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A Distinction With a Difference.

Our neighbor the *World*, beneath its regilded dome of thought, has reached the conclusion that "an overwhelming majority of the American people unreservedly support the Mexican policy of the President"; that "nearly all the newspapers, without regard to party, uphold the President," and that "there is no responsible adverse criticism of his policy in either branch of Congress."

That this should be true is a truism of patriotism. Nearly all the newspapers, without regard to party, and almost all of the responsible statesmen in the national Capitol, whether allies or political opponents of the present Administration, have taken the correct view of their obligations to the flag; and we are bound to say that under the circumstances the fact is immensely to their credit.

We doubt, however, that the *World's* discovery of a practical unanimity in the public attitude toward the President extends to and includes a verification of the existence of unanimous approval of his Mexican policy. There is a distinction, not too subtly metaphysical, between upholding, supporting and refraining from criticism on the one hand, and on the other yielding to that degree of conviction which denotes unqualified intellectual approval. Men have been known to march with heads erect and hearts loyally courageous in a direction leading to plainly discerned and needless disaster; and even for the sake of a cause which the mind utterly refuses to embrace.

When men do this it is because the flag is ahead of them.

Indeed, our own observation is that while patriotically upholding and supporting President WILSON'S Mexican policy and refraining altogether from hostile or partisan or factional criticism of its developments and tentatives, a very considerable number if not an actual majority of our fellow citizens are now mainly occupied in trying to ascertain what that policy is and whither it is leading the country.

This attitude of patriotic support and honest perplexity is finding expression on every side in that friendly, humorous fashion which is one of the saving graces of American life and character. Here the supporting cartoonist depicts President WILSON as Mr. MICAWBER, waiting for something to turn up. Here the upholding private citizen, like the estimable correspondent who writes to-day to THE SUN, likens the policy to absent treatment attempted at a distance by intense mental self-concentration in the White House. Here another patriotic correspondent, whose communication on the subject we resolutely refuse to disseminate, more flippantly compares the Mexican policy of the Chief Executive to that of the old gentleman who said:

"How
To get rid of this horrible cow?
I will sit on this stile
And continue to smile,
Which may soften the heart of the cow."

And so on, through a thousand shades of more or less humorously indicated unreserved support but not unqualified intellectual approval, to the more serious attitude of the patriotic onlooker who expresses his hopes and doubts as frankly as does that man of ripe wisdom and experience and undoubted friendship for the President, the Hon. WAYNE MACVEAGH of Pennsylvania, in his letter printed elsewhere on this page.

We should say that the distinction with a difference which our neighbor the *World* seems to overlook is something to be taken into account.

Dangers in the Senate Currency Debate.

Senator OWEN'S currency bill, or the modification of the House measure adopted by his half of the Senate Banking Committee, is better than the speech with which he opened the Senate currency debate.

Reverting to an extended passage in his report of last Saturday submitting the Owen form of the currency bill, the Senator launched into a violent attack on the financial centre of the country commonly known as Wall Street. Not content with having characterized the place where the country's primary securities market is conducted as "the most gigantic gambling establishment in the world," Senator OWEN lent himself to the repetition of the imbecile declaration that the panic of 1907 "was part of a concerted plan by which a few men enriched themselves at the expense of the nation and administered what they conceived to be a terrific political rebuke to the Administration then in power."

If it could be imagined that the Oklahoma statesman had sounded the keynote of Senatorial debate on the currency bill the enactment of the pending legislation could only be anticipated with the most uneasy forebodings.

There have been two well defined dangers in the legislative undertaking on which Congress entered last June when the Administration currency bill in its tentative form was introduced. One of these was expressed in the Washington talk of the day and has been disturbingly persistent since. This has been the danger that inflationist sentiment, which is always aroused by a movement to revise the currency and banking laws, might dominate the councils of the lawmakers.

A form of this sentiment has been manifested in the notion that new facilities for credit expansion and increase of currency would create genuine buying power, remedy the conditions which are troubling the whole economic world as a result of making material progress at an extravagant pace and offset the unsettling consequences of a radical political programme beginning with a drastic reduction of protective tariff duties. An especially disquieting phase of inflationist excitement has been observed in the revival of fiat money delusions which succeeded in obtaining recognition in the note issue provisions of the currency bill that passed the House and have not disappeared from the bill as amended for the Senate.

The other chief menace has been held out by the Pujoistic concepts on which the Administration purpose in promoting legislation was partly founded.

The idea of credit as a commodity which not only could be monopolized but had been privately monopolized and must therefore be publicly monopolized is responsible for the spread of a notion that it is a function of Government to attend to the distribution of credit. This is a notion which is essentially akin to the ideas of greenbackers and fiat money advocates generally. There is a substantial identity between the political factions and charlatans that have been clamoring for Government issues of paper currency and the fanatics who fomented the so-called "Money Trust" agitation. If the Senate allows itself to surrender to the invasion of the fallacies of Pujoism while it is deliberating the currency bill, it is likely to end up in the acceptance of a cruder fiatism even than that which taints the bill passed by the House of Representatives.

Such deliverances as that of Senator OWEN are bound to cause concern. Nevertheless, THE SUN refuses to believe that rabid declamations against Wall Street and avowals of fiatist persuasion such as Senator BORAH'S proposal to make the proposed Government note issue through regional banks a legal tender are anything more than oratorical productions for the delectation of ignorant constituencies. We insist on believing that while there may be further emissions of the same perilous sort of stuff, the Senate will not permit them to interfere with the serious business of shaping a banking and currency law in accordance with sound banking experience and currency science.

The Annual Urging.

All the reasons for doing Christmas shopping early are tiresomely familiar to readers of THE SUN. They know the stupidity and cruelty of postponing their purchases until the last minute. We depend on them to urge their less enlightened acquaintances to follow their excellent example.

It is unnecessary to point out the practical efforts made by merchants who, by giving special credit terms and other extra inducements, encourage early trading. The fact is that intelligent and thoughtful persons everywhere are banded together to win the sluggard from his bad habits and force him to serve himself well while lightening the burdens of others.

Shop early!

The Extradition of Zelaya.

The former dictator of Nicaragua, JOSÉ SANTOS ZELAYA, could not be painted in colors too dark. Nevertheless, his extradition on an indictment for murder obtained by his enemies who control the Nicaraguan courts would not be a precedent to be cited with satisfaction, and it might prove embarrassing in the future when a more worthy man was wanted by a political faction. It is now about four years since President ZELAYA, the Castro of Central America, resigned under physical as well as moral pressure and escaped retribution by accepting the asylum of a Mexican gunboat that was placed at his disposal by President DIAZ of Mexico, who apparently did not share American opinion of him.

Recently ZELAYA has been sojourning in New York without molestation by the State Department and the Attorney-General. In view of the Castro episode it seems at least doubtful whether ZELAYA could have been deported, although Secretary KNOX had denounced him as the murderer of CANNON and GROCE, the young American insurgents who were shot by order of the dictator, an act he lamely attempted to justify by saying that CANNON and GROCE were trying to blow up a Government troop transport when they were captured. Nicaraguan law did not authorize their conviction without a criminal trial; but ZELAYA, like other Spanish American dictators with whom the United States has had to deal, was above the law, a condition that caused Secretary KNOX to declare that he would be held personally responsible for the execution of the Americans. However, it is to be borne in mind that ZELAYA was President and ruler of Nicaragua at the time. If he had fallen into the hands of an American naval officer the United States would have been in a quandary about the punishment to be meted out to him; international law would not have been much of a help.

Even if it be assumed that the blood of CANNON and GROCE stains the hands of JOSÉ ZELAYA himself, the difficulty in considering his case is that he committed the crime as President of Nicaragua, and in that sense it was a political crime. So it would certainly be regarded if ZELAYA had been President of Chile or Argentina and had ordered the execution of Americans serving with rebels against his Government. If the unfortunate young men had been planters instead of insurgents when they were shot by soldiers of the dictators the case would probably have been settled by the payment of damages. If ex-President ZELAYA is to be extradited it must be for a crime against the State of Nicaragua, and whether he is charged with the murder of CANNON and GROCE or, as is also reported, with taking the lives of two Nicaraguans in 1901, there must be a hearing before our own courts, if he can be apprehended, and at that hearing it will be submitted that in either case the crime for which he stands indicted was political.

Homeward Bound.

The gentle being, "female of sex it seems," who was introduced at Carnegie Hall Monday night as "the greatest woman of our time and of all time"—greater than the BROWNRIGG?—leaves this country to-day. The visit has done her good; $2,500 of good Monday night alone, and the extravasation of blood in her language seems to have been reduced during her stay on good behavior. She has behaved singularly well, for her. She even promises that she will not encourage murder in her 1914 campaign, for which she asks the surprisingly modest sum of $150,000. How much of this goes for salaries we are not informed.

It is a pleasure or a disappointment, according to the point of view, to know that none of the American or British contributions to this holy war will be used for murder. This looks like weakness, but some concession must be made to the prejudices of a sentimental age. Dwell rather with fond anticipation on the playful little arsons, the beautiful assaults, the spirited spoliation of parks and pleasure grounds, the destruction of national monuments, the whole treasury of gay and innocent recreation which is on the programme.

Praying that the ocean may be as gracious as the creature it is to have the honor of transferring to our rejoicing British brethren, let us bid her a sorrowful good-by. It would be churlish to grudge to a friendly nation the return of this national treasure.

A Washington Reporter.

The Chautauqua idol who reports for his Nebraska paper the proceedings of Mr. WILSON'S Cabinet commends editorially in that valued periodical Mr. WILSON'S Mobile speech:

"It lifts the nation's thought from the level of material interest to the plane of free government and into a realm where moral considerations have weight."

Without any reference to Mr. WILSON'S Mobile speech and without expressing regret that Mr. BRYAN'S consideration of his material interests put him on circuit this year, it may be worth while to mention as a specimen of current cant the antithesis which he makes. Material interests are low and immoral. It is the business of a free Government to be above and "sit on" them. Abstract "morality" must be the rule and guide of national and international affairs. Mr. BRYAN and his fellow "moralists" all get good salaries, paid by material interests for superintending, muddling and injuring material interests. They are a higher plane; they are good little cherubs sitting up aloft. Free government exists to batten these professors of ethics. Provided they "lift" the nation's thought, let the nation's business go to pot.

Such is a faithful coarse material translation of the patter of the high paid moralist who reports for his weekly and material interests the proceedings of Mr. WILSON'S Cabinet.

Mr. PINDELL is a man of sense, he knows perfectly well that he is not of ample eminence for the post.—*New Haven Register.*

Could the Hon. Protempore PINDELL trust his judgment against that of a trained diplomat like Mr. BRYAN? A man doesn't have to be amply eminent to take a year's tour abroad. Besides, it is reported that the Peoria Metternich believed himself too amply eminent to sell stamps in Peoria.

Prison for woman smugglers in future.—*Headline.*

Will the fear of prison abate or heighten with a fearful joy what some cynical psychologists believe to be a woman's instinct?

Insanity is reported to be increasing in Indiana.—*Detroit Free Press.*

From time out of mind the mediocre and stupid have persisted in mistaking genius for insanity. In the case of Indiana such confusion is tantamount to blasphemy.

In the new *Harper's Weekly* we read that "the mushiness of a community is a matter on which the community frequently prides itself." And we were about to go to the dictionary to find a definition of mushiness when we fell upon these words also in *Harper's Weekly:*

"When we see this wonderful creature [ISADORA DUNCAN] dance, we have tears in our eyes, because we feel again, in a new way, the eternal beauty, the eternal rhythm, and we again worship and adoringly subscribe."

It was not necessary to resort to the dictionary.

All quiet at Tuxpan.—*Admiral* FLETCHER.

American naval officers make very satisfactory reporters.

The fighting going on between the rebel General PANCHO VILLA and the ex-rebel General SALAZAR in the vicinity of Juarez is described as the greatest battle in Mexico since General BAZAINE tried conclusions with the Mexican patriots. The description may be accurate without raising the conflict to a very eminent plane.

It seems like the irony of fate that the French aviator PERRYON, who held the record for altitude, 19,650 feet, should have fallen to his death from a meagre height of 100 feet.

I am a laboring man.—*Ex-President* TAFT.

Mr. TAFT is certainly a hard working speaker at dinners and public functions. Never has an ex-President been more obliging and public spirited. If he were not as enduring as a roan horse he could not stand the ordeal.

An inspection of the long list of public officers, generals, admirals, and familiar celebrities who are to be present at the Army and Navy football game on Saturday does not shake one's conviction that the observed of all observers will be Mr. CHARLES E. BRICKLEY of Everett, Mass.

A patriotic Kansas editor gives the route from Blanco BILL'S Emporia to no less torrid a capital:

"Some people in Emporia, Ottawa and Topeka go to Kansas City to trade; some of those in Kansas City go to Chicago, from Chicago they go to New York, from New York to Paris, and from Paris to hell."

The early stages in this progressive emigration are intelligible, but neither Kansans nor Missourians would go as far as the patriot's terminal. They would be content to stay in New York, intermediate between the two Kansases.

The humble hen is in high disfavor with Democratic leaders because eggs, which were put on the free list by the Underwood-Simmons bill, are selling anywhere from 50 to 60 cents a dozen.—*Washington despatch.*

The hen will not seem so humble in another month, when the laying season begins and her exulting cackle is heard in the land. Progressively the cost of furnishing the breakfast table will come down until the jocund spring, when eggs are always the cheapest of foods. If the prospect holds any comfort for the Democrats they are welcome to it. It may be submitted that eggs on the free list will never mean cheap eggs when the "humble hen" is not laying.

Commentaries on Boissevainity.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Speaking of dear Mrs. Milholland Boissevain's remark that "a day's housekeeping can be done in ten minutes," I am reminded of what I said recently to a neighbor of like convictions to my own on the subject of home making: "It doesn't make me half so tired to do my own housework as it does to have one of these patronizing housewives with a hit or miss, pick me up general girl."

In regard to the "monotony" of doing one's own work, our husbands never find their jobs monotonous or irksome. Hundreds of married women ought to be doing their own work who are now managing rummage sales and helping to run hospitals and day nurseries; and working ten hours a day they would not cover their jobs adequately.

Should a man of moderate income have a running mate who helps pull the load, or one whom he has to pull in addition to the load? The curious point is that mere sex should determine whether an individual should shoulder responsibilities earnestly six days in the week irrespective of the social game. And I do not mean responsibilities that bring the glamour and glare of being in the social columns as pillars of the philanthropic temple, but doing the day's work without audience or applause, gladly and hopefully, just as sane, reasonable men do theirs.

OWN WORK.

UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J., November 25.

The Greek and the Gaul.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As at the kind suggestion of an amiable Teuton you have found an "obscure corner" to publish compliments to your address and mention the fact, surprising enough, that the Turks had again appointed German officers with wider authority in reorganizing the Turkish army, permit me in turn to borrow another "obscure corner" to mention another fact. General Eydouse and the other members of the French military mission who got the honor to train the Greek army before the late war have been reappointed for a period of two years at the solicitation of the Greek Government.

Of course, unlike the German officers, the French will now have their work more easy, having not to reorganize but simply to improve if possible the efficiency of the Salonica conquerors.

HENRI DE LAFITOLE.

NEW YORK, November 24.

Theatrical Experience and Public Taste.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Permit me to express my hearty approval of the editorial article in this morning's SUN entitled "Theatrical Experience and the Public Taste." It is indeed true that the average theatregoer considers wit, melody and finished acting as of far greater importance than expensive scenery and costumes.

The efforts of certain managers to make stupid and vulgar shows attractive by bedizening them with gaudy and costly trappings remind one of the attempts of brainless, "hard" looking women to appear alluring by daubing themselves with paint and donning loud jewelry. From "musical comedies" of this type we turn with a sense of relief to such operettas as "Iolanthe."

LAWTON MACKALL.

NEW YORK, November 24.

United States Army Manners at the Horse Show.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* At the National Horse Show after the principal international event, the America cup, was won by France, with England a close second, the competing teams, French, English, Belgian, Canadian and American, entered the arena for the award and the band struck up the "Marseillaise." At one movement up came hands to a rigid salute, to hold it to the tune end and to salute again as "God Save the King" and the national airs of Belgium, Canada and the United States followed. Only the three Americans sat with hands down at the pommel, without a salute the whole time, even when the "Star Spangled Banner" was played. It evoked a lot of adverse comment from Americans in boxes and along the ringside.

Was it "orders," fanciful democracy, or just everyday lack of manners and common decency? Knowing one of the men, I fancy it was "orders." If so, said orders should be printed on a card in this form: "United States soldiers and officers will disregard all customs of alleged European civilization while other nations salute each other."

It would be interesting to know what the everyday decent American soldier thinks of it, but that is one of the things never spoken of except when heads are under blankets in some tenantless open space.

G. A. KENT.

NEW YORK, November 25.

Minstrels of the Great Isle of Dogs.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The only way to keep a canary in good shape and also make him sing is to feed him well and clean his cage every day. The first thing to do in the morning is to clean his cage thoroughly and then scatter some Coney Island sand in the bottom of it. After that get a small dish, fill it with water so that he can take a bath. Then get some good hemp seed and what the bird store people call "canary seed"; and get a piece of dried cuttlefish bone to let him sharpen his bill on.

W.

PHILADELPHIA, November 24.

Kentucky Moving Pictures.

From the Hazel Green Herald.

Mrs. Sophronie Shuckey moved from the Cravens place, in Hazel Green, to the Dick Russell property on the Mize Midway.

"Pop" Ross has moved back to Noah's Ark from a short sojourn on Lacy Creek.

Bob Couch of Public Square has moved to Indea, on Big Caney.

MR. WAYNE MACVEAGH ON THE MEXICAN SITUATION.

President Garfield's Attorney-General Reviews President Wilson's Policy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is a great consolation, at my time of life, to find myself treated in your editorial columns with the same personal consideration I have enjoyed there ever since my lamented friend Mr. Dana took charge of them. He and I had many sharp differences of opinion, but he always knew that I only said what I thought was true and for the good of the country, and it was in that spirit I reluctantly gave the interview to the Washington *Post* on the proper treatment of the Mexican situation. It seems to me, therefore, that I ought to reply to the question you ask: With whom do I propose we should go to war?

My answer is that the blockade I recommended would, of course, only be injurious to Huerta and his supporters, and I see no inconsistency in holding that a state of war can exist between our Government and the Government he controls without resulting in the actual shedding of blood, though, if that followed as a consequence, it must of course be accepted.

It may well be that President Wilson's policy of moral pressure will now avail and the usurpation of Huerta will cease, in consequence of the changed attitude of Great Britain and the firm of Pearson and Company, as to furnishing him with the sinews of war. But it is a considerable time since President Wilson assumed the reins of power, and during all that time other Governments as well as our own citizens have been left in doubt as to whether we really intended to eliminate Huerta and his followers or not. Meanwhile the Ambassador whom President Wilson continued as his representative in Mexico was vehemently defending Huerta and his followers as, if not philanthropists, at least far and away the very best agents to be found for the government of that sadly distracted country.

That state of conflict between President Wilson and Ambassador Wilson created great confusion in the public mind, both in Europe and in this country, and it does seem to me that the limit of forbearance has now been reached, if President Wilson adheres, as he is sure to do, to his frequently announced policy of refusing to recognize the Huerta usurpation. To my mind it is not a question for hair splitting or metaphysical distinctions, but plain, practical action that is needed, that is, to seal the ports of Mexico, from which the Huerta usurpation receives such supplies as it has been receiving during this long period, and which alone keep it in power.

It may well be that I am quite wrong in this view, and that the many months lost by the uncertainty of what we meant to do have been well lost, and that the continuance of the same uncertain policy will result in effecting President Wilson's purposes. If so, nobody will be more rejoiced than myself.

WAYNE MACVEAGH.

WASHINGTON, November 24.

HOW TO REMOVE HUERTA.

Absent Treatment by President Wilson, Backed by the German Metaphysicians.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The papers are beginning to annoy President Wilson with questions like: Quo Vadis? and those more classical: Cur? Quomodo? Quando? Here is the explanation of his mysterious Mexican policy.

Not only occultists but great philosophers teach that the power of thought is limited by nothing but the capacity of the mind setting it in motion. Leibnitz, whose doctrine Professor Wilson has absorbed and made his own, taught that all force is spirit. Bacon records that he once got rid of a troublesome wart by concentrated thinking.

Now, if we remember the teaching of Kant, another favorite author of the Professor, that space and time are absolutely nothing but subjective forms of sensation, having no existence outside of our minds, then we understand how the mighty power of President Wilson's mind concentrated in cogitative gaze can act on Huerta at any distance and make his subconscious mind subject to the moral influence and direction exercised by the President of the United States. We are told by the Reverend Hale, biographer of Mr. Wilson and his representative on the Rio Grande, that the latter, when a young professor, "sacrificed his mustache in the hope of being hereafter better able to suggest to his classes certain delicacies of thought, which they had shown little sign of apprehending." Please mark the readiness for sacrifice to benefit others, the hopefulness and the faith in the power of suggestion or thought, and all these qualities displayed long before Mr. Wilson's mind had reached its maturity!

You will remember those sublime reflections with which, in the second chapter of Cervantes's immortal work, Don Quixote sets out to roam through the four quarters of the world, seeking adventures on behalf of those in distress. You have often been thrilled by that magnificent apostrophe to posterity, which in the original begins "O siglos venidores" and has been translated "Happy the age, happy the time, in which shall be made known my deeds of fame, worthy to be moulded in brass, and carved in marble, for a memorial forever!" Now you will celebrate the unspeakable happiness of the present age, yea of yourself, for on this very day, O sage magician of THE SUN, to thee has fallen the lot of chronicling the wondrous revelation (if I may paraphrase Cervantes) which solves the greatest puzzle of all times to the joy of all mankind.

Nobody hereafter will doubt that President Wilson feels himself perfectly able to make the refractory Huerta apprehend those delicacies of thought and fancy which require his elimination and which the President is impressing on him with that "serene faith in the outcome" which his reverend biographer calls one of his characteristics.

It only remains for me to explain why it is that this all powerful policy in so many months has borne no visible fruit. The cause is simply to be found in the unfortunate lack of faith of a majority of the American people in this policy, and in the tendency of the press and the public to set up currents of thought which cross and thus interrupt the thought streams directed by the President against Huerta. These cross currents would suddenly spoil the work of hard and concentrated thinking and Huerta would again assume his defiant attitude.

This explains why matters practically still are as they were in July, and will also, I trust, serve as a warning to the press and the public to let the President severely alone and not even by an unkind thought to interfere with his silent work.

That is all that is necessary to remove Huerta and to make the President and his Secretary of State as immortal as Don Quixote and his Sancho Panza.

FERDINAND HARRSEN.

NEW YORK, November 25.

CHUCKHOLE CITY.

A Grateful Citizen Reviews the Pavements of New York.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In London there is hardly a day in the year that some portion of some street is not shut off for repairs. The job, being small, is quickly done, the inconvenience is soon over and the streets are always in good order. This is not only the case with Oxford and the principal business and residence streets, but, as those who have studied foreign cities know, London's East End, its Petticoat Alley and lanes leading to Wapping Old Stairs and the like are kept well paved as well as clean. Paving there is not a political matter, it is a municipal duty.

During how many weeks and months has the invertebrate New Yorker jolted or waded through "chuckholes" that would provoke a backwoods man! And this protracted discomfort has disgraced our avenues and central cross streets. As "prowling" has not the fascination at home that it has abroad, it is usually left to the imagination to picture the state of the out of the way lanes and hidden away streets.

Our splendid autumn is leading on to winter, when New York conditions are always at their worst. In Mr. Waring's time we had one amelioration unknown since, the clear gutter. Instead of shovelling snow into gutters, the normal vent for water when it begins to thaw, snow was piled outside the gutter till it could be removed. Any one can appreciate the convenience, the cleanness and the economy of such a plan.

Another respect in which English towns are models for us is in the free supply and use upon slippery sidewalks and pavements of sand, gravel or ashes to prevent injury to man and beast. If this city had to pay damages accidents would be less common.

Let people learn from ants and squirrels and plan ahead. If they did coal bins would be filled while the going is good, and housewives would never be stormbound with empty larders in these days of condensed milk and canned necessities. In short, things should not be harder than they must be.

CIVIC HOUSEKEEPING.

NEW YORK, November 25.

HONEST NEDDY ON FOOT.

Shameful the Devilties Done to Him by Devil Wagoneers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Pedestrians are certainly asses for submitting as they do to the insolence and cruelty of automobilists. Not only the sidewalks and crossings but the entire body of the streets and highways of this city belong to the pedestrians as a class rather than to the drivers, for the plain and simple reason that the pedestrians originally paid for them and are now paying for their maintenance. The proprietors of vehicles do not constitute 1 per cent. of the taxpaying population. And most of the deviltry is done by mere seekers of pleasure or temporary convenience, and the use of the streets by them should be merely tolerated on condition of good behavior.

LAWYER.

NEW YORK, November 25.

Long Ears in the Car.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If "Fairplay" had said that the average ass is a pedestrian no one could have disputed the statement. The solid ungulate animal has no wings, and he can hardly move about otherwise than on his feet. If, on the other hand, he were using the word in its secondary sense, as applied to a human being of senseless, unreasoning, obstinate or stupid nature, it would readily be conceded that there are many of them riding in motor cars over all our streets and roads.

Many drivers of motor cars prove themselves of that senseless and obstinate character, not only in the frequency of accidents in which harmless men, women and children walking in the streets are slaughtered, but even more certainly by the thoughtlessness and headstrong persistence with which they rush to their own maiming and death.

The careful motoris' cannot yet afford to rise to the defence of every chauffeur or to excuse and explain away the faults and shortcomings of the average of the species.

J. H. F. HUDSON.

NEW YORK, November 24.

The Sacred Death Carts.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The only purpose for which the local Post Office exists is to meet a want of the people, myself, my neighbor and a few millions of other individuals composing the city of New York. Now, not one of us wants his mail driven through the streets at a speed dangerous to human life.

The notion that "mail" is a thing to be touched only in awe and reverence and never on any consideration to be interfered with is silly. The fact that the handling of it is a Government function gives the thing nothing of a sacred character. At the very most, the Government performs merely a useful service, but no more useful than the service of transporting merchandise, for it is quite as important, and might easily be more so, that goods which I have sold should be moved without delay, as that I should receive or send my letter an hour earlier.

Let us hope the Aldermen will promptly remove this absurd discrimination in the traffic regulations in favor of mail wagons.

JOHN E. MILLER.

NEW YORK, November 25.

Part Time Pupils.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* An educational achievement of considerable merit has been accomplished here very quietly during the last two months as the result of the labors in the summer of Superintendents Ettinger, Haaren and Strachan. They have actually devised a working scheme to reduce the part time evil.

A year ago the pupils on part time were 89,000, and reduction of this imposing total seemed and was alleged to be impossible; yet, although the registration has increased some 24,000, the part time pupils are now but 49,000.

ROBERT P. GREEN.

NEW YORK, November 25.

A Blue Song.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have followed football for twenty years or more, having seen about all the larger games in the East, and I hope I am not unduly sensitive and not taking conditions too seriously. Although a Harvard sympathizer I admire the Yale standard in sports, but I would like to say a word against the "undertaker" song which Yale favors us with now and then. I think it should be cut out. When one has to go to the undertaker for his comedy I think it is too long a trip, and among gentlemen of the calibre you meet at Yale and Harvard, it strikes me, it is entirely out of order. I hope that another year Yale will edit its campaign songs with the amendment I refer to. The utter unfitness of the so-called melody was never more apparent than in the recent game.

BOSTON, November 24. BEACON HILL.

Marvellous Boy Bryants.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In reading the "Life of William Cullen Bryant" by Parke Godwin I came across the following autobiographical passages: "I was thought to be a precocious child. At the age of 16 months there is a record that I knew all the letters of the alphabet. My elder brother, Austin, was more remarkable as an early scholar than myself. On March 28, 1796, before the close of his third year, he began to read the Bible. On the 12th of April following he had finished the book of Genesis, and on the 31st of March, 1797, before he had completed his fourth year, he had read the Scriptures through from beginning to end."

ARINGTON H. CARMAN.

PATCHOGUE, L. I., November 24.

A Pennsylvania Pan-Alphabet.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Speaking of pan-alphabetism, here is a writing lesson of seven words:

Crow, daft, glyph, junk, q's, vex, zimb.

These words, taken together, contain exactly the twenty-six letters of the English alphabet. It may be contended that "q's" is not a word, but do we not hear it in the expression "mind your p's and q's"? The seven words do not make a sentence, yet a good deal of patient toil was required to pick them out.

TYPO.

SCRANTON, Pa., November 24.

MUIRHEAD BONE'S ETCHINGS ON VIEW

Real Works of Art, Full of Poetry and of Charm.

FINE ENGLISH QUALITIES

Collection Now to Be Seen at the Hahlo Fifth Avenue Galleries.

The exhibition of etchings by Muirhead Bone in the Hahlo Galleries, 369 Fifth avenue, acquaints us not only with a first rate talent but a fine personality. It is not only that the etchings are first rate in themselves but that the attitude of the artist toward his work so clearly revealed in these prints is noble. There are all sorts of uplifting morals suggested by the success that now crowns this powerful work by a man who did nothing to attract notoriety who, on the contrary, evaded it.

There are no less than forty-seven plates of which only one impression exists and there are many from which but two or three copies were struck. Those of which there are forty to sixty impressions are fortunately from his best plates.

This comparative scarcity of impressions has been the chief factor in the slowness of his recognition, which now, however, cannot be stayed. Germany, Austria and the Continent in general recognized his merit before England did. Until lately he was not well represented in any of the great English collections, but as long ago as 1900 a copy of the "Old Jail" gained admittance to the Luxemburg in Paris.

That Bone has a genius for etching is clear. He must have looked at the etchings of Meryon and Whistler, as Dodgson in his English catalogues points out, but he looked even more at nature. He loved water and boats and river fronts as Whistler did, but is freer from Whistlerisms than even Haden. The greatest of his etchings reflect nothing from others. They are steeped deeply in the finest English qualities. His landscapes are in short Hadens made lyrical.

The faults of geniuses are not offensive. On the contrary they are entertaining, in marked contrast to the virtues of lesser folks. Consequently the discrepancies of the old horse in the "Old Palace, Culross," are of the kind that need not be mentioned except to insist that one can love the etching regardless of the little horse's strange anatomy. In the same way we have only a passing glance for the queer wheels sometimes upon the road carts. They are tiny blunders. In the best plates they are not even tiny blunders.

The Artist's Masterpiece.

The "Ballantrae Road" is almost as impressive as the "Ayr Prison," which is considered the artist's masterpiece and which hangs on the same wall. It is a softer subject, a farmhouse by a road which dips sharply to lower regions where water can be seen. The silhouette of the foreground is a marvel of good drawing, subtly concealed, but this and other technical considerations drop out of sight in gratitude for the genuine poetry of the charming Wordsworthian scene.

"Hampstead Heath," "Rye From Camber," "Hove," "Ayr Beach" and a dozen other designs that might be mentioned will have instant success here, for in addition to charming subjects they are admirable instances of swift attack replete with feeling and accomplished by simple means. We shall not even find the "St. John's Wood" "too piquant for our taste," as Dodgson feared we might. In the little etching some houses show above a sinister railway cutting at night, and there is a touch of the ominous in it of the kind that Meryon has accustomed us to.

The big etchings include the "Great Gantry, Charing Cross Station," the two views of the "Demolition of St. James's Hall, interior and exterior, and the "Building," all of which are tours de force amazing in accomplishment. Of these the exterior of St. James's Hall is the most pleasing. Here, as in the "Building," Bone has united the elements of his design into a massive whole, and the moving carts and people in the street are skilfully managed adjuncts to the main romantic theme.

TAPESTRY BRINGS $2,350.

Total of the Cottier Sale Has Reached $47,769.

The tapestries in the Cottier sale, now in progress at the American Art Association, commanded the highest prices of the session yesterday afternoon. The topnotcher was the seventeenth century Flemish tapestry depicting a "Triumph of Alexander the Great," a battle design with many armored figures in fierce combat. Mrs. H. Murray got it for $2,550. The eighteenth century verdure tapestry went to Charles of New York and London for $1,425 and the Flemish "Life of King David" in tapestry to R. Johnson for $1,000.

Mrs. J. J. Astor and her mother, Mrs. William H. Force, were bidders at the sale. Mrs. Astor paid $114 for thirty eight yards of slate colored damask, sixty three inches wide, and $120 for a filet lace panel, eleven feet long. Mrs. Force paid $13 for a pair of Orsini velour curtains in green and gold lined with blue satin and $5 for some damask.

David Warfield, who bought much, got among other things three panels of cluny lace for $405, two other panels of lace in Gothic designs for $200 and an Italian altar frontal for $190.

The total for the session was $9,037.50, making the Cottier sale total to date $47,769. The sale concludes this afternoon.

LOANS ON POLICIES SCORED.

Insurance Presidents Will Try to Discourage Them.

Robert Lynn Cox, manager of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents said last night that the association in its annual meeting at the Hotel Astor on December 11 and 12 will try to find a way to retard the growing tendency of policyholders to borrow money on their policies.

Mr. Cox says that mortgaging of policies not only reduces the amount of money that goes to the heirs but usually results in the policy lapsing altogether.

The association will also discuss methods of foiling get rich quick promoters who get possession of insurance money left in the hands of inexperienced widows and orphans.

Ex-President Taft is to speak at the convention. The chairman will be George E. Ide, president of the Home Life Insurance Company.

Actors Don't Use Walking Stick.

From the London Chronicle.

There is one profession that has always refrained from carrying a walking stick. The actor knows well that on the stage he must walk without extraneous support, and he knows that the mere hint of a walking stick in his hand as he walks the streets is a temptation to lean this way or that. Actors, even when out of a job, never lean on a stick. They know that their balanced walk is their asset. If the whole of society recurs to walking sticks the actors will refrain.