic virtue may be hastened on its sacred way.

But are there coarser natures that are seeking by a provision in that farrago of fraud the Panama Canal bill to cripple the chief railroad system of New England?

Will Mr. TAFT, of ancient New England descent and a graduate of her second oldest college, ever be brought to approve "the wickedest raid on the prosperity" of the New England States "that has ever been attempted"?

Vacation Diseases and Their Prevention.

The recognition of the fact that certain diseases are incident to certain occupations under the name of industrial diseases has been fruitful in their prevention and abolition. That certain maladies are incident also to the antithesis of occupation is not appreciated. We would call attention to these diseases with the view of preventing the distress which so often mars the happy vacation days. The most frequent of these ailments are malaria and intestinal troubles.

Malaria has long been the bugaboo of city folk who are sojourning in the country. One often hears: "I contracted malaria during my vacation and I can't get rid of it." It is not realized that malaria means bad air and is not a disease, and that not a tithe of such cases are really malarial affections. The latter are easily cured by a competent physician, who makes a blood test before beginning treatment. We are, however, concerned with the prevention. The vacationist must insist on his doors and windows being protected by screens. He must occasionally examine the premises around his hotel or boarding place for stagnant water. The latter may be found not only in pools and gutters, but in empty tin cans and broken crockery and glassware, buckets, basins, &c. The breeding places of mosquitoes, which are usually the source of infection, must be removed, and this is best done by personal effort if one would enjoy the vacation.

Intestinal diseases incident to vacation days are too often misunderstood by patient and physician alike. Much is heard of ptomaine poisoning. The truth is that the latter is so rare and obscure that most text books ignore it altogether or describe its causes vaguely. Young people indulge in tennis or dancing; they become overheated. What more natural than the resort to cold water and, what is more harmful, draughts of cool air? A business man returning from the steaming city seizes the coolest spot on the boat or near an open car window, probably falling asleep. Later he takes a dip in the surf or, divested of superfluous clothing, courts sleep on the veranda, fanned by cooling breezes. Suddenly after a bountiful meal he complains of nausea and pain; surely the dinner has disagreed, the meat was spoiled, the clams were canned, the lobsters stale or the vegetables not fresh, &c. What else can spoil his excellent digestion but spoiled food? It does not occur to him that exposure to heat destroys bacteria nor that he has eaten the same food day after day without ill effects.

Week end visitors are the most frequent sufferers from the gastro-intestinal troubles, because they are intent upon enjoying the cool breezes to the full extent, exposing themselves heedlessly when heated, under the impression that salt air is not injurious. Food is rarely the cause of these troubles. They are mostly due to a sudden congestion of the mucous membrane of the digestive tract, just as in winter the same cause produces congestion of the nasal tract. In the latter there is produced an abundant flow of thin mucus, which is easily emitted; in the former the quantity of fluid is enormous by reason of the extensive area affected. Even the lay mind may grasp the situation. The excessive secretion is confined within the stomach and intestines until it irritates them, resulting in pain and other serious manifestations which are too often charged to ptomaine poisoning.

The cause being recognized, prevention is not difficult. Draughts of cool air must be shunned when one is overheated; uncooked food should be closely scrutinized, also plates, which sometimes display the remnants of imperfect dish washing, a neglected but easily removed source of infection.

Recently it has been claimed that Paris green, which is often used as an insecticide, may produce the worst symptoms of ptomaine poisoning. One more caution may be useful. Avoid patent cholera mixtures and shun the doctor who prescribes proprietary medicines, especially those bearing the manufacturer's name.

Eden and Mesopotamia.

In explaining to the Royal Geographical Society his plans for the irrigation and reclamation of Mesopotamia, which the Turkish Government promises to carry into effect, Sir WILLIAM WILLCOCKS, the distinguished English engineer, took the occasion to revise his opinion regarding the location of the Garden of Eden. That is a delicate question which for some reason excites extraordinary violence among those who enter the controversy, even the scholars who discard the idea that the Paradise of ADAM and EVE was not terrestrial, or that it was at the north pole or on a mountain top or some other inaccessible place, but, accepting the evidence of modern archæological research, seek for the site of Eden somewhere within the land between the Euphrates and the Tigris.

Two years ago Sir WILLIAM, who believes that Eden was a definite region, and not a term for all the fruitful land of Babylonia, as DELITZSCH thinks, was persuaded that it lay on the banks of the Euphrates somewhere above Hit. A long stay in Bagdad and the adjacent country has convinced him that the position was further south, that it was the region below Bagdad, the junction of the Euphrates and Tigris, at least for the Eden of the recently discovered writings, which probably was also the Eden of the Bible. In this he agrees with the theory of the Rev. Professor Dr. A. H. SAYCE; so that when challenged by the professor to identify the four rivers of the Biblical narrative he picked out four of the main channels into which the Euphrates divides. A remarkable bit of corroborative evidence was supplied at the meeting by Mr. L. W. KING of the British Museum, who stated that on a Babylonian boundary stone, newly acquired by the museum, is the record of a grant of land in the district of Eden on the Edina Canal, with indications that the district was in the extreme south of Babylonia. Thus the earthly Paradise becomes identical with the land of the Arabian nights.

More striking than his testimony on this Biblical puzzle or his demonstration of the marvels which will be accomplished, at a cost of a few million pounds, by the engineering scheme he has prepared was Sir WILLIAM WILLCOCKS's tribute to his forerunners in the work. His task has been practically simply to restore and to improve by the use of modern methods the work they did thousands of years ago, neglect of which brought about the ruin of the land. He testifies to their engineering genius. The control of the waters of the Tigris, the hardest problem Sir WILLIAM had to solve, was obtained by MARDUK or NIMROD, or whoever he was, at the very dawn of historical knowledge by the construction of a dam at the right place. The canals of the Dyala River and in other places show the genius of the engineers of CYRUS the Great; the first barrage proposed in the new works touches the battlefield of Cunaxa, whence the Ten Thousand began their retreat; the second barrage, below it, is where ALEXANDER the Great cut through a new head for the Euphrates to flow through. "Here was the true irrigation engineer," is the comment.

So enthusiastic and certain is Sir WILLIAM as to the results that he declares that "England would make no bad financial bargain if she were to exchange Egypt for Babylonia. Once the Euphrates and the Tigris floods are controlled the irrigation works will present no great difficulties, and the delta of the two rivers will be richer than the delta of the Nile, and a safer place to invest capital in."

Federation of the British Empire.

Is one immediate consequence of the Anglo-German rivalry to be the realization of those dreams of imperial federation which have supplied so much comment in recent British affairs? At all events it must be plain that this growing apprehension at the advance in numbers, prosperity and naval power among the Germans has done much to help along the project which the present visit of the Canadian Prime Minister, Sir ROBERT L. BORDEN, has also aided.

Stripped of all details the situation from a British point of view seems to be this: In Europe to-day 45,000,000 British confront 65,000,000 Germans, and the disparity in birth rates promises to make the gulf still larger. How long, then, can England alone endure the burden of German competition? But if the British Empire be set against the German the advantage is shifted. Thus, while there are now 60,000,000 whites in the empire, the growth of Canada, Australia and South Africa insures an all British numerical superiority within a generation.

But this numerical advantage can only be employed if Canada, Australia and South Africa are brought to share the burdens of imperial defence with the European British subjects, who will presently constitute a minority of the white population of the empire. Hence the rapid multiplication of schemes for enlisting both the financial and military aid of the colonies by including them in a federal plan.

The difficulty is to find a federal plan. Is there to be an imperial Parliament in which Canada and Australia shall be represented like Ireland and England? It is the possibility of such a scheme which supplies an argument for Irish home rule. The proposal for the increase in the size of the present House of Commons finds little favor, both because the House is large enough now and because it is chiefly occupied with questions of interest only to the British Isles. Thus legislation like the recent State insurance law, which consumed the whole effort of the House of Commons for months to the exclusion of questions of national defence, is not interesting or vital to Canada or New Zealand.

Another suggestion, this time made in the current number of the *Nineteenth Century*, is for an imperial federal council, in which each colony of the Empire as well as the United Kingdom should be represented by a member for each million white inhabitants and an additional member for each $5,000,000 expended upon national defence. Under such an apportionment the United Kingdom would have 119 members, Canada 9, Australia, 9, South Africa 4, New Zealand 1. To India would be assigned 20, to cover the contribution of that colony to defence.

Approaching the subject from another angle, the *Spectator* proposes a naval loan of $300,000,000 contributed on the basis of population by the 60,000,000 white subjects of the empire. But again the fact is recognized that no real appeal can be made to the colonies until a proper system of participation in the British Imperial Government is granted to them.

Apart from these and other schemes, the vital fact is the recognition, everywhere visible in England, that imperial affairs have reached a critical stage. The colonies have in a sense "grown up," they are coming of age, and the real problem now is to retain their mature strength and support for the empire, for the greater empire. The hope of the British Empire, it is plainly apparent, is now with its children, and the great anxieties of the present hour in England are over the question of whether this support is to be insured. To pay for it by giving the colonies whatever representation they demand seems to be the present temper of Englishmen of all parties.

Now Open in the Bay State.

We hate to find fault with an old friend like TH. DENTATUS AFRICANUS LOQUAX VENTOSUS, but really he is getting tiresome. Out of the old fields cometh the old corn. If the Massachusetts folks are still able to read, and we must admit that the census doesn't indicate it, they must have read, again and again, this litany of flubdub. LINCOLN, DRED SCOTT, the amendment of the Constitution compared with the social recall, and so on and so forth into the unpermitted wide yawning mouth of ennui.

May we take the liberty of an old friend and remind the Oracle of Oyster Bay that he needs to give a flip to his "principles," commit a novel error, add some yet unadvertised blend of honey and henbane to his pharmacopœia, tell a new—truth? He has prigged a job lot of second hand "convictions." He should put something fresh on the counter. At any rate he ought to "bark" his gear with a more ingenious patter. Much is rightly expected by a discriminating public of the artist at the tent door.

Still, let us be grateful for small blessings. In the Colonel's poem is a passage almost worthy of him:

"And ever before their eyes burns the radiant vision of a giant republic, throned on the seats of righteousness, where the voice of the people strives to utter the biddings of divine right."

Tears course down BILL FLINN'S iron cheek, the Hon. ANGELO PERKINS dissolves into a golden buck, and the two Pinchots swoon in ecstasy. The biddings of divine right, of our THEODORUS, divinely right and Rex or Permanent President by divine right!

No doubt the Hon. HENRY H. CURRAN, chairman of the Aldermen's committee to investigate the Police Department, is a citizen of credit, but his swift renown is a dangerous laxative to his vocal organs.

The Hon. COLE BLEASE, Governor of South Carolina, is probably the chief explosive orator but one in the world. But he has milder moments, as when the other day he lifted a baby, perhaps prepared for the act, and smiling from the garland of those innocent arms cried out:

"I should (would) rather have her arms about my neck than to have all the votes in the world."

Thus we see that the loudest are often the tenderest for publication.

Let us all clean our skirts of cant and hypocrisy in this matter.—*Colonel* CANDOR.

If the Colonel cleaned his skirts of cant and hypocrisy, Truth was never so naked as the Colonel would be.

Something of the ancient Hellenic spirit plainly lingers in Greece, for a Dutch steamboat company which had christened a new ship Charon has had to change the name to Jason to persuade Greek dockers to work on her.

The fact that the Colonel spoke in Infantry Hall in Providence is a further indication of his desire to forget the colored cavalry of Kettle Hill.

Halls of Fame.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I suggest to my neighbor Irving Hall, living in the Northfield road, West Orange, that he call his children Locksley Hall, Foyer Hall, Tammany Hall, Music Hall, Billiard Hall and Concert Hall.

Of course he already has Ira Hall.

MAIN STREET.

ORANGE, N. J., August 17.

Acceptance.

From the Washington Star.

The candidates are notified. We've got 'em well in line.
No more we stand and hold our breath for fear they might decline;
Committees went to each in turn to break the solemn news
And each was kind enough to stop and chat about his views.
It was an impressive moment when men stood up in a row
And wondered what would happen if their favorite son said "no."
But when he smiled so affably on each respectful guest,
They knew that he was going to accede to their request.
Of course there are some perils that our country has to face,
Some slight uncertainties still hover 'round the human race.
But apprehension fades. We have each candidate's consent
To lead us on and upward. We are saved to that extent.

THE NIGGER IN THE WOODPILE.

The Attack in the Panama Canal Bill on New England's Prosperity.

From the Hartford Times.

If the House of Representatives passes the Panama Canal bill in the shape in which it has been finally reported by the conference committee and passed by the Senate it will be up to President Taft to decide whether he will sign a measure which contains the provision of which we are told:

The railroad section of the bill is drastic in its terms and broad in the powers it confers on the Interstate Commerce Commission. It prohibits railroads after July 1, 1914, from owning or controlling competing steamer lines, "operating through the Panama Canal or elsewhere," and gives to the Interstate Commerce Commission the power to determine whether the railroad and steamship lines are "competing carriers" within the meaning of the law.

The meaning of this section is that the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company will be compelled either to discontinue its steamship lines on the Sound and elsewhere, or else to obtain from the commission its consent that the steamship connections may be maintained. In order that this consent may be obtained the company apparently must demonstrate that its steamers compete with its railroad lines, which, as everybody knows, is not the fact.

This provision has no relation whatever to the operation of the Panama Canal. It is as foreign to the Panama Canal business as would be a provision revising the tariff on brass tacks.

Why is such a provision inserted in this bill?

We reply that it is a drive at this one railroad system, initiated and prosecuted by a single individual, Louis D. Brandeis, furtively representing certain financial and political interests in Boston that are inimical to New England's great railroad system under its present management.

We make no defence of the Western and Southern Congressmen, hostile to the prosperity and development of New England, who have permitted themselves to be influenced by the lobbyist sent from Boston to Washington to harass the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company and to impoverish its stockholders.

But we venture to suggest to the President that he has the power by his veto to block the wickedest raid on the business and prosperity of these six States that has ever been attempted.

A GOOD WORD FOR MODESTY.

From Its Rarity It May Be the Best Road to Notoriety.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As the public is collectively an ass, naturally it is nearly every one's aim to keep himself in the public eye. We seek the lustre of the limelight and revel in it, maybe on account of sheer merit, maybe for dress, maybe for half a dozen reasons. And this is why so many people dash off for a vacation to the most densely populated place they can think of. If they go to a quiet spot, who knows but that the limelight will not reach them? They can't afford to take chances and so they dance and play bridge until they have wearied themselves in true holiday fashion.

The advertisements on each side of the tracks as they go to their holiday haunts are pleasing to their eyes. Why leave what they think is civilization and bury themselves in a quiet spot where, horror of horrors! they run a chance of being forgotten? What would the bashful actress do? She can lose her jewels, indulge in a motor accident a day, go up in an aeroplane, turn her attention as a last resort to the question of suffrage, but none of these things will advertise her. Yet, did she but know, the shortest road to notoriety is hatred of it. Don't employ a press agent and you will be looked upon as extremely peculiar and be far on the road to fame.

Human nature craves for heroes and great men. If we had none they would have to be invented; so why not help on the good cause and invent yourself? If it only came to be recognized that modesty is the most distinctive trait of greatness the nobility of notoriety would be found in quite out of the way places and not in fashionable resorts. What pleasure to be where there are no people of light and leading, no men of the moment, no heroes, no captains of industry, no giants who think in continents and talk in hemispheres. For the time being one is beyond the mark of calumny, the target of ridicule, immune from the shafts of malice and the darts of irony. One can be quiet and unassuming and modest.

Yes, the public is an ass, a silly ass. It is easily deceived and easily deceives itself. It is, moreover, beginning to distrust fame so much that the greatest boon and boost one can have will be a reputation for modesty, and it is just as well to go into training for this trait in vacation time.

AT REST.

PHILADELPHIA, August 17.

The High Cost of Living.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "F. J. W.'s" premise, argument and conclusion in his letter in this morning's SUN prompt the query if there is such a problem to solve as "The High Cost of Living," and if so, what is the solution.

Over a given range of commodities the exchange value, commodity for commodity, remains relatively uniform; it is the money value that fluctuates. This resolves the question to one of money, and incidentally to a wage, salary and investment one, since money is the medium of exchange. The query presents itself, would a per capita volume of money (not currency) be a solution to the problem?

J. B. SULLIVAN.

YONKERS, August 16.

The Small Boy in the Fountain and the Down and Outer on the Bench.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A few weeks ago the police made an effort to discourage swimming in the fountain in City Hall Park by catching some of the boys and locking them up. Spectators who encouraged the urchins to frolic in the water by flipping pennies to them also felt the hand of the law and were brought to court along with the youthful swimmers.

While the police were active the urchins kept away from the fountain and the daily aquatic carnival was a thing of the past. Many small barefooted boys came to the park, but they were wise enough to keep away from the fountain.

The vigilance of the police must have relaxed recently, for the other day a crowd of over fifty people were grouped around the fountain enjoying the sight of three small boys in swimming. Men in the crowd were urging the boys on by tossing in pennies and making the boys dive for them. The boys had a great time for fifteen minutes before a policeman came along and drove away the crowd.

No doubt the boys have great sport in the water, and it is probably a good place for them in hot weather, but the police should not permit them to use the fountain for exhibition purposes. It is the coolest looking spot in that part of the city, and when it is surrounded by a crowd it is hidden from view. When the boys are permitted to swim in the fountain they overdo it by splashing water on pedestrians. When they are chased out they show their anger by coming back and throwing rubbish into the basin when the policeman has his back turned. Give the down and outs on the benches a chance to get a glimpse of the water now and then.

C. H. P.

NEW YORK, August 17.

In a Presidential Year.

Maud Muller raked the hay.
"Whittier needn't write me up," she boasted.
"The candidates are calling me an intelligent agriculturist anyway."

Voice of a Crook.

The cow with the crumpled horn looked to her laurels.
"I'm afraid the bull moose will be worse twisted," she cried.

INVENTORS OF THIRST.

Can the Ancients, Just Back in Their Bottleship, Shun This Challenge?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Now that they are back in Boston, will you allow me a word with the Ancient and Honorable Artillery? I have troubled you before on the subject, but as it is one of international importance I feel sure you will not repulse me this time.

June 22, 1898, the Ancients visited Quebec and challenged the Garrison Club, founded in 1712 under letters patent from the King of France, to a drinking bout for the championship of the world. As the challenged party we prescribed our native French Canadian whiskey, popularly known as squirrel whiskey, with distillery rye as a chaser; twenty men on each side, each man to sip ten regulation five finger hookers of squirrel by way of sampling the brand prior to the opening of the contest; water, sugar and heel taps barred, the chaser not to be less than a six finger one and to be of rye 27 degrees above proof by Sykes's hydrometer; that is to say, a seventy-five horsepower whiskey.

Our squirrel liquor, if one consumes enough of it, has the effect of impelling one to climb a tree, thereby verifying the Darwinian hypothesis that man is descended from the ape.

The Garrison Club twenty had just finished the sampling process and were waiting for the gun at the Citadel to give the signal for the competition to begin, when lo! the Boston twenty, who had also been sampling, though only to a limited extent, suddenly rushed headlong out of the room and were lost in the night. At sunrise some were found on the tops of neighboring telegraph poles, others on the tops of masts in the harbor, while others again had shinned up the loftiest spires of the Parliament buildings. All were captured by noon and sent to the hospital. That day the regiment, or what was left of it, departed for Boston by a back street.

To be beaten before the contest had actually started was, of course, dreadfully humiliating. Yet a few days afterward the Ancients had the effrontery to say that they had made a draw of it, and ever since have claimed to be the élite among booze fighters, and this notwithstanding that we have wired them over and over again to return to Quebec and at least make an attempt to get into serious grips with us.

Nay, to make matters all the easier for these amateurs, we have offered to change the programme, to substitute straight distillery rye with squirrel as chaser for straight squirrel with rye as chaser. I am sure the Hague Tribunal would hail our conduct as truly magnanimous.

What does THE SUN say? Is it right or just in view of these facts that the Ancients should swagger about the earth boasting of their invincible prowess as hornsters?

FRONTENAC.

GARRISON CLUB, Quebec, August 15.

VOICES BY WIRE.

How Closely Could You Describe the Speaker Heard Over the Telephone?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I did think once that I could tell what a man looked like by hearing his voice over the telephone; but I've given up that idea now since an experience I had yesterday. This man that I talked with then I judged to be 48 years old, 5 feet 7 inches in height, stocky in build and inclined to portliness, and with dark hair and whiskers. He turned out to be 30 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches tall, stalwart in build but spare in flesh, and light haired and smooth faced; and whereas I had fancied him to be sedate, almost austere in manner, he proved himself within five minutes to be a man of fine good humor.

After that experience I have lost somewhat confidence in my ability to tell just what a man looks like by hearing his voice over the telephone, but I still think there's something in it. In this we instinctively judge by association. Certain sorts of men are likely to have certain characteristics. We hear over the telephone a voice like that of a man we know and naturally we ascribe to the man whose voice we are hearing some of the personal features of the man of like voice with whose appearance we are familiar. But if the voice is wholly new to us we can't always tell. We may think we can get pretty close to the age by the voice, but then some small men have big voices and some big men have small voices, and then again some persons talking over the wire speak in an artificial voice and manner.

So altogether I have now come to the conclusion that you can't always tell exactly what a man looks like by hearing his voice transmitted by wire. But I do think this, that no man can talk over the telephone, however briefly, without revealing at least in some measure his character and quality.

E. I. W.

HAVERSTRAW, August 17.

Miss Jane Addams.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* With a sincere admiration for Miss Addams's work I yet think she misunderstood my point. Hull House and Miss Addams stand preeminent in settlement service, and her voice will not be taken as that of an individual, but as that of a great many philanthropic workers. There are multitudes who indorse the causes for which Miss Addams stands, but who do not indorse the platform nor the candidates she advocates.

In appearing before Legislatures and Congressional committees, who represent all parties, to advocate the prevention of child labor, the betterment of working girls' conditions and similar causes, Miss Addams has had not only the utmost freedom of speech but the equally important freedom from active party alignment that might prejudice her hearers and injure her cause.

No party has a monopoly of virtue. The great moral questions for whose furtherance the country owes a debt of gratitude to Miss Addams should not be handicapped by the limitation of party affiliation nor trammelled by becoming involved in the bitterness of controversies over candidates and utterly irrelevant policies.

MABEL T. BOARDMAN.

MANCHESTER, Mass., August 16.

The Modesty of Ignorance.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "Student" should not have begun with Kant and Goethe, but with Greek philosophy. There was once a man named Socrates, "dear old Soc," as Artemus called him, who, when asked why the oracle called him the wisest of men, replied, "Probably because I know best how little I know," or words to that effect. You see those "German ancestors" of a great idea are very modern. Once more, young "Student," thumb well your Plato and your Xenophon, especially the "Memorabilia" of the latter. You'll find about everything there.

UNCLE NED BUCKSHAW.

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, N. S., August 15.

A Civil War Oath.

From the Berkshire Courier.

One of our soldier boys from the front sends in the following oath administered to the contrabands that come within the Federal lines at Fredericksburg:

"You, Cicero, do solemnly swear you will bear true allegiance to the United States; that you will take good care of the horses and mules, and if any of them get away you will go after them, no matter how dark it is, and will also black boots to the best of your knowledge and belief, so help you General McDowell."

The gravity of both parties while it is being administered is said to be edifying.

Why He Bears Up.

From the Denver Republican.

The woods are full of candidates—
Orations are in bloom;
The landlord with a hall to rent
Is looking for a boom;
The soap box prophets are all out—
Their croakings fill the air—
But the citizen? He goes his way
As if he didn't care.

The officeseekers fill each glade,
And eke each bosky dell;
Upon the highway, at each turn,
You hear their college yell;
Their cheap cigars would kill a mule—
By fiends they are designed—
But Mr. Voter goes his way
As if he didn't mind.

What is it then that bears him up,
This citizen so brave,
And keeps him free from grim despair
While politicians rave?
He knows a day is coming fast,
When he can end the strife;
One day of balloting will drive
The pests to quiet life.

ARCADIA.

A Manhattanite in a Village Even More Villagelike Than His.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is just as well at intervals to go where luxury is not the spur of ambition, where senseless extravagance and brainless waste are not respected, where in fact true manhood can be found. The village in which I have been staying is not by any means ideal, but the charms of the farms, the trees, the fruits, the flowers and the people are not to be underrated. An ideal place anyhow in town or country would be intolerable. Maybe it is a trifle slow, but speed at this time of the year is out of the question.

It is "chummy" in that every one knows every one else, and should a young man be seen speaking to a girl for any undue length of time the encouraging tidings of his engagement would surely be sent broadcast. In New York one can walk with Maud to-day, take Mary to Coney Island tomorrow, only to find both of them being entertained at the end of the week by a better looking and more intelligent man. Women have, I imagine, to be more constant and consistent in a village. They can't be quite so elusive and fickle as their city cousins; still, it is as well they are not too sensible, logical or far seeing, for then the poor country cousins would never be married at all.

I must confess I have not met an ideal Oberon or Titania in the woods around. The modern Titania can summarily despatch a meal in a most unsylphlike manner. Oberon is generally busy calculating the prospective price of pigs and cows, while Bottom staggers now and then about the village in search of a policeman, whom he never finds. And talk about cooperative stores! Here is a store which will provide you with anything and everything from a match to a white tulle dress, from a mouse almost to a mountain, and there are plenty of both hereabout. Though the horn of the hunter will not be heard till later on the hill, the horn of the motor car desecrates the stillness now and then. It seems out of place, iconoclastic, and meets a frequent fate by being smashed itself when it strives to conquer the none too level roads.

But the morning train is puffing in with its paradoxical load of letters and papers. Here is a saving grace, if you so please. Once on a time I was only prevented from committing suicide by the remembrance that the mail was due in half an hour, and might contain a remittance, which it did, by the way. Now back to earth in thought but, thank goodness! not in reality—just yet.

PRITTLE PRATTLE.

HAPPY HAMLET, W. Va., August 15.

HA! A LIVE QUESTION.

This Man Wants to Know the Proper Thing to Do as to Certain Tips.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Now here is a real question; none of your general principles, political, graft or tariff problems, but a real live question that concerns me personally and my pocketbook directly.

We are going to move. Do you grasp that? We are going to move next month, and what I want to know is what we are going to do, what is the proper thing to do about the tips here in this house. We have lived here eleven years, and every year, of course, we have given to the boss, that is to say the superintendent, and the hall boys a little Christmas present in cash. They expect this and we expect to give it as much as we expect Christmas morning to come, and we give it gladly, for we have always had here the best of care. But we shall not be here next Christmas when these annual tips are due, and there will then be in the apartment we now occupy people from whom the "super" and the boys will naturally have expectations. What shall we do in this situation?

You mustn't think we are mean people, but moving is expensive. Just the actual moving costs a lot of money, and, figure as you may, there always turn up many additional incidental expenses that you had not allowed for. Moving costs a lot of money, and as we are going to move months before Christmas, and keeping in mind that we shall have to give them where we are going, wouldn't it be fair for us to move out of this house and just simply say nothing?

I will admit that for a brief time we did consider that proposition, but only briefly; we soon came to realize that we couldn't simply walk out, we must give something anyway, and then very soon we got down to hard pan, to a decision on a mathematical basis. When we move we shall have been here two-thirds of a year, and it seemed to us finally that the right thing to do would be to give now two-thirds of the amount that we would have given at Christmas if we had stayed till then. On this basis we ought to give at Christmas in the house to which we are going one-third of an annual amount, for we shall have been there but a third of a year. I don't know whether when the time comes we shall have the courage to scale things in that way there, but what we have now decided to do here is to meet the issue squarely and give for the time elapsed.

But we don't move until the latter part of September, and if anybody has any ideas on this subject that would make it clearer to us we should be glad to hear from him.

NEW YORK, August 17.

MOVER.

A Female Nipping View of Business Men.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It may be of interest to some of your readers to know the opinion a business woman has of the average business man, particularly the ones with whom she is associated, as a prospective husband.

She would not take one of them as a gift. In the first place she gets to know them too well, sees all their idiosyncrasies, faults, &c., and when the average business woman makes a choice it is never any one in the office where she is employed. If she elects to give up business she does so with the expectation of getting a companion and a home, so she looks elsewhere.

So, you business men, do not get frightened if your clerks, more especially if they are sensible women, seem interested in you to the extent that they are anxious to please. It is not you personally, so take heart. The welfare of the office is what they are looking after and trying to promote, nothing else.

ONE WHO HAS SUFFERED.

NEW YORK, August 17.

An Obliging Epicure.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Regarding "the epicure's lament" in yesterday's SUN it is hard to decide which has the greater charm, the title of the piece or the charming composition itself. The fundamentals of good eating are embraced in the ancient principle primum est vivere. But for the bit he eats a subliminary living being would incontestably and incontinently give up the ghost. To keep body and soul together is the sacred devoir of every mother's son.

In default of something better one might manage to keep intact the invisible link uniting the twin partners that constitute a single man by such positively vulgar eatables as broiled lobster, planked steak and Delmonico potatoes, preceded by a Martini and washed down by a champagne. It is true the apéritif might be made less deadly by judiciously substituting for Holland gin that French absinthe which is so harmless. Moreover, the regal fare of mutton chops and baked potatoes is not easily come by in this democratic country. As we recede more and more from the Declaration of Independence and look upon the Constitution more and more as of small consequence between friends, the Briton's mutton may become fit meat for a regenerated American.

Meanwhile I modestly make a tentative offer of myself as a teachable and most tractable companion, ready to make one in a series of those promised "epicurean jaunts" and face without flinching the largest dreadnought culinary vessel of the "European invasion." No French cuisine has any terrors for me when once set on edge by a "misunderstood stomach." And if I have no cultivated taste for our French, Italian, Spanish and Hungarian cousins, I hope notwithstanding to do them ample justice in successive bumpers of "rare old Burgundy" and love them for the plats they can make. To duplicate or triplicate the offer I have had the temerity to make in favor of boon companionship would be most agreeable to my general taste, and though the line of obliging epicures in quest of such a promising subject as myself should stretch out till the crack of doom, till "A. L. P.'s" on alps arise, I'll not shirk so plain a duty and such good meals. And if I have not been brought up in the school of fine eating, I have at least met the scholars.

J. A. M.

CHESTER, August 17.

Gloss on a Nursery Rhyme.

The Dish ran away with the Spoon.
"He never washed me while his wife was away," it explained.

NINETEEN DISBARRED SINCE FIRST OF YEAR

Increase in Cases Against Attorneys Is Stirring Men of Profession.

TAKE MUCH COURT TIME

Proceedings Clogging Appellate Division and New Methods Are Being Sought.

Nineteen lawyers have been disbarred in Manhattan since the first of the year, and the cases of thirty-three more presented for discipline by the grievance committee of the Bar Association are now before referees appointed by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court to hear and report on the evidence.

More than 200 complaints against other lawyers have been filed with Einar Chrystie, counsel for the grievance committee. In some cases the committee has already directed the attorney to present them to the Appellate Division for action, and in others it has not yet concuded its investigation.

In addition to the disbarments since January 1 six attorneys were censured, three suspended for a year and in only six cases were the proceedings dismissed. Complaints against seven lawyers were sent to referees in one day at the last session of the Appellate Division in July.

Some of the cases now before the grievance committee arise from the investigation of the Court of General Sessions. The committee has been examining the records of seventy-five cases tried before General Sessions Judges, and in some instances the committee is trying to determine whether or not the attorneys involved were guilty of improper conduct.

The records of the Appellate Division show that since 1905 charges against 181 lawyers have been laid before that court either by the Bar Association or by private individuals. Of that number the court directed the disbarment of eighty-nine, many others were suspended for terms of one, two or three years, while many were let off with strong censure.

In only a small percentage of the cases were the proceedings dismissed. Last year eighteen were disbarred and three suspended. In three cases the Appellate Division dismissed the proceedings. Before the end of the present year the referees will report on the majority of the cases now outstanding, and there is reason to believe that although the number of disbarments last year broke all previous records, there will be almost twice as many this year.

This situation has caused much discussion in the last few months among Judges and members of the bar who are interested in maintaining the standard of the profession in New York as to the need in the immediate future of disposing of charges against attorneys in some other method than that followed at present. One reason is that cases against attorneys are clogging the calendars of the Appellate Division and taking up time that might be devoted to the cases on appeal. Matters affecting attorneys require more attention from the Appellate Division Judges than the litigation and criminal cases before the court, since there is frequently wide difference of opinion among the Judges as to the disposition that should be made of the cases, and this means extended discussion.

One of the several cases that the Appellate Division Judges were unable to dispose of before the court adjourned for the summer recess last month was an application to discipline attorneys, and the same was true last year. The Judges found themselves so pressed with work at the close of the year that they concluded to consider the cases during the summer recess rather than make a hurried decision.

"The time is not far off when one branch of the Appellate Division will do nothing else but hear cases against attorneys," said one lawyer who has been giving the question some thought. "That the Judges themselves are disturbed over the situation is shown by the recent amendments of the rules relating to the admission of attorneys, by which the committee on character is required to make a more thorough inquiry as to candidates for admission to the bar.

"While this will undoubtedly result in the admission of a higher class of men, it will probably cut down the number of complaints against attorneys only a little, for it is usually a member of the bar of some years standing who gets into trouble.

"Not only will it be necessary to provide a separate branch of the Appellate Division to hear these cases, but it seems to me that some plan will have to be devised to relieve the members of the grievance committee of the Bar Association of the arduous duties they are now obliged to perform. They are all busy men whose labors during the day are fatiguing, but yet they have to sit for hours three or four nights a week hearing these complaints.

"Their decisions are always most important to the lawyers involved, for nothing damages a lawyer's reputation more than to have it known that the grievance committee is hearing a complaint against him, unless it be to have it announced that the committee has decided that his case requires action by the Appellate Division. The very mention of the words 'grievance committee' takes the heart out of a lawyer and for that reason the committee's action in each case must be most deliberate and well considered.

"A lawyer is always at the mercy of a disgruntled client, of another lawyer who has been defeated in litigation or of any one else with a fancied grievance, and the first thought of the one who feels injured is to run to the grievance committee with a complaint.

"The number of complaints has increased to such an extent in the last few years that it now takes up the entire time of four lawyers in the office of the counsel to the grievance committee in making the preliminary investigation into the merits of each complaint before it is brought to the attention of the committee.

"Not more than 10 per cent. of the complaints filed are ever presented to the committee, and only about 5 per cent. are ever presented to the Appellate Division for action. This gives some idea of the importance of the work of the grievance committee."

I was because of the large amount of work before the Bar Association committee that the New York County Lawyers Association appointed a committee on discipline to do a similar work, and this committee also is busy.

Complaints against attorneys may also be made to the Appellate Division directly, and in this way the court is obliged to consider cases that are without merit and is further argument for the establishment of a branch court for such cases, the lawyers say.

The records of the Appellate Division show that 3,586 attorneys have been enrolled in New York county since 1905. It has been generally believed that there are more than 10,000 lawyers practising in New York city, although a list of attorneys supposed to be nearly complete contains the names of only about 7,000 in the city.

Will Head Niagara University.

The Rev. M. A. Drennan of the faculty of St. John's Catholic College in Brooklyn will become president of Niagara University at the opening of the fall term.