The Times-Dispatch

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Campaign Contributions

The Times-Dispatch will receive, acknowledge and forward to the treasurer of the National Democratic Campaign Committee all sums sent it for this purpose.

BANK GUARANTEES.

In discussing the question of bank guarantees it is well to remember that the guarantee of itself is not a necessary cause of reckless banking, as its opponents are so fond of saying. If all banks were compelled to go into a blind pool of mutual insurance, with no means for the prudent members to restrain the speculations or peculations of the rash or dishonest, it is doubtless true that the inducements for reckless banking would be greatly increased.

When a city decides, for example, that fireworks are dangerous, it prevents all citizens from indulging in that pastime or storing such explosives. When an insurance company places a policy on a dwelling, store or factory, certain required precautions are demanded—and the demands are enforced. It is not believable, therefore, that the President and Congress of the United States would unite in enacting legislation so ill advised and patently incomplete as to defeat its own ends.

Nor is there any sound ground for fear that such a step would unavoidably lead to government control of all the national and State banks in this country. If Representative Fowler had wisdom enough last May to draft a bill which thoroughly covered all the details of the issue of bank notes by district organizations of banks, surely there is yet left enough common sense in the United States to draw a law that will enable associations of banks to enforce such mutual supervision as will render wildcat banking out of the question.

With such local associations under proper legal restrictions, and with capable inspectors, the guarantee fund would be little more than a form, for there would be no serious ultimate losses. Besides which it is worth considering that a justified feeling of security among depositors would naturally cause larger deposits, stronger resources and more money in circulation, which means in turn better business conditions all around.

PLAYGROUNDS HERE AND ELSEWHERE.

Councilman Fuller's resolution asking for a committee of three to investigate and report upon the advisability of establishing not less than three playgrounds is a definite step in the right direction. Last June Alderman W. H. Adams secured the passage of a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to draw a proper ordinance by which the city would turn over to the Civic Improvement League the tract of vacant land at Eighteenth and Grace for a public playground. It developed, however, that as the Civic Improvement League was unincorporated, it had no legal status, and therefore the whole scheme lapsed.

It begins to look now, however, as if a coherent and practical plan would be worked out. If so, the children, no less than the parents, will have cause to bless the city fathers. Atlanta has established playgrounds and appropriated $500 for their maintenance. Baltimore has been empowered to designate part of the public parks for playgrounds for public school children, and Providence has appropriated $3,000 for playgrounds. The success of the Providence venture is convincingly attested by the attendance, which reached the astounding number of 76,873.

Less than 4 cents apiece is not much to pay for making 76,873 children happier, healthier and safer in mind and body.

Sixty-five cities in the United States are now operating playgrounds, while 152 other places are taking steps in the same direction, and Richmond cannot do better than follow their example.

RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY IN ENGLAND.

From the published correspondence between Archbishop Bourne and Premier Asquith, it appears that it was not until late on the evening of September 12th that the idea of making an ecclesiastical ceremonial of the Catholic procession through the streets of London would be abandoned. That is to say, the Host would not be borne in the procession, and the high dignitaries of the church would not wear their ecclesiastical vestments. That such a request should have been made of the Catholic officials shows how much importance the government attached to what the papers of London termed "the latent fanaticism of London's Protestant masses." And this fear of an outbreak was apparently justified by the crowd that thronged the course along which the procession was to pass. The ground for denying the privilege to the Roman Catholic Church to hold this procession is found in the Catholic emancipation act of 1829, which, in giving the rights of the ballot to Roman Catholics specifically provided a penalty of £50 fine for any Roman Catholic ecclesiastic who should exercise any of the rights or ceremonies of his religion, or wear any of his ecclesiastical habiliments except within the usual places of worship or in a private house. Now the English Constitution is not clear on what degree of disuse is required to take away the validity of a statute, and, therefore, as the New York Sun says, "the attempt to class the law prohibiting Catholic ecclesiastics from wearing their vestments in the streets with an obsolete penal statute against Catholics passed in the reign of Charles II., two and a half centuries ago, will not bear sober-minded discussion.

"Nor," continues the Sun, "is this all. Should it be said that disuse for a period of seventy-nine years ought to suffice to render a statute obsolete, a competent English lawyer would reply that no such disuse has taken place in the case of the law under review. On the contrary, as lately as 1852 Queen Victoria, in pursuance of that statute, issued a proclamation forbidding a Roman Catholic procession in the streets. It would scarcely be alleged that the lapse of fifty-six years since the last application of a law is enough to render a statute null and void."

Since this was the first occasion of the visit of a papal legate since the reign of Mary Tudor, the proposed procession had a significance that was far removed from parochial exercises which are common in parts of England where the Catholics are numerous. But the times have changed so much since the days of the unhappy Mary that it is hard for Americans to realize that spirit of intolerance and bigotry which desires to interfere with a religious ceremony of the Catholic Church. No Englishman in his senses to-day believes that the Papal See is an enemy of the government of the people of England, and the protest against the procession sounds more like the anti-ecclesiastical spirit of France than the modern opinion of the "freest country on earth." As late as 1852, however, to refer to the New York Sun again, "a procession of Catholic school children at Stockport, although a display of clerical vestments or religious insignia was avoided, provoked a riot which resulted in the killing of several and the wounding of many persons." The country that deals with strikers by giving them free speech and the right to parade at will can certainly not afford to deny to its Catholic citizens equal rights, and the statute of 1829, which prevents Catholic processions, should be repealed.

UNCONVENTIONAL DIPLOMACY.

Because Germany is the most densely populated European country, and because, according to the most recent vital statistics, there were in 1906 2,084,739 births as against 1,174,464 deaths, leaving a margin on the side of life of 900,000, it has seemed to many people that the great Prussian Empire must break its bounds. Attention is continually being directed to this question by the political warmongers of England, who see in every German waiter or hair-dresser a dangerous and deadly spy from the German government. When to such terrors are added the statements of Lord Cromer or Lord Curzon that war with Germany is inevitable, the common sense believers in peace are naturally provoked. Notably Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Churchill, present members of the Liberal Cabinet, have brought down on their heads reprobation from high sources for "meddling" in affairs that did not belong to them by discussing the foreign policy of Great Britain. It seems that recently Mr. Lloyd George forgot that he was only president of the Board of Trade, and as such was presumably not concerned in the foreign policy of his country, for he went so far as to say to a reporter of the Neue Frere Presse that England had no intention or desire of trying to segregate or "hem in" Germany.

While Mr. Winston Churchill, in commenting on the bellicose prophesies of Lord Cromer and others, said in substance: Suppose there are 10,000 people in England and 15,000 people in Germany who really expect and desire war with each other. Does any one imagine that these 25,000 people can between them drag 60,000,000 Germans and nearly 40,000,000 English into a desperate war?

Now, it may be that a considerable number of the military really believe in the coming of a war, and it is quite natural that, crowded as it is at home and possessed of such scanty colonies abroad, Germany is looking around for other places to bestow her teeming millions; but common sense, as well as real patriotism, appear to be on the side of "meddlesome" young statesmen like Messrs. Lloyd George and Winston Churchill, who are using the information and the power that comes from their official positions to cry down the insensate war talk, knowing as they do how often such foolish clamor has led to fearful calamities.

If the microbe population of a twelve-ounce piece of cheese is really 5,000,000,000 we wonder how populous a colony lives in a barrel of sauer-kraut.

If trees can really think, as the eminent scientist maintains, it would be fairly interesting to know what a boot-tree thinks about.

The man who has regained his long lost power of seeing by using the eye of a rabbit doubtless believes in the potency of the left hind foot as well.

"I am no worse than my party," says your Uncle Joe Cannon, which seems to be a fairly neat analysis of the situation.

The last Mrs. Earle's walk down Affinity Avenue proved the path to be a thorny one.

"The pumpkin is a gentleman," says the Washington Herald. On the contrary, the pumpkin is a bumpkin.

Rhymes for To-Day.

NON FIT.

THE news of the morning is ample,
the reading is varied and prime.
Events are occurring in bunches and
topics come six at a time:
Your pressbard could handle 'em all,
but the one that most tickles the craft
Is what Taft remarked of Bill Bryan
and what Bill retorted of Taft.

There's quite a lot doing in Turkey,
they've had an election in Maine,
H. Thaw will remain in the cooler,
Charles Hughes would be gov.
once againe:
Ah, these would make elegant pomes
. . . but the subject on which
I am daft
Is what Taft remarked of Bill Bryan
and what Bill retorted of Taft.

. . . I planned me a ballad most
nifty, I passed the Old Man up
the hint—
He summoned me to him: " 'Ere, poet,
our motto is 'What's fit to print'!
We're all out of asbestos paper—you'd
best call Pe-gassus," he laughed,
"Off what Taft remarked of Bill Bryan
and what Bill retorted of Taft."

H. S. H.

MERELY JOKING.

Practice of Law.

"Should I go into court with the bald statement that a man was sane at ten, insane at eleven, and sane again at twelve, I'd be thrown out."

"Well?"

"But lemme embellish that plea with a few hundred to wits and whereases, introduce a hypothetical question and a small line of expert testimony, and I've got a case, sir. I've got a case."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Fine Part.

"I think I'll dramatize one of Henry James's sentences."

"Only one sentence to the play?"

"Sure. That ought to satisfy any lady star."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Not So Exacting.

"So you're a butcher now?"

"Yes," explained the former dry goods clerk. "The ladies don't try to match spare ribs or steak."—Washington Herald.

Continuous Performance.

"Why have you quit work?" demanded the farmer.

"I just put in twenty minutes sawing wood," replied the actor who had hired out on the farm.

"Well, you ain't in vaudeville. You're playing in the legit now."—Pittsburg Post.

Strictly Conventional.

"Anything out of the ordinary about this wedding in the mining regions?"

"Not a thing. There was the usual fracas, and the groom wore the conventional black eye."—Kansas City Journal.

Discussing Terms.

"Did you come to terms with that cook?"

"Haven't as yet. I'm holding out for more afternoons out per week than she wants to allow."—Houston Chronicle.

THOUGHT BY THE PARAGRAPHERS.

GOVERNOR HASKELL, of Oklahoma, is being sued for a board bill of $1,122.25, and unless he has some income other than that derived from his poetry we should hate to buy up the debt.—New York Mail.

* * *

Having reached the age of twenty-one, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., it is announced authoritatively, will not vote for Bryan.—Philadelphia Ledger.

* * *

The American Medical Journal says Illinois holds the record for the greatest number of lockjaw cases during the past six months. "Uncle Joe" Cannon seems to have dodged the germs successfully, however.—Washington Herald.

* * *

"Mr. Taft makes fifteen speeches in one day." Good gracious! Where is that campaign of dignity and silence?—Nashville Tennesseean.

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Meanwhile let it not be overlooked that the Wright brothers are a minister's sons.—Pittsburg Gazette-Times.

* * *

Is this canned oratory being guaranteed under the pure food law?—Cleveland Leader.

* * *

Not a notification committee has yet met with a rebuff.—Detroit Free Press.

* * *

That famous promenade at Atlantic City must be where the bored walk on dry Sundays.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

In some Oriental countries vaccination has been practiced for over a thousand years.

Argentina's area under cultivation is now 33,000,000 acres, comparing with 12,000,000 in 1905.

The solar orb would appear blue to anybody who should view it outside of this planet's atmosphere.

Emperor William, while on a sightseeing expedition, is to cross 100 yards of French territory.

The taxable valuation of Guthrie, the capital of Oklahoma, is $5,500,000, as against $1,500,000 last year.

Rev. I. H. Berg, pastor of the Catskill (N. Y.,) Reformed Church, refused to accept an increase of $500 in his salary.

All of the boroughs of New York City have advanced their tax rates, and Richmond is at the head of the list with $1.711 for each $100 of assessed value.

New York City is growing rapidly in its population of millionaires. There are about 2,000 of them now, while there were only thirty a quarter of a century ago.

Luther Burbank, of California, declares that for the first ten or twelve years of life the human plant needs sunshine and fresh air more than books and schooling.

A whole freight train passed over a section of track of which a five-foot section of one rail was missing at Horseshoe Curve, on the Pennsylvania line, and not a wheel was derailed.

Since the establishment of the Roman Catholic Diocese of New York a century ago there has been erected in the territory of Greater New York one church building in every 200 days.

New York City pays a large funeral bill. It costs the city $32.50 to bury each of the unclaimed bodies that pass through the morgue, and there are about 9,400 of them in the course of a year.

Following out a plan of Archbishop O'Connell of Boston, the music at the funerals of priests in the future will consist of Gregorian chants, sung by other clergymen. Fifty priests of the archdiocese have begun rehearsals of the music.

Apropos of the recent revival of Offenbach's tuneful opera, "The Grand Duchess," says a London paper, Miss Emily Soldene, for a long period our leading opera bouffe singer, who is still with us, has retailed some interesting reminiscences of the early runs of the piece in her "Theatrical and Musical Recollections."

Miss Sally Word has just been elected assessor and collector of taxes for Palestine, Tex., and Mrs. E. P. Turner and Mrs. P. P. Tucker have been chosen as members of the Dallas Board of Education. The election of these three women is the result of the opinion given the other day by the attorney-general that under the Constitution of Texas women are eligible to municipal office.

Satisfied With Maine.

It seems that a few Westerners who were visiting "down East" took a trip through Maine, making loud claims for their own State, which they called "God's country," and decrying the primitive methods of Maine.

In a particularly rocky section of the State one of them saluted an old farmer who was sitting on a baggage truck chewing tobacco

"Hullo," said the Westerner, "ye don't look as if ye'd had a boom here lately. Ye're a fool to stay in this country where ye have to do yer plowin' with a pickaxe and yer plantin' with a shotgun. Ye're starvin' to death. Why don't ye come to Kansas? No stumps, no stones. Soil ten foot deep. In one year ye'll be rich!"

The Maine man listened. Then he took a fresh chew of tobacco.

"So ye're doin' well, eh? I'm durn glad to hear it. I'm holdin' some mortgages on Kansas farms, an' if you chaps will keep it up, an' pay your interest, I'll calc'late ter stay hum an' get along O. K!"—New York Telegram.

The Courts of Europe

BY

La Marquise de Fontenoy

Great Egyptians May Face Scandal.

EGYPT is threatened just at present by a terrible danger, and it is possible that, ere many weeks are past, the names of Sir William Garstin, Sir William Willcox, Sir John Aird and Sir Ernest Cassell, which are now justly lauded to the skies in connection with the amazing increase of the area of arable land, which they have added to Egypt by means of their Nile dam and the consequent augmentation of irrigation, may become a subject of execration, for the Governor of Khartoum and the Anglo-Egyptian authorities still further south up the river have issued a most alarming warning to the effect that the Nile flood this fall will be of altogether phenomenal proportions; that there will be a flood, in fact, such as has not been witnessed in a quarter of a century or more; and it is realized that despite the precautions which are being taken in the form of the construction of embankments and levees, all the lower part of Khartoum will be submerged. The flood has not yet reached Khartoum, yet the river is already running so strong that it has carried away all the staging of the iron bridge in course of construction by the Cleveland, O., Iron Company over the Nile, there the accident being attended by the loss of life of a number of the native and of an American engineer, none of their bodies being recovered.

The gravest feature of the entire affair is, however, this: the huge dam at Assuan and the barrage now in process of completion at Esna have never been exposed to the force of a full river. In fact, the Assuan dam has been favored until now, both while in course of construction and since its completion, by very low Niles. Independent engineers have questioned its capacity to withstand the tremendous force of an ordinary full Nile. What its fate will be with a Nile of altogether phenomenal flood is a question which fills people with misgivings. Some of the most eminent English, French, American and German engineers have all along expressed doubts as to the strength of the foundations of the Assuan dam. They admit that the foundations are built on rock. But they point out that at Assuan the rock is only hard on the surface, and that immediately below the latter is soft, friable and rotten. They insist that the rock on which the foundations are built is deteriorating and wasting away rapidly, and that the level of the dam has been already affected thereby to the extent of several feet. They urge that, instead of relying upon this one huge dam, a number of small ones should be built to break and hold the force of the water, declaring that with its weakened foundations the Assuan dam is quite incapable of withstanding any such phenomenal flood as the one now about to come down the river.

Should their fears be realized, and should the dam give way in the face of the enormous pressure of water, which rolls along the rocks of tons in weight as if they were mere pebbles, dashing them against the dam, a catastrophe would ensue which could only be described as a cataclysm, for it would suddenly release, not merely hundreds of millions, but hundreds of milliards, of cubic metres of water, which would overwhelm the entire lower valley of the Nile, drowning all Egypt, whirling its cities and its villages away like straw and burying their sites beneath oceans of mud. Egypt as it exists to-day would, indeed, be swept out of existence, as well as all the result of all the labors of England to restore its prosperity.

There are certain eminent scientists who ascribe the story of the biblical flood to some such cataclysm on the part of the waters of the Nile, thousands upon thousands of years ago. Certainly, when one reflects that it is possible to dig down one hundred, two hundred feet, and still deeper, and always find one layer beneath the other of traces of former cities and yet earlier civilization, one is tempted to ask oneself whether the agency by which they have buried so deep beneath the present surface of the soil has not been some terrible flood like that which now menaces Cairo, Alexandria, and, in fact, the whole of lower Egypt.

Major-General James Gunter, who has just been gathered to his fathers, was the son of old Robert Gunter, who achieved so much fame in London as a pastry cook. Indeed, for more than a hundred years the firm of Gunter & Company, of Berkeley Square, has been the leading confectionary and catering concern of fashionable London, has catered for all its big entertainments, and has furnished the wedding cake at every royal marriage and at most of the smart weddings that have taken place during the past hundred years.

The late General Gunter managed, as a young man, to secure, through the purchased system which prevailed in those days, a commission in the Grenadier Guards. But his position there was made so intolerable, not by his fellow-officers, who liked him, but by the rank and file, who objected to being ordered about by a mere pastry cook's son, that he was eventually driven to secure an exchange into the Fourth Dragoon Guards, where, owing to several of its officers being the sons of men who had made large fortunes in trade, less exception was made to the manner in which his father and grandfather had acquired their wealth. By degrees the military authorities got into the way of assigning the sons of men who had made their money in trade to commissions in this particular regiment, which for so many years was commanded by the late General James Gunter, and used to be known throughout the service as "The Trades Union."

The general himself was a gallant and brave officer, who had distinguished himself in the Crimean War and other campaigns, and was much liked by his comrades. But in society he had to suffer a good deal from the absurd pretensions and aspirations of his confectioner father, whose head had been turned by the fact that both of his sons had become army officers. Thus while he retained his pastry cook-shop, which is still in existence, he, with the object of becoming a lord of the manor and county magnate, purchased in the Midlands a beautiful old country seat, which was at once nicknamed "Currant-Jelly Hall" by his neighbors. On his complaining while out hunting that his horse was "hot," he was recommended to "ice" it. In fact, there are no end of stories told about him, and one, too, of his son, the late General Gunter. The latter was asked at a mess dinner not long after he had been transferred to the Dragoon Guards by a foolish young subaltern, who had been drinking more than was good for him, why his father had not made him a pastry cook. Gunter, realizing the man's condition, asked him, by way of reply, "What was your father, by the by?" to which he received the answer, "A gentleman, of course," whereupon Gunter exclaimed "Then, why the devil didn't he make you one?" and thus turned the laugh against the officer, who had endeavored to get a rise out of him.

Let me add that when old Robert Gunter set up as a lord of the manor at "Currant-Jelly Hall," he, of course, took the necessary steps to invest himself with lineage, distinguished ancestors and armoreal bearings, and was able, by dint of cash, to obtain from the Royal College of Heralds, a wonderful genealogical tree, showing him to be descended in the direct line from a mythical Sir Peter Gunter, who is said to have flourished in the eleventh century, and who, of course, came over with William the Conqueror, being asserted to have acted as the latter's "galloper" and aide-de-camp at the battle of Hastings.

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STATE PRESS

Ugly and Venomous.

The ease with which Mr. Bryan bowled over the libellous cannon was a fine exhibition of the power of conscious honesty over unscrupulous malice, and the promptness with which the routed slanderer stuck his metaphorical tail between his fugacious legs, and tried to slink off under the pretense that the offensive imputation "was a joke," was a spectacle to make devils weep. A man of decent instincts could not have been guilty of such a groundless and gratuitous insult to a political opponent, and no man, unless a coward, having flung out such a challenge, could have resorted to so thin a subterfuge to escape the consequences. A very shallow veneer of respectability covers the coarse clay of which Cannon is made. One shaft of truth from Bryan's quiver sufficed to pierce it; and the craven spirit lurking beneath is exposed in all its native ugliness, as was the "Squat toad" by the spear of Ithuriel.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Scared and Show It.

Some one asks the question, will Roosevelt take the stump? It would be a very foolish, not to say suicidal, thing for him to do so, but when one considers the free and indiscreet use he has made of the big stick in the present campaign, it would not be at all surprising if Mr. Roosevelt were guilty of the additional folly. Nothing could show more conclusively the state of alarm in the Republican party than Mr. Roosevelt's appearance on the stump, though his appearance there is not necessary to show how badly the Republicans are scared.—Petersburg Index-Appeal.

Good Forgetters.

Several years ago, when Taft's name had not been mentioned for the presidency, he went to Cincinnati, O., and in a startling speech advised the Republicans to vote the city Democratic ticket in order to overthrow the Cox machine. Many Republicans took Taft's advice, and as a result the Democrats won. Now Taft is out for the presidency, but that same old George B. Cox is fighting tooth and nail for Taft and the ticket. Which is an object lesson on how the Republicans forget the past and get together.—Harrisonburg News.

Et Praevalebit.

Reduced to its last and final analysis, there is and there should be but one code of morals, whether in war, in business, in politics, in personal and social relations. Truth is the test. Dishonor is no more to be justified or condoned in one case than in another. One may escape the just consequence of his dishonor, but the fact remains, and public sentiment is often the scourge with which the sharper and the trickster are punished.—Harrisonburg News.

Brighter Each Day.

"Howe'er it be it seems to"—us that the Democratic prospect brightens as the days go by. We have no patience with the hopeless Democrat. He has not any business being hopeless. He ought to be hopeful. The way to win is to believe in the power to win. No military battle, no commercial conflict, no political campaign was ever waged successfully by soreheads or grumblers. If a man is really and truly a Democrat from conviction, it is his business to get out and hustle and to wear a smiling face.—Northern Neck News.

Against Rooseveltism.

The passing of Rooseveltism has for a long time been anticipated with joy by millions of people in the United States. This latest manifestation of the prostitution of his high position in the interest of a man he has selected as his successor, will, there is every reason to believe, cause a large majority of the voters of this country next fall to set their disapproval upon his unwarranted procedure and cast their ballots for the Democratic nominee.—Alexandria Gazette.

Hopeful Sign.

The fact of the matter is that Mr. Cannon's own constituents appear to be getting in behind him more strongly than ever before, and it might be one of the happy surprises of the campaign to find that he had been left at home.—Suffolk Herald.

Dissecting a Violin.

Not one person in a hundred has the slightest notion of how many parts or pieces there are in a violin. Here is a list of them: Back 2 pieces, belly 2, coins and blocks 6, sides 5, side linings 12, bar 1, purflings 24, neck 1 fingerboard 1, nut 1, bridge 1, tailboard 1, button for tailboard 1, string for tailboard 1, guard for string 1, sound post 1 strings 4, pegs 4, total 69 pieces. Three kinds of wood are used—maple, pine and ebony. Maple is used for the back, the neck, the side pieces and the bridge. Pine is used for the belly, the bar, the coins and blocks, the side linings and the sound post. Ebony is used for the finger board, the tailboard, the nut the guard for string of tailboard, the pegs and the button.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

The English Mob.

The London mob is an institution. When your Irishman is in a rage he breaks a head with a shillalah; when an American is in a rage he makes a stump speech; but your Englishman when in a rage assembles in Hyde Park and becomes a mob. It is a great conservator and has preserved the United Kingdom from revolution more than once. The "government" and the municipality understand the situation precisely and always allow the mob to blow off steam as long as nobody is hurt.

Perhaps there is no more interesting chapter in modern history than the religious wars, Catholic against Protestant. They raged with all the virulence of fanaticism, and it would be hazardous to say whether a particular one was more ferocious than the other. Where is the Catholic that cannot answer "Bartholomew" with "Glencoe"—conclusive and confounding answer that it is.

After a time, politics wormed its way into the quarrel, and we see Gustavus Adolphus the Lutheran in league with Richelieu the Catholic to curb the ambition and cripple the power of the Catholic house of Austria.

A little later and Mazarin, the Italian Catholic master of France, is in league with Cromwell, the Presbyterian master of England, to crush the power of Catholic Spain; and they did it.

For a long time Catholic emancipation was a political question. The seat in the peers of the premier noble duke of England was long sequestered, and political office and Catholic were absolutely divorced. Yet in wars the bloodiest Catholic English flocked to help Marlborough to victory.

That scene in England last Sunday recalls the Lord George Gordon riots, when much blood was shed and London was in the grip of anarchy, murder and arson for a week. It was fanaticism getting vent. The most eminent man who was ever clothed with the English ermine was mobbed and narrowly escaped with his life. Parliament was besieged, and millions of property destroyed. It was the English mob asserting something.

Later, when Wellington was the head of the government, he was mobbed and Apsley House wrecked. The grim old soldier would never allow repairs to be made, and years after, as he was nightly escorted to his home by cheering mobs, he would halt on the steps and point to the broken windows his now friends had stoned.

Ten days hence the London mob will cheer the host carried at the head of a Catholic procession.—Washington Post.

A Bull's Eye Every Time.

It is very gratifying to see the vigorous and able position held by the Richmond Times-Dispatch in this campaign. The Times-Dispatch is giving Mr. Bryan and the Democratic cause most valuable and effective support. It is striking straight from the shoulder, and makes a bull's eye every time.—Winchester Star.

Voice of the People

Praise for Bryan.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—In your issue of September 12th you have an article headed "A Britisher's View of Bryan." Why don't some of these Britishers give their "views" of Taft? Is it because he is not worth any notice, or is it because he has been before the public so long that he is well known and does not need any "views"? We think the reason they do not review Taft is because they would have to say so much that the people don't want to hear. Among the things they would have to say is that Taft is Roosevelt's "proxy," and a large per cent. of the Republican party don't like to hear of their candidate's great weakness in this regard. They want a man of more independence to sit as their chief magistrate, as a man from Pennsylvania told the writer a few days ago. If a man has not the innate ability to discharge the duties of the office he ought not to be put there, for Mr. Roosevelt might die or he might go to Africa to hunt wild game, and we don't want this government run by a man in Africa or any other country but America. Mr. Taft had to go to his teacher to read his speech to see if it was right before he delivered it at Chicago. We don't blame the Republicans to be ashamed of him. The Democratic party is trying to avoid him with all their heart, mind and strength, and think they will succeed.

Then there is another reason why the Britisher doesn't want to look into Mr. Taft's general make-up. He denies the divinity of Jesus Christ, our only hope, and points us to the dark pit of perdition to spend our eternity. We don't blame the Republicans to be ashamed of him for that, besides many other bad things he represents.

Now let us turn for a moment from the dark to the bright side of the picture and see if we can find any flaw or fault in Mr. Bryan. He stands out like some great Mount Blanc and pitches his speeches out to the world and tells the people to read and think and act according to their honest and solemn and enlightened convictions. He does not go to any teacher or leader to find out if his speeches are right until after they are delivered. He is a leader himself, and does not ask for leadership. Democrats and many Republicans are proud of him and delight in following his leadership. He is an independent leader, and the most of Roosevelt's good ideas of reform were gotten from him.

Now let us look at the two men religiously. One points us, as we said above, to the shades of eternal darkness as our portion forever, and the other to the realms of everlasting joy, bliss and happiness as a heritage forever. One takes us to Heaven; the other to Hades (if we follow his influence and doctrine), and forgets that the Good Book says: "There is no other name under Heaven given among men whereby we must be saved than the name of Christ." As to their mental capacity, it is well known that Mr. Bryan is a deeper thinker and fuller of originality than Mr. Taft. His speeches and writings demonstrate that fact and prove that there is no shallowness or superficiality about him. He is the best rounded-off man in America to-day—morally, politically, socially, mentally and in statesmanship. He was right when he advocated the free coinage of silver, because Africa, Australia and other countries had not at that time emptied their loads of gold into the world. Now it is not needed, and he says nothing about silver. The principles he represents in the Democratic platform to-day are wise and good for the whole country, and unless he is elected President of the United States next November the whole country, of whatever political creed (except the favored few), will cry and howl and lament and wish that the Republican party had never been born.

J. E. MOORE.

Petersburg, Va., Sept. 12, 1908.

The Passing of the Sabbath.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—No contrast can be more striking than that between the Sunday of to-day and the Sabbath of the past. This change has come so gradually that we have not realized it, nor its suggestiveness and influence. Sunday has been the festival day of some countries for centuries, but it has been set apart as a "holy day," in which all public work became illegal, and heretofore social life was limited to family intercourse in Virginia. To break the first subjected the offender to possible arrest, and to offend the second meant loss of respect, and certainly much criticism. The secular papers, novels and general reading were put away Saturday night. Even the children laid aside toys and dolls, and all noisy plays were forbidden out of reverence for the seventh day. Worldly topics were not discussed, and the solemn calm of the day still remains with those who lived when the Puritan Sabbath was observed. The blinds of store windows were drawn tightly down to show respect to the day. No bands marched along the streets, and reverent quiet was over city and country. The day was peculiarly devoted to the children, who were read to for hours and taken to walk by their elders, when the wonders of nature were explained.

"And not a flower that blooms above
the sod,
But tried to breathe the name of God."

A droll, boring, dreary day, such a Sabbath would appear to the young people of to-day, who go out pleasure driving, indulge in tennis and golf, give 5-o'clock teas, read novels and live the day pretty much as they do the six week days, often sleeping all the forenoon to prepare them for the afternoon enjoyments, while the church bells peal out their cordial call, and the pews are sadly lacking in young occupants. That this flagrant neglect of the command, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," leads to absolute indifference to religious things and results in lack of reverence and godly fear, is constantly demonstrated to the careful observer.

Extremes are mistakes; I do not advise the reign of the old Sabbath observance, but I do insist that the lax, irreverent, gay and careless Sunday of the present is having a most harmful influence, and that our young people are drifting on its insiduous and poisonous current further and further away from the standard of high living set forth in God's word. I believe that the keynote to this situation is the weak desire of parents for their children to get enjoyment at every cost, and that though their own rearing in childhood and youth compelled self-denial and self-control, they shield their offspring from every chance of developing those noble traits, and wink at indulgences that would have wellnigh broken their own parents' hearts. Again the neglect of the nursery training for the youngest ones is another explanation of the change. Time was when, in addition to the Christian mother's influence in the nursery, the faithful, conscientious work of the slave-mammy helped to lead the little ones into the paths of righteousness—a bitter contrast to the influence of the scheming hireling of to-day. Surely, under the new regime, mothers should double their efforts, and not allow the most attractive social temptation to draw them from an unfulfilled duty to those for whose salvation or loss they may be held responsible in the great beyond.

FANNIE HARRISON PONTON.

Battle of Sharpsburg.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—The kindly light of day on the 17th of September, 1862, forty-six years ago, broke with quiet, tender beauty over the lovely valley of the Antietam, a locality so soon destined to be ever memorable in American annals. This day of bloody strife dawned upon the mighty hosts that there confronted each other in battle array, conscious that the issue not only of a campaign, but of the war itself hung on what should that day be done.

The collision was not delayed, and with early light the morning stillness was broken by the fierce rattle of musketry and the hoarse clamor of more than 200 guns.

On the field of Sharpsburg or Antietam there were assembled 120,000 men of all arms. This mighty force consisted of 82,000 men under the command of General George B. McClellan, and 38,000 men of the South, commanded by General Robert E. Lee. General Longstreet has told us in his book of the Civil War that Sharpsburg was the greatest one day battle of the war of 1861-'65. It has gone into history as a "drawn battle," which is fully sustained by the facts in the case. The Confederate Army remained on the field of battle the day after the terrible conflict ready and expecting the battle to be renewed, but General McClellan did not seem at all disposed to continue a fight in which he had already lost 12,400 men killed and wounded as against 9,400 men who had fallen in the cause of the Confederacy. In the first of several published articles on the Sharpsburg fight it was the writer's privilege to coin the expression, "The gamest fight of the nineteenth century." It will so remain, and be thus regarded long after the last survivor has answered the last roll call from the rapidly-thinning ranks of his old comrades.

The writer thinks it is a duty we owe to ourselves, the cause and history, that we should be mindful of the anniversaries of the great battles of the Confederacy, and as they roll round from year to year let some of us publish a brief account of them. Never allow their glory to be dimmed by forgetfulness or indifference.

C. A. RICHARDSON,
Company B, Fifteenth Virginia Infantry.

September 17, 1908.

Still After Mr. Royall.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I felt it a duty, in defense of Mr. Bryan's views on the subject of guaranteeing individual depositors, which were subsequently indorsed by the Denver platform, to reply in your issue of September 5th to Mr. Royall's strenuous opposition to the same and his violent attack on Mr. Bryan's statesmanship. Because of Mr. Bryan's advocacy of the guarantee fund, Mr. Royall denounced Mr. Bryan as a Populist, and said that the platform of the Democratic party adopted at Denver, which indorsed the guarantee fund, was "vicious and pernicious," was "socialistic and anarchistic." To dispel the effect of Mr. Royall's antagonism, I beg leave to insert in your columns a statement of a practical national banker on the question of dispute.

O. J. Fleming, president of the Enid (Okla.) National Bank vs. William L. Royall, lawyer, of the city of Richmond.

Mr. Fleming, in reply to Nebraskan banker, who asked for information in regard to the operation of the Oklahoma plan, wrote: "You asked my opinion of the new banking law and how it affected our business. The Enid National Bank has increased in deposits from $400,000 at the time the law took effect to over $700,000 at the present time, and it is my opinion that a large majority of the increased deposits have come to us through the good effects of the new guaranty deposit law of our State. I could give you many instances of individuals who have deposits that I know came directly from the effect of this law. One man," wrote Mr. Fleming, "came into our bank with an ordinary shoebox. We found in box $1,450. This money bore the evidence of having been buried." In his letter Mr. Fleming gave other instances of cash deposits which would have been kept hid under the ground or elsewhere out of circulation. Said he: "We could multiply instances of the same character almost without number, but hardly think it necessary to give additional ones." Mr. Royall's views on guaranty banks are theoretical; experience up to date has proven their falsity. Macaulay, the great historian, many years ago theorized that this republic would soon disintegrate; but experience of more than a hundred years has tended to accentuate its cohesiveness. And the late violent attempt to dismember its parts has proven even the ineffectiveness of a huge endeavor. Experience that meets success is progressive. The guaranty fund will eclipse all your safety appliances; will beat all your expensive fire-proof, burglar-proof vaults and your time-locks included. Besides, the people want the guaranty idea incorporated in our laws, and the people should rule, "don't you know."

"There are none so blind as they who will not see."

G. W. B. HALE.

Rocky Mount, Va., September 12, 1908.

Great Democrats.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—If you will induce the powers that be to have the great David Bennett Hill and Alton B. Parker to address the voters in Richmond on any Friday night between now and election day, I, out of my abundant poverty, will contribute $1 towards defraying the expense of the meeting.

These eminent statesmen and perfect gentlemen, having no bad habits, not even using tobacco, are an incentive to the youth of our State to follow after all that is "pure, lovely and of good report."

It is to the lasting credit of this State that one-half of her delegates some years ago voted for the great New York Senator for the exalted position of President of the United States, and four years ago unanimously cast their ballots for the great New York judge for the position of President of the United States.

There be many able, eloquent and patriotic Democrats, but the greatest of these are David Bennett Hill and Alton B. Parker. "Age cannot wither them nor custom stale their infinite variety." As the days go by their popularity increases.

If the alarmingly large Republican vote of our city is to be reduced, if Democratic officials are to be brought to a sense of duty, and made to vote for W. J. Bryan next November, by all means let the two New York Titans each deliver an address here in Richmond at an early date.

PATRIOT.

Richmond, Va., September 11, 1908.

Bank Deposit Insurance.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Referring to the attack made by Mr. Royall upon the guaranty of deposits feature of the Democratic platform (Mr. Bryan's suggestion), it presents itself to my mind as a feature of insurance, the principles of which are just as appl