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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and illustrations for publication to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

An Open Market.

More than local importance attaches to the announcement that the New York Stock Exchange has removed all the restrictions on trading which were devised to protect the resumption of dealings in December. The abolition of the so-called minimum prices and the discharge of the special supervisory committee of the exchange is of worldwide significance. As the New York Stock Exchange was the last of the world's great bourses to close its doors eight months ago, so it has been the first to restore an open and free market for securities. The governors of the exchange are as much to be commended to-day for the decision reached yesterday as they were for the resolution with which they acted last July in suspending the market.

Nothing could better advertise the country's economic strength than the open market for American securities which now exists. It is Wall Street's vote of confidence in conditions and prospects, and the entire business community cannot fail to interpret it as an encouraging invitation to a return of general confidence.

Unhappy New York City.

We hope that Mayor MITCHELL's telegram of yesterday, demanding that before the Governor and Legislature rob us they will listen to our plaint for mercy, may win the courtesy of a hearing for those whose pockets are about to be forcibly emptied. This courtesy we should think even a political freebooter with pardon in his pocket might afford to his victims. But that any mitigation of our lot is to be expected from the accomplished despoilers to-day in power we cannot even dare to hope.

It becomes more apparent each day that New York city cannot expect from the State Government as it is at present constituted any contribution to its reformatory plans or any assistance in its efforts to improve its methods of administration. None of the unjust burdens that oppress this town's taxpayers are to be lifted from them, and no project for their relief is to be considered. This much is clear where all else is obscured by vacillation, ineptness, incapacity and astounding inefficiency.

New York city asks for a sufficient measure of home rule to permit it to save to the taxpayers a sum not less than \$12,000,000, and possibly as high as \$20,000,000, in the domestic matter of garbage disposal. The Legislature consents, but the Governor refuses. New York prays for the assessment of the lands it owns in other towns on the same basis as adjoining lands; the Legislature refuses, and the Governor stands mute. New York asks for the retention in office of one man generally held to be competent and undeniably experienced; the Governor answers its plea by naming for the place the engineer of his own political fortunes, and justifies himself with the assertion that "the appointment is purely personal." New York requests the privilege of consolidating under one management the purchasing agencies through which it buys the vast quantities of supplies it consumes annually; Governor and Legislature turn their backs upon its intelligent scheme to save the taxpayers' money, and refuse to relax the statutes by which the city is bound to extravagance, waste and fraud.

Why continue the citation of incidents? The policy of the Legislature, the purpose of the Executive, are definitely fixed and sufficiently indicated. Whether the impulse to bleed this city comes from a lively realization that it is helpless to defend itself so long as its destinies are controlled in Albany and the direction of every step it should take is dictated from above its northern boundary, or results from malice engendered in disappointed personal ambition, the effect is the same: each individual resident within its boundaries is bludgeoned by politicians whose audacious and whose purpose is not equity, but the robbery of one community for the enrichment of others.

Against such a sordid condition there is but one possible defence. It is a complete fusion of the people of the distressed settlement, regard-

less of partisan affiliations, on those subjects that concern its internal affairs. Were New York city able in Senate and Assembly to present on projects conveying a political significance united delegations, firmly supporting the projects which have the endorsement of its administrators, its voice would be potent and its demands would be granted. Should a caucus of the members from the five counties declare the intention of every representative from the five boroughs to unshackle himself from all foreign alliances and vote in the interests of the city for the legislation New York needs, the Legislature and the Governor would be brought instantly to reason.

Can such a defensive league be formed? In theory it is feasible; in fact it is utterly impracticable. Tammany Senators and Assemblymen have no desire to see credit won by a non-partisan city government; Republicans give their fealty first to their State organization and their labors to its upbuilding. The city administration has enemies in abundance and no friends inside the Capitol. Its necessities and ambitions are used by each side to embarrass and harass the other. Complete failure and discredit are earnestly sought for it by those who are first of all Tammany men or Republicans and only when their vocation offers no immediate engagement for their talents, public servants.

This is the fundamental weakness of any city administration composed as the present one is. It is fair game for both parties, of permanent and enduring interest to neither. It stands only for the people, the taxpayers, the citizens; and these, as has been proved so many times that insistence on the fact has become a weakness, are of importance in the calculations of our political geniuses on only one day in each year.

How to Treat Blackmatters.

The Hon. JAMES W. OSBORN must not believe that his quick and complete vindication in the matter of the charges recently brought against him has been the occasion of untempered rejoicing on the part of all his fellow citizens.

In the minds of a number of more or less eminent persons who share his innocence of wrongdoing, but lack his determined courage, the success of his absolute refusal to be black-mailed and his vigorous public defence of his honor have unquestionably stirred envious regrets.

To every man who has bank account greedily extorters fasten their eyes, two courses of conduct are open. He may give way to cowardice, weakly submit to a bleeding, and thus forever commit himself to the leeches who have fastened on him; or he may adopt the manly course, undergo, if need be, a present punishment for his indiscretions, endure the embarrassments of a highly unpleasant notoriety, and thereby, while escaping forever after the ministrations of unspeakable parasites, confer a substantial boon on all his fellows. It is a notorious fact that many men have attempted the impossible task of buying immunity from assaults, sometimes when they had transgressed, sometimes when they were guiltless. In either case, the result has been the same; their purchased security has proved unsubstantial, and their yielding an invitation to new attacks.

If Mr. OSBORN has put backbone into one or two men who without his example might have tried to obtain peace through blackmail, he has performed a public service worthy of recognition.

The Bismarck Centenary.

With what jubilation and pride the German people would be celebrating the centenary of BISMARCK's birth to-day but for those two calamitous shots fired at Sedan last June! The whole world would be rendering tribute to the mastery of statecraft of the man without giving much attention to the means he employed to gain his ends. But in the present crisis the German people have no time, and perhaps no heart, for formal celebrations, even to applaud the builder of their empire and lay laurel wreaths upon his monuments. The Bismarck centenary will not be forgotten or neglected, but the fitting place to celebrate it seems to be the battlefield, where united Germany is passing through the ordeal of the greatest war the world has ever known.

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of diplomacy, in which he was a peerless master. BISMARCK, it must be remembered, always went to war with the heaviest battalions and the certainty of victory; but it must also be considered that the army of 1914 was a far more powerful machine than the army of Von Moltke in 1870, and that the General Staff had supreme confidence in all branches of the new army, believing that it was scientifically perfect and therefore invincible. BISMARCK always sought and accepted the judgments of Boon and Moltke as professional soldiers.

With regard to BISMARCK's attitude toward Austria, a quotation from an English edition of Von POSCHINGER's "Table Talk" is pertinent. He represents the Chancellor as saying on one occasion: "Germany could never stand idly by and behold Austria receive a deadly or even a dangerous wound. The maintenance of that State is an absolute necessity for the balance of power in Europe, and in no circumstances could Germany afford to let its integrity be impaired. \* \* \* Friendship with Russia, if possible, but friendship with Austria at all costs." It is therefore a fair conclusion that if war between Austria and Russia had been unavoidable while BISMARCK was Chancellor, Germany would have taken the field on the side of the Dual Monarchy, which included so many Germans among its subjects. But here the insistent question comes in, Would BISMARCK as Chancellor have permitted Germany to follow a foreign policy that not only united England, France and Russia against her, but was a constant irritation to all three Powers, and at the same time loosened the tie that bound Italy to the cause of the Hapsburgs and Hohenzollerns?

Judging from BISMARCK's skill in political intrigue, he would have prevented a rapprochement between England and France, or he would have perpetuated the old enmity between England and Russia, which his admired friend BISMARCK did so much to aggravate. BISMARCK would certainly have not conceived the idea that the future of Germany was on the sea and estranged England by entering into competition with her as a naval power. Although he was converted to the colonial policy, BISMARCK said to a group of Deputies at Friedrichsruhe on one occasion: "Gentlemen, colonial policy is not carried on by Generals or Privy Counsellors, but by trading houses and commercial travellers." WILLIAM II. has acted on a different view of the matter, and more than once it has brought the nation to the verge of war.

BISMARCK talked as freely as the master who discarded him, perhaps more freely, but seldom or never did the Chancellor use expressions that were offensive to other Governments or provoked distrust or fear. He did not rattle the sabre until the time came to draw it. There were few mistakes and gaffes in BISMARCK's foreign policy; in that of WILLIAM II. they have been the rule rather than the exception, and only the army has saved the situation at times. BISMARCK had no underlings, no pupils. He wanted them no more than the Emperor has wanted them. Neither brooked rivals. But the result has been that the Emperor in taking the foreign, as well as the domestic, policy of Germany on his shoulders has had no useful assistants—only puppets to do his will. But nature did not make WILLIAM II. a great diplomat. It is true that he has united Germany behind him in the greatest of all wars, a sign that would thrill the statesman who made WILLIAM's grandfather Emperor; but what of the future if Germany is overwhelmed by her enemies?

The Christian Science Amendment to the Health Laws.

The Thorn act now in the Committee on the Judiciary is an amendment providing exemption from examinations and other requirements imposed upon regular practitioners of medicine of "the practice of Christian Science for the relief of the sick and suffering, provided no drug or material remedies are employed and provided further that no quarantine or sanitary regulations are violated." The law already provides, and this provision is generously retained, for the exemption of those "who practise the tenets of any church." Because religious freedom is a sacred pledge of our Constitution THE SENATE has always refrained from favoring the opposition of physicians to the old clause. But this amendment giving additional privileges is obviously unfair and repugnantly unjust to a large class of the community which is esteemed for its proved altruism and unceasing labor for the public weal. Physicians would offer not the slightest objection to giving these persons the right to practise under the same provisions and safeguards to the community which are demanded of themselves. Even the osteopaths who are exempted because they "practise without drugs" are required to pursue "a course of study of two years or longer, including anatomy, physiology, hygiene, chemistry, obstetrics, pathology and diagnosis." Why then should the Christian Scientist who is already exempt in "the practice of his tenets" receive this additional privilege? Is it not clear as day that unless the Christian Scientist is an adept in diagnosis he will be unable to comply with the sanitary regulation of reporting contagious diseases to the Health Board? Is this not a reductio ad absurdum, in view of the fact that they do not regard disease as an entity at all? They might report in violation of this principle that there is a suspicious eruption and necessitate the Board of Health's employment of an enormous additional number of inspectors to make a diagnosis of innocent

eruptions, but in those fatal infectious diseases like typhus, typhoid or diphtheria, fever, cholera or laryngeal epithelitis, that present no outward sign, they could not report at all, and the disease would be spread broadcast. The only remedy for the community would be a gladly paid fine for violating the sanitary code. How unjust to the community!

The obvious reason for this amendment is a desire for untrammeled economic competition with the educated physician who has spent the best years of his life and largely of his means in preparation for "relieving the sick and suffering," on the part of men and women who want to adopt an easy and profitable calling with slight sacrifice of effort and money. If holy altruism is their real aim, why do they not add the clause "without remuneration"? Viewing the matter from this standpoint, let our honest legislators consider who are the men and women from whose families the bread is to be taken. These are the only real altruists in every community, for they alone teach how diseases from which they obtain their livelihood may be avoided.

From their ranks have come the men who have almost abolished typhoid fever, which has brought mourning and suffering into hundreds of thousands of households in civil life and during the Cuban and civil wars. From their ranks came the men who sacrificed health and life for the discovery of yellow, malarial and moutain fevers, and made the Panama Canal possible. From their ranks came the heroic DONNELLY, who has recently fallen a victim in Serbia, and from their ranks the Harvard professor and his brave aids are going hence to almost certain death in that typhus and vermin ridden country, that the world may be spared the lighting up of a scourge that haunted it in times gone by. Do such men merit no consideration when a comparatively small group of persons under the guise of religion attempt to deprive them of their hard earned privileges? Medicine men may not press this economic argument, but those who recognize their inestimable value to every community cannot, must not remain silent, but must plead the gross injustice of the Thorn amendment special class legislation.

Comptroller FRIEDBERG will be pleased to learn that Governor WHITMAN now looks with favor on the admission of a legislative inquiry into our finances. This is Mr. FRIEDBERG's reward for his generous efforts to extricate Mr. WHITMAN from the \$18,000,000 hole in which that astute statesman deposited himself so ably on February 24.

Immediately after ex-Senator BOURNE told the Traffic Club that "postmarks, customs collectors, internal revenue collectors, appraisers, marshals, and others should be elected," the Short Ballot League honored him with elevation to its executive committee.

President WILSON and Secretary BRYAN tried watchful waiting on Hayt, and the treatment would probably have been entirely successful if Germany and France had not adopted a policy of active acquisition.

New woman uses for breach of promise—Headline. How like the old!

King ALBERT of Belgium may deny being a hero as much as he pleases, but history has already written him down one. He is sure of a place among the immortals.

President WILSON is reported to have said that he does not intend to despatch General HUGH L. SCOTT to the Mexican border at Brownsville to stop the fighting. The Chief of Staff should certainly be allowed to sleep a night or two in his bed in Washington. Let FUNSTON look after the Rio Grande.

MAXIMILIAN HARRER, threatening England in a public lecture with a "mortal wound," says: "As soon as we have succeeded in extending the radius of action of the four bigger submarine types they can be used for laying mines." The British Admiralty, finding the German submarines wretchedly elusive, would no doubt like them to remain in place long enough to lay mines lavishly, if such a thing can be done by submarines.

Friends of the late WILLIAM PATTERSON believe that the bewildering mystery of the assault on that estimable citizen will be fully explained when the authorities succeed in catching OLIVER OSBORN.

An Inquisitive Visitor. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: It happens frequently that it takes a visitor to see us in proper perspective. I was a visitor who asked these questions: "Why do I pay only five cents to ride fourteen miles in the subway and 42 cents to ride the same distance in the city on the Long Island Railroad? Why do I pay ten cents for the receipt of Queens county and forbid the same in Kings? Why are the people of Long Island taxed for the city's subways when apparently they derive no benefit from them?" CHARLES H. GEORGE. New York, March 31.

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THE MEASURE OF SELF-DEFENCE.

A Lincoln Story Gives an Idea of What It Should Be. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: In THE EVENING SUN, the proceedings at the National Union of the Republican Club the proprietor of the Evening Post is said to have applied the epithet "real traitors" to those who reach the round table. It is equally appropriate for hysterical relief? It is generally indicative of a consciousness of weakness in one's position when one begins to bandy such compliments; and I happen to remember that when a few weeks ago, some miscreants placed a bomb in St. Patrick's church, the Evening Post tumbled all over itself to express gratification at the vigilance of our police, so "resourceful and courageous in the immediate duty of preventing crime."

The constitution of the SUN on this matter of self-defence calls to mind the reply that Lincoln made to the man who asked him, "Mr. Lincoln, how do you mean to get the South to be?" "I don't know exactly," said Lincoln, "but it seems to me that they ought to be at least long enough to reach the round table." It is equally appropriate for hysterical relief? It is generally indicative of a consciousness of weakness in one's position when one begins to bandy such compliments; and I happen to remember that when a few weeks ago, some miscreants placed a bomb in St. Patrick's church, the Evening Post tumbled all over itself to express gratification at the vigilance of our police, so "resourceful and courageous in the immediate duty of preventing crime."

DIVORCE.

Result of an Inquiry Into One Hundred Legal Separations. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Owing to numerous inquiries the usual possible law will interfere with the interests of individuals at times. A law forbidding divorce would seem hard in the case of a man who would be the best interests of the greatest number of the nation.

Divorces naturally present a certain amount of indignation, and some of these unfortunate is simply another reason why advocates of law and order should refuse to sanction divorce. We have S. P. C. A. and we do not seem very much concerned about the thousands of children in this country who are the result of their parents' put it broadly. I recently heard a heart hungry college freshman, the son of a divorcee, utter "a few remarks" about the "kind" of parents who advocates of divorce (the honest ones) wonder.

To the disinterested student of the divorce question, it suggests the usual possible law will interfere with the interests of individuals at times. A law forbidding divorce would seem hard in the case of a man who would be the best interests of the greatest number of the nation.

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NO TROOPS FROM JAPAN.

The People Opposed to Sending an Expedition to Europe. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Of all foolish rumors circulated since the outbreak of the war there is none so ridiculous as the talk of Japan sending her soldiers to Europe to help the Allies. The name "Bostwick" is mentioned in connection with the rumor, but says that some high Japanese military officers, evidently influenced by the talk of Pichon and Clemenceau, are conducting a campaign of propaganda to transport about 100,000 recruits to the European battlefields.

The report goes on to say that if Japan sends her 100,000 soldiers in Europe the present deadlock in the western arena would be broken and final victory won for the Allies.

Now to add a further thousand fighting men from the Land of the Rising Sun to the Anglo-French army numbering more than 2,000,000 could bring no decisive change in the situation. The matter of sending troops to Europe is one of their business to meddle in European affairs, though they sincerely hope that the Allies will be able to crush Germany in the present campaign. It is to be expected that the Japanese will be asked to furnish Japan for assistance and the peace of the Far East and Japan's national welfare. Japanese soldiers will not go to Europe. ROCHESTER, March 31.

The Best Education.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Your editorial article on "Places of Desolation" must have struck a sympathetic chord in the hearts of those who were reared in country homes and went to the district school. They had the best education, the only education; they knew that the district school was the best. It was no omnibus, but a true sea, which thus contrasted the early training of Mirabeau with that of a Scottish lad born ten years later.

How much better was Burns' education than that of the district school? It is to be expected that the Japanese will be asked to furnish Japan for assistance and the peace of the Far East and Japan's national welfare. Japanese soldiers will not go to Europe. ROCHESTER, March 31.

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THE REFORM CRAZE.

A Sermon Against Prohibition From Mr. Root's Philadelphia Speech. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Permit me to express my appreciation of ex-Senator Root's address to the League Club of Philadelphia and of THE SUN's editorial, "Mr. Root to Business Men."

Mr. Root's warning should be remembered by every man who is interested in personal liberty and business success: If we permit a bureaucracy to establish itself over our daily lives conditions will grow down daily. The SUN does well to call attention in the last paragraph of its editorial to Mr. Root's protest against "excessive regulation and intolerable restriction."

How much of all this business depression and individual unrest is due to the reformer in a matter easily determined. What the future holds for this country should show regulatory measures as a prohibition against the reformer's thought. Let the thinking man picture to himself this glorious country under national prohibition. It would mean the vacating of property valued at hundreds of millions of every State, city, town and village in the United States; the loss of income and wages to the millions of people, principals, clerks, bartenders, truck drivers, porters, laborers, etc.; now employed by the industry; the positive destruction of the enormous investment in the industry throughout the country; destroying the tremendous amount of an industry, spending about \$300,000,000 yearly with allied trades, such as glass manufacturers, printers, book makers, machinery manufacturers, rubber manufacturers, auto manufacturers, etc.; the loss of sales of millions of dollars in whisky, liquors and manufactured goods; the loss of sales of millions of dollars in the sale of grain to this industry, to say nothing of the yearly loss of revenue to the Federal and State Governments of over \$400,000,000.

This is not the complete picture, for the individual still has his constitutional right of personal liberty guaranteed by the blood of our forefathers, who died that we should be free to live our lives and each one to be legally unhampered in the upbuilding of his individual character.

Prohibition would utterly destroy personal liberty. Mr. Root should be the keynote of our troubles when he warns us against "legislation destructive of individualism."

What a pity it is that so many will unthinkingly follow the willful error of the paid reformer into believing that prohibition is the cure of all ills, when a little thought would show that temperance is the cure of all ills, and that the individual who has learned in the school of experience or from teaching to use temperately all the necessities and luxuries is the one of character and industry.

Prohibition is the worst form of intemperance. Temperance cannot be legislated into any one.

NEW YORK, MARCH 31. LOUIS J. STODOL.

GUARDING HONEST NAMES.

Public Policy and Private Interest Require Their Protection. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: It is a pleasure to commend your vigorous article entitled "There is a Great Deal in Honest Names." Indorsing the bill, recently introduced into the Legislature, which would prohibit the use of family names in business, may I add a word of explanation to what you have well said?

The bill referred to was drawn by me as a direct result of the practices recently disclosed in this city by one Kosofsky. Kosofsky first took the name "Brokaw," then the name "Blens" and finally the name "Bostwick" and although no person of those names was ever associated with him, his assumption of the last name brought prompt proceedings on behalf of the firm of Le Bonchereux, French wine and liquor importers, and a manager of advertising agencies, through whose agencies many well known business names have literally become household words. As might be expected, the name "Bostwick" by others has correspondingly increased. The stealing of that kind of property may easily be as real to-day as the larceny of your pocket watch, and, moreover, it is more difficult to detect and greater fraud upon the community. Yet the Penal Law has not been adapted to meet these conditions.

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LIBERTY LAND.

A Comprehensive Scheme for Renaming the World's Nations. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The name of this country should be changed. It is a question of national honor to stand the plural of "The United States of America" as singular is ungrammatical and inconsistent. People speaking other civilized languages than English simply refuse to call the United States "U. S. A." The French say, "Les Etats Unis," the Germans persist in "Die Vereinigten Staaten," the Italians say, "Gli Stati Uniti" while the Spaniards have "Los Estados Unidos," all plurals. We cannot make them comprehend that a plural, grammatically, should be a singular for the political reason that we desire to indicate that our country is a unit, a united republic and not a federation of States independent of one another.

Moreover, we are not the "United States of America." There are other United States in America; Brazil and Colombia are two of them. The name that is not founded in fact, nor is it expressive of the character of its people and its institutions.

It is suggested that we call it Land of Liberty, Liberty Land or Free Land or Land of the Free?

The objection to such a change that this is not a real land of liberty, and that we are not a free people, is least intended to be such; they said so in their Declaration of Independence and in their Constitution, as also the name of our country, and that it is our desire to stimulate all other nations into following our example of at least striving for real liberty.

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U. S. HAS BIG CHANCE FOR RUSSIAN TRADE.

Treaty Proposed Would Double American Business With Czar's Land. MAY IGNORE PASSPORTS.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—One of the most important features of the new trade agreement between the United States and Russia is the abolition of the conventional tariff agreement between herself and Germany and Austria. Hungary the possibility of either the greatest blow or the greatest boon to American trade with Russia.

Russia's action presents to the United States Government one of the greatest single trade opportunities it has ever had. If realized upon properly American trade with Russia can be doubled. It is said, while it is advantageous to be taken of this opportunity it is predicted that the United States will be left at a greater disadvantage than ever before in regard to exports to the territory of the Czar.

The abolition of the conventional tariff with Germany and her ally is regarded here as but the precursor to the making of new tariff treaties between Russia and other trading nations. This is a growing sentiment in the Administration for the making of a commercial treaty with Russia, irrespective of the passport question.

All Fat on Same Beast. The immediate effect of the abolition of the Russian tariff convention with Germany and Austria is nominally to place all countries on an equal basis with regard to Russian tariffs. As Russia is now importing practically nothing except wool, Russia has indicated that there will be any new results immediately from the new tariff treaty.

It is regarded as certain that Russia will be granted most favorable terms. The United States is satisfied that not for gratification, but for the sake of Russia and Austria again enjoy the pecuniary favored tariff treatment accorded them by Russia.