

GAINESVILLE The Sun

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H. H. McCREARY, Editor and Publ'r.

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OUR CLUBBING LIST.

- The Sun and the Thrice-a-Week (N.Y.) World one year..... \$1 65
The Sun and the Atlanta (Ga.) Weekly Constitution one year.. 1 75
The Sun and the Atlanta (Ga.) Semi-Weekly Journal one year. 1 50
The Sun and the Semi-Weekly Times-Union one year..... 1 50

We will not accept stamps of a larger denomination than 2 cents.

A gentleman from the East is so pleased with Gainesville that he has rented a cottage for five years.

The San Domingo receiver is busy trying to find something to receive, and may not even receive thanks.

Melba, the singer who would like to rival Patti, likes California better than Florida; but Melba is getting in her dotage.

Standard Oil, on a capitalization of \$100,000,000, is able to pay a quarterly dividend of \$15,000,000. The bare statement is a whole sermon in itself.

It is estimated that the output of automobiles for the current year will be 20,000, of a total value of \$30,000,000. Accessories made will reach \$5,000,000.

A young bachelor found out a couple of weeks ago that carving a turkey is just like courting his best girl—he is sure to get both of them into his lap before he gets through.

The only contagion in Gainesville at present is the "builders' fever," and it seems as though there was nothing to check it. There are numerous cases in the city, and it is liable to be with us all summer.

The Czar of Russia would like to make peace, if he could do so without being compelled to put up anything. But the Japanese government will probably want a purse of about \$500,000,000 and also want the Czar to keep his distance, which will be a hard pill for his highness to down.

The Jamestown Exposition, at Jamestown, Va., May 13 to November 1, 1907, will be a naval and military display worth seeing. As President Roosevelt has invited the world to be present. The Russian fleet may be dug up in time to be there the latter part of January, but not earlier.

This is an age of advanced ideas as well as some very odd ones, and when Rev. Joseph Milburn of Chicago asserts that "the theater is a greater moral power than the pulpit," he is in advance of the majority of people in this country. The stage, even when viewed from the front, has some fierce elevator to present to the people, while behind the scenes it is not near so pleasing to the refined eye. There are many conscientious people on the stage, we know, but we don't know much about Chicago preachers behind the scenes.

Until the baseball season is fairly opened and ring contests are allowed to proceed unmolested in California, the various boards of strategy will discuss the war between Japan and Russia. Many able arguments have been advanced, and from second place the Japs have moved up to the top of the first column with a percentage of 1,000, and a fielding and batting average that looks as though they were pennant winners. One man who has watched the game ever since the opening has become thoroughly convinced that the Russians are "mighty poor in the field," but as runners they are first-class, although the Japs excel in stealing bases, and will win through the errors of the Russians.

New York City is said to have a case of leprosy.

Japan wants \$800,000,000 and Russia won't give it. So, on with the dance.

The examination of the beef trust promises to be as tough a proposition as the beef itself.

We are told by the bug men that there are 200,000 different kinds of insects. We believe it.

If Russia desires a more bitter end than it promises already let her continue the war. It has been decidedly gally.

An ordinance should not be necessary to stop gentlemen from spitting on the sidewalks. Just common decency.

The State of Illinois has hit upon one way of solving the divorce question. It proposes to prohibit the paying of alimony.

Dowie places his assets at \$21,000,000, and this does not include his whiskers or his large collection of adjectives.

Florida's resources are great. The Volusia County Record says a farmer in that section is raising succotash-corn and velvet beans together.

March did not do so bad after the way she has been traduced by would-be weather prophets. Her conduct this year is highly commendable.

A discerning newspaper writer has discovered that a man who is in politics for the good of the people all too frequently considers that himself and his relatives are the people.

Many a would-be swell will sit down at his Northern home in a few days and wonder whether he did right in pawning his fur overcoat and spending the money for a trip to Florida.

After a careful perusal of the numerous State papers, we are led to believe that there will be a meeting of the Legislature in Tallahassee, next week, Wednesday, April 5, 1905.

Green seems to be the fashionable color at the present time in Florida, with a few dots of red and white. The trees never looked more beautiful and the dead leaves should be raked up and burned.

It is a pity we acquire so much knowledge these days. Just as Easter is approaching it is discovered that eggs are poison. Children and young women are known to have become ill after eating fresh eggs.

Henry Watterson, who is in France and Italy on a tour, says: "The climate of the south of France, as compared with Florida and California, is abominable." Mr. Watterson is no doubt as good a man to judge as any.

A Pennsylvania man has been catching crocodiles in a novel way in South Florida. He had a phonograph that would sing the song, "Under the Anheuser-Busch," and when the crocodile would become charmed with the song and stroll up to the music box, the hunter, being concealed near-by, would shoot the reptile.

We repeat, Japan has destroyed the Russian fleet, captured Port Arthur and practically driven Kuropatkin out of Manchuria. That is all that she set out to do. Why then has she not won her fight? And why is it not time for Russia to sue for peace? And if she does not do so, is it not time for the powers to interfere?—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

The acquittal of Judge Benjamin S. Liddon of all the charges in the disbarment proceedings, while a complete vindication of the judge, will also be a rebuke to his traducers who, for personal spite, resorted to this method for revenge. Judge C. B. Parkhill, before the case was heard at Marianna, issued an order declaring Judge Liddon not guilty on all the charges.

Now comes the professor of an Eastern college and declares that the earth is becoming unsteady on its axis and that we need not be surprised at any wobbling effects. That's all right for a staid college professor to put up that sort of talk, but if the average man should go home about 2 a. m. and try to argue with his wife that his unsteady gait was due to the old world being off of its axis, he would be accused at once of being in the jungle where the frisky tiger abounds.

FLORIDA'S LIBEL LAWS.

The libel laws of this State are, to say the least, most peculiar, and those affecting newspapers should have the attention of the Legislature.

Under our laws at present, a publisher of a communication reflecting upon any person, though it be signed with the name of the author, and paid for as an advertisement, is held equally responsible with the author. So also is a job office that prints a libelous circular. No matter how innocent the publisher may be of improper motives, or how honestly he may believe the statements to be true, he is held as guilty as the author who wilfully and from pure malice defames the character of his fellow man.

It is seldom in this State that publishers are criminally prosecuted for libels published under such conditions, but they are frequently made the victims of annoying civil suits that are little less than highway robbery, usually instigated by some 2x4 lawyer with an itching palm and a desire to share in the spoils.

A committee from the State Press Association will wait upon the next session of the Legislature and endeavor to secure proper remedy.

WITH JAPAN.

No foreign war for years has excited so much interest and sympathy in the United States, and the whole civilized world for that matter, as the present conflict between Japan and Russia. And in nearly every civilized country, as well as some of the heathen lands, the preponderance of sympathy is with Japan. The principal reason for such sympathy is the fact that she is supposed to be the weaker nation, and the second reason is that Russia has always been a domineering and brutal autocracy, almost despised by those who love liberty. Even her own people, who do not know what liberty is, but would like to try it, hate the Czar and his council of intriguers.

To show the different feeling for the two powers, attention might be cited to the eagerness displayed in England and the United States in subscribing to the loan of \$300,000,000 that Japan secured a few days ago. Ten times the amount was offered in both countries, while the Russian loan went begging in France.

It may be wrong for neutral powers to interfere in such affairs, but as those who desired the Japanese bonds were made up of people who invested their own private funds, they have a perfect right to do as they wish in the matter, and as they believe Japan is fighting for the right, it is their privilege to invest their means where they see fit, whether it pleases the Bear or not.

In New York, Chicago and San Francisco there are men with money who stand ready to uphold the Japs and they are backed by the people.

UNIONS AS AMERICANIZERS.

Labor Commissioner Carroll D. Wright has been conducting investigations into the effect of labor unions on certain classes of immigrants, whom it is next to impossible to reach and uplift through ordinary channels, and finds that their efforts have been productive of beneficial results, says a report recently made.

Mr. Wright's research was conducted in the stock yards at Chicago, where the foreign element, largely Lithuanians, Slovaks and Russian Poles predominates. The clan spirit at first so much in evidence, he declares, is gradually eliminated by the unions, whose officers refuse to permit the recognition of racial lines, and who strive to break down the secretive traits of character instilled by life in a country where the term government conveys nothing but distrust and terror and teach the newcomer that he is a part of it. He is taught that he should not be satisfied with the standard of living to which he has been accustomed; that he should have better wages, better working conditions, better opportunities, better homes, better clothes, the aim being to inspire higher aims and broader views. Such a course naturally creates discontent, but this is justified by Mr. Wright, who points out that, whatever the union's motives for creating such a feeling, the fact that "it breeds discontent among immigrants—which is the first step towards their improvement and ultimate Americanization—renders the union so far a public benefactor."

The principal may be admirable, says one paper, but its application is often faulty, and frequently carried to an extreme that nullifies any merit it might possess under a more judicious exercise of such power.

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