

The Sun

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Mr. Wickesham's Contribution to History.

We commend to everybody the striking statement by Attorney-General WICKESHAM in another part of THE SUN this morning. It affords a bird's-eye view of the activities of the Government in the prosecution of combinations in restraint of trade and of results obtained under Mr. WICKESHAM's energetic direction during the past forty-five months.

From the point of view of professional achievement at least this has been a period of success which the Attorney-General may properly survey with pride. Who could tell the story better than himself? We may add that our readers are pretty sure to share the admiration with which THE SUN regards, as a literary production, this direct, forcible and intelligible chapter of history which the Attorney-General has written at its request for their benefit.

Achievement in the larger sense? Has this breaking down of monopoly, this bringing about of freer competition, this successful assertion of the potency and efficiency of the Sherman act, counted actually yet for the consumer by the lowering of prices?

Attorney-General WICKESHAM says frankly that he regards criticism on that score as superficial. It is too soon to expect cheaper commodities as the consequence of the several dissolutions of great monopolistic concerns. Mr. WICKESHAM offers other reasons why intelligent citizens should be willing to wait longer for the crowning result of his great campaign of trust checking.

We bespeak their patience in this respect. It would detract more or less from public interest in further enterprises of the sort if the final balance sheet should show for profit or loss nothing more tangible than the vindication of certain abstract ideas about the proper form of business organization.

General Wood May Prefer to Retire.

The Army and Navy Journal urges the President-elect not to dispense with the services of the present Chief of Staff, General LEONARD WOOD. It is advice that Mr. WILSON could not take without offending aspirants to the succession and their Democratic sponsors and indorsers, whose name is legion. It is true that the post is "in no sense a political one," and army officers are not supposed to meddle in politics or to solicit political influence. Nevertheless, at this moment wires are being pulled to have at least three Generals detailed as Chief of Staff under the new Administration upon the assumption that the post will be treated as a political office.

General WOOD was appointed Chief of Staff December 15, 1906, and the act of February 14, 1908, makes the term of General Staff officers four years. The President as Commander-in-Chief can of course cut the term short. Paragraph 772 of the Army Regulations relieves an incoming President from the embarrassment of ousting the Chief of Staff by prescribing that the detail shall end with the term of the President who appointed him. If Mr. WILSON wants General WOOD to serve as Chief of Staff until December 15, 1913, it will be necessary to reappoint him. So it is a question whether WOOD shall retire with the Republican Administration or round out a full term of four years—he will have served three years and almost three months when the Democrats take over the Government. As to General WOOD's usefulness to the army and the country as Chief of Staff, there are differences of opinion in the army and in Congress. He has his champions, his critics and his detractors. The Army and Navy Journal, which has the interests of the service at heart, believes that General WOOD has made a fearless and efficient Chief of Staff and that he should be allowed to serve the four years term out. It says:

"We know no man in public life who has kept himself free from political bias or color than General WOOD. Everything he has done has been done from a conscientious belief that he was furthering the interests of the army and adding to its efficiency. He has advocated reforms, changing methods and systems brought about through Republican control of the Government, but he has not hesitated to point out palpable weaknesses just because this or that party favored them. As a purely non-partisan official of the Government General WOOD has had no superior."

This service journal credits the present Chief of Staff with disinterestedness, single-mindedness, executive ability, thoroughness, and familiarity with the details of "large army reforms," and finishes by hoping that President WILSON "will see the wisdom of the philosophy of LINCOLN, which was not to swap horses crossing a stream." If he does

he will have to resist a great many pounds of pressure to the square inch, in and out of the army, in and out of Congress. But suppose General WOOD requests the President not to appoint him Chief of Staff? He has done good service and could retire with honor. The Democrats of the House are going to have the army reforms they want, or the reforms that others more conversant with the subject want, and the House has already shown its hostility to General WOOD and sought to deprive him from the post of Chief of Staff. Discretion being the better part of valor, why should he not with equanimity surrender to Paragraph 772 of the Army Regulations?

Literary and Other Diplomats.

So much has been said, and on the whole so well said, as "My Double's" speech used to run, against the appointment of very or merely wealthy men to the high posts of the diplomatic service that we shan't repeat any of it, but content ourselves with mentioning the suggestion of the Richmond Times-Dispatch that Mr. WILSON appoint Mr. THOMAS NELSON PAGE, Ambassador to Great Britain. It is true, we believe, that Mr. PAGE is somewhat photographic, but so are too many literary men in this age so far removed from Grub Street. Suffice it that he would be honored as a writer and not as a capitalist, and literature be honored in him.

The list of American authors who have held diplomatic or consular places is long. The Times-Dispatch prints a few of the names, all too illustrious or notable to make it necessary to recall them to the memory of our readers. We are bound to say, too, that so far as we know these writers were more creditable amateurs than the usual raw material transported to the four quarters of the globe to the permanent surprise of the four quarters. MOTLEY got into trouble, but that was the fault of his doctrinaire and solemn friend SUMNER rather than his own. Perhaps LOWELL had to be poked up with a sharp stick by the State Department occasionally, and to be reminded that his duty was not fulfilled by epigrams or pleasanties, but on the whole these gentlemen and their kind had a talent for writing despatches, and there is always somebody, usually obscure, in a legation who knows his business.

Many of these authors were charming men and "popular in society." This is desirable, of course, though that calm and most effective American Minister to Great Britain the late CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS was as unpopular as the devil—until the North got the upper hand. In social dexterity, and possibly in discretion, however, the author will hardly be thought to outshine the man of wealth properly brought up.

Still, if we are to have amateur diplomats, the authors ought to do at least as well as men of other trades; and it would be easy to make up a list of literary diplomats for Mr. WILSON's consideration. "HOT" SMITH for Japan, BOOTH TARKINGTON, a Princetonian, for Italy; JESSE LYNCH WILLIAMS, likewise a Princetonian, for Belgium; MEREDITH NICHOLSON for Paris, and so on. In fact the whole diplomatic and consular service could be filled by authors; and still there might be more than authors enough to supply the home market.

But equal privileges for some. Doubtless Democrats of various conspicuity and business or leisure or campaign service will get the glittering travelling scholarships or social entries or health resort privileges or comfortable loafing spots which the roll diplomatic and consular contains. Long before the end of his term or terms, however, Mr. WILSON may have found out—perhaps he feels already—that diplomacy is or should be a career, followed by trained men. There are plenty of them now in the service. After the diplomatic palms have been enjoyed by the improved Democratic Talkers and Stratford de Bedellides and heaven knows the Democrats are entitled to their fling after their long exile—after the green hands have been satiated, why not give some of the seats of glory to the men who know how to fill them?

Bulgaria and the Triple Alliance.

Should the report that Bulgaria has joined the Triple Alliance, for which the Paris Figaro is still the sole authority, prove true, it would add one more to the list of surprises of the present war. It would also completely change the whole face of the latest situation in the Near East.

The immediate effects of such a course on the part of Bulgaria would be to deprive Serbia of the Bulgarian support in her contest with Austria for an Adriatic seaport; to wreck completely the Balkan League, which by Bulgarian secession would lose its most considerable State; to insure a reduction of the losses Turkey would suffer in territory won in the case of Bulgaria, and probably to lead to a Balkan alliance in which Rumania, Turkey and Bulgaria would be combined under the protection of Austria and Germany.

By such a course Bulgaria would doubtless insure her possession of Adrianople and save herself from all possible attack from Rumania based on a demand for compensation. She would probably also be permitted to take the lion's share of the territory in Macedonia, which otherwise would be divided between Serbia and Greece.

To balance this gain Bulgaria would have to reckon with the consequences of Russian hostility, both at the moment and hereafter. To Russia Bulgaria owes her national existence, had Russia will prevail in 1877 the treaty of San Stefano would have made Bulgaria the one great Balkan State. As recently as the present conflict Russian financial aid has been a reliance and the moral influence of Russia has been unmeasured.

So much for immediate consequences of a Bulgarian change of sides. The wider effect would be to restore to the Triple Alliance the advantages the de-

GREENWICH AVENUE.

A Highway of Memories in the Old New York.

Hundreds of people in New York would be hard put to it to find Greenwich Avenue. Of the name rather out of the general way part of the city called by inhabitants fond of it "Old Greenwich Village" is a main thoroughfare. It is but a few blocks long and runs neither exactly up and down nor cross-town, but like many of its neighbors, planted as cowpaths, lanes and alleys long before the city plan, it is somewhat eccentric in its going. If, to waver for a second, you are a stranger in its neighborhood, you may become exceedingly confused by observing on the lamp post signs that you stand, for instance, at the corner of Fourth and Eleventh streets. Fourth street runs for a while east and west and then turns to go north and south.

This avenue in its youth, that was in the eighteenth century, left the Post road, the Bovey of this age, at the present Astor place, near our Cooper Union, came across past the Potter's Field, the Washington Square of to-day, and was known as the road to Greenwich. The old village of Greenwich, charming if it must have been in its prime, still in spite of a new, generally shabby apartment house here and there surprisingly resists dissolution. Though shabby had become its estate generally, now and then a shining old white door or maybe a fine dull black one, an ancient polished brass knocker, a carefully preserved, tall, hammered iron newel, as these old rail posts beside the door are called, a roostered fanlight, a bright new red front with door and windows, all in white to the old brick roof or two and a half stories with gable three, dormer windowed, or an ivied wall, speaks a consciousness of character.

"Character, character is what it has!" we once read. Mr. Whistler would have liked it, we think; and has very nearly drawn bits of it, its rear view vistas and its more tumbling down aspect, in some of his etchings of Old Chelsea. Here, racy of this mellow soil, flourishes stuff for Shakespeare.

Greenwich avenue begins now at the west side of Jefferson Market. Perhaps you do not know that Jefferson Market court is across Sixth avenue from Kleinschmidt's, the restaurateur whose 20 cent steaks are so celebrated. All this is hard by the point of Christopher street, which runs into Grove street, which goes zigzag. Facing Grove Street Park, a tiny triangle, is the quaint studio house which was Robert Blum's. Behind Jefferson Market court is concealed the cut de sac Patience Place. Not far away is Podro's illustrious table d'hot, which is so popular that you have to wait there longer than Tommy Tucker sang for his supper.

Starting up Greenwich avenue the wanderer may see above the prison wall, through the tall, narrow windows of the Moorish looking bastille, the guests behind the bars strolling about wrapped in blankets. Sauntering on, he may buy plaster casts, or favors at delicatessen shops, or have furniture repaired, or get his hair cut, or have a new pair of shoes, or a horse shod, or select an undertaker, or rent a bicycle, or draw books at a free library, or see the famous dingy restaurant where all the old playboys are, and ever so many other things; until he comes to Jackson Square, where is the funny kink in Eighth avenue at its beginning. In Jackson Park many fine old "bums" are asleep. The "bums" of Old Greenwich Village have a rich quality, a pictorial value, and are of value beyond any of their brethren in America.

The visitor has passed on the way the old Monahan express building, which is subject to periodical conflagrations and has burned up oftener than anything else in New York. He has passed, too, very probably, the place where Kitty used to work. Alas, that she is there no more! Kitty was about four feet high; she was from London; was, as they say, cockney, and one of the most delightful of Phil May's creations. A great many Londoners were wont to see in Greenwich Village, as in their natural home; many snuffy old gentlemen of a decidedly English cast, some with buff trousers, very round in the legs—but we have not sighted our sight that Kitty left these shores.

"What has become of Kitty?" we inquired. Mr. Nuggens, who was serving our breakfast himself, explained: "Dot's husband [Dot was Kitty's sister] had a chance to go into the business in London." He further informed us that Kitty did not much like America.

Kitty's America! From 8 in the morning until 9 at night, Sundays and holidays included, she, who had found her place four days after she landed, had at brief moments looked out at this great and vast country as represented in a sort of bit of Greenwich avenue.

Kitty will be interesting, no doubt, in the Old World for her impressions of a foreign land.

A CHRISTMAS CARD.

To Patricia, a Daughter Far Away.

If I could hear you sing, my dear, I should not care for spring. I'd give up the world for you, I'd take the year without the rains. That make our Aprils sweet, I'd hear them on the window pane. They ripple in the street.

The joughall and the jasmine too. The woodbine and the rose. That is not quite so rich in hue. The spring, my dear, is of winter hue. I'd even give the bloom of June. That reds the pink of May. If I could hear you sing a tune. As you sang—yesterday.

It seems but yesterday, and yet It is so long ago! A long, long year—the dry, the wet. Have helped the wheat to grow. And now the wheat is garnered up, and golden grain it gleams. The grapes are poured from out the cup. In red or golden streams.

And when you sing Ben Jonson's air, Or Orillon's "Thou art not fair," Or if the sun's in west, "Good-by, sweet day," I, thrilling, feel The scent of moss and weed. You'll bring the bloom of winter here, So May I do not need.

Ah! your dear songs I sadly lack. They're dear because they're yours. They bring the gleeful springtime back. Sea raptures, woodland lures—There's Ariet's lilt, the cowslip one. And baby and the moon. That was a boat and silvery shone! For these, take even June!

Or when you make a little trill, Or turn a trim rousellade, The rooms with all fresh odors fill. The year is newly made. The sun's in west, the stars are out, Your songs are daisy notes. The hedge lark flutes; I see the dew. You bring me violets.

MARRIE FRANCIS EGAN. COPENHAGEN, December 7.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARCHAEOLOGY AT ROME.

Dr. Frothingham's Account of Its Interesting Features.

ROME, Dec. 11.—During recent autumn weeks Rome has been having a surfeit of congresses, both national and international, such as the International Sociological Congress and that of Italian scientists and medical men, but the greatest public interest has been centered about the one which was most closely connected with the history and glory of Rome, the International Archaeological Congress and the International Congress for the History of Art.

The archaeological congress occupied the week of October 9-18. The Minister of Public Instruction, Credaro; the Mayor of Rome, Nathan, and the Director of Fine Arts, Ricci, made speeches of welcome. Sitings were held at the university, the Vatican, the "Sapienza." There were twelve sections: (1) Prehistoric, (2) Oriental, (3) Pre-Hellenic, (4) Hellenic and Roman, (5) Classic Art, (6) Greek and Roman Antiquities, (7) Epigraphy and Papyri, (8) Numismatics, (9) Roman Religion, (10) Topography, (11) Christian Archaeology, and (12) Organization of Archaeological Work and Teaching.

A break in the reading of papers was made by three formal receptions, each lasting a whole day. One was an Etruscan day at Caere and the other a Roman day at Ostia. In both cases there were the results of extensive recent discoveries to show to the congress. Caere, the modern Cerveteri, has been famous for its monumental Etruscan tombs for almost a century. They are large chamber tombs. Those at Corneto-Tarquinia are more remarkable for their painted decorations than for their architecture, but some that are unique in style and in the great circular pyramids that surround them. The earliest is the Regolini-Galassi tomb, a long and narrow structure covered with a fine and elaborate facade, formed by projecting courses of masonry. The Vatican has the contents of this tomb, by far the richest in gold objects yet found in Italy. They show the high water mark of Etruscan culture at about the time of the foundation of Rome, when the chiefs had war chariots, gorgeously caparisoned horses, embossed bronze shields, breastplates and helmets, swords and spears. The priests had garments covered with gold ornaments, the husbands wore gold necklaces, rings, shoulder pieces, bands of winged sphinxes, and lions of exquisite workmanship, and sacrificial dishes of Phoenician art. It is not certain whether this tomb dates from before or after the Etruscan conquest of Caere (or Argive), as it was first called, for it was before this conquest a Greek city, with a treasury at Olympia.

The five mile trip from the station of Porta Ardeatina, to the town of Cerveteri, was made in an auto, and as we wound along the road it was not difficult to fancy ourselves part of a Roman triumphal procession. But the Germans, the English and the Norwegians were not captives, but friends of their hosts, the Italian hosts. We found that the recent excavations have for the first time made perfectly plain the grouping of the great mound tombs on either side of a sepulchral avenue. The base of the mound is a circle cut in the rock, pierced out wherever necessary with masonry, and given a thoroughly monumental aspect by a bold system of moldings. At intervals in the circle are niches cut in the rock, which lead down into sepulchral chambers, of which there are several in each mound, probably belonging to the same family. They date from the seventh to the third century B. C., and are of the most interesting Italian type. 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