The Sun.

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THE SUN, New York City.

*We shall commence next Sunday, May 13, the publication of a tremendously interesting new novel by* W. CLARK RUSSELL. *It is founded on the weird and mysterious old legend of the Flying Dutchman.*

## We Report Progress.

During the last week, a great deal was accomplished in the ripening up of politics. On the Democratic side all opposition to Mr. CLEVELAND, except that of his famous letter, appeared to be trampled out, while the only avowed candidate for Vice-President, Governor GRAY of Indiana, got a very black eye indeed.

As for the Republican apparatus, this is about the way it sagaciates at present:

*For President:* WALTER Q. GRESHAM of Indiana.

*For Vice-President:* CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW of New York.

Those who are accustomed to politics will see that this is a rather potent combination, rich in those elements of strength and party enthusiasm which those who have carried the art of politics to much perfection esteem as of high value.

So the kaleidoscope stands to-day, but whether it will stand so in June, when the two Conventions assemble, is a question that only the most tremendous political prophet can now determine.

But as for the Republican candidates of the day, we are bound to add, as a duty imposed by candor, that we have observed Gen. GRESHAM not only on the field of battle fighting, but in various spheres of civil life as well, and that he has always been found, in every capacity, a citizen worthy of esteem and friendship.

## There Must be Harmony—A Thorough Survey of the Local Field.

Indications are not wanting that the harmonious relations which should prevail between both branches of the New York city Democracy, and which should characterize their cordial joint support of the Presidential candidates to be nominated at St. Louis, will not extend further than the Electoral, State, and Congress tickets. A municipal fight, on the lines of a new rivalry, is very likely, though of the opportuneness, safety, and advantage of it very serious doubts may well exist.

It is always difficult to keep compact and stable the local forces of the New York Democrats. The superiority of their party strength over that of the Republicans is in most districts of the town so overwhelming as to preclude any contest, except between Democrats themselves, for the local offices to be filled each year. During the past twelve months this disparity, always large, has been increased by the wreck of the local Republican party and the wholesale withdrawals and defections from its standard. To-day it is doubtful if one voter in five acknowledges any allegiance to the Republican machine here, and in some districts there can be unearthed but one Republican in ten voters. With the disproportion so large, it is not easy to make Democrats alive to the need of a union, and this year other causes contribute to the demand for two straight tickets. The Labor vote, which reached 68,000 in 1886 and 37,000 in 1887, has now few remnants of cohesion, and if Tammany Hall and the County Democracy espouse different interests and nominate rival candidates for the municipal contest, these Labor voters, the Progressives, as well as those who followed HENRY GEORGE last year, will resume their former political associations, and thus complete the dismemberment and extinction of the Labor party in New York.

If, however, it is argued with considerable force by the advocates of no union, the two factions of Democracy, yielding to one another a portion of the places to be filled, make again a mutual arrangement, not only will the disbanding of the Labor forces be arrested, but scores of recruits will be brought to the Labor camp, as was the case in 1886, when thousands of Democrats were found voting with the Labor people in local contests throughout the town.

The two reasons already assigned as rendering probable a triangular local fight in November are further emphasized by a question involving the offices to be filled. Mr. HEWITT, who is a County Democrat, was originally nominated by Tammany. His own party acquiesced in Tammany's action, and he became a veritable union candidate. But men as free from the trammels of politics, and as independent, yet as warmly championed by both the Tammany and the County Democracy leaders, as was Mr. HEWITT, are not numerous in New York. He was one man in ten thousand. His successor, should Mr. HEWITT decline to run again for Mayor, must inevitably be chosen from one or the other faction of the Democratic party, a proceeding not likely to be looked upon with indifference by the faction not favored, especially in view of the large number of important vacancies which the incoming Mayor will have to fill.

Another difficulty likely to be encountered in endeavoring to secure a union is this: The three county positions now held by Democrats which become vacant this year are Sheriff, County Clerk, and Coroner. All three places are held by Tammany men—HUGH J. GRANT, JAMES A. FLACK, and FERDINAND LEVY respectively. The partisans of the Wigwam are imbued with a spirit of profound and unwavering loyalty to the Democratic party and its essential principles, but they will be apt to remain obdurate to the argument that one or more of these offices should be surrendered to their County Democracy brethren, whose candidates for all three positions were in a triangular fight defeated by Tammany's nominees in 1885. Yet if Tammany is to retain possession of these offices and to have a friend of her historic organization in the Mayor's office besides, there will be no basis of union for the County Democracy to agree on, or consistently to ask its followers to abide by.

These arguments fail, we think, to denote that a union of the local Democracy this year is not possible or desirable. But they do certainly indicate that such a union can be brought about only by the most skilful, sagacious, and conciliatory leadership, by large sacrifices, and at some considerable degree of risk to the prospects in New York city of the Presidential ticket to be nominated in St. Louis next month.

In anticipation of a probable triangular local fight, the Tammany and County Democracy leaders have been taking measure of their strength, restoring the breaches in their ranks, stimulating their lieutenants, and preparing for the fray. The result of it all is that both are sanguine, and that the one point upon which both agree is the power of

the other to defeat the Republicans. It is agreed on all hands that the Republicans will make a poor third in the municipal race of this year should they go through the formality of nominating a ticket.

In the First Assembly district, famous as the domicile of that jurist, social reformer, and statesman, "Little Judge" Duffy, Col. M. C. Murphy is the County Democracy leader. The organization whose forces he marshals is undoubtedly stronger there than is Tammany, to the extent of not less than 500 votes, and perhaps a full thousand.

In the Second Assembly district these conditions are exactly reversed. The Hon. Patrick Divver, flushed with the glow of triumph, leads a victorious Tammany majority of one thousand, the County Democracy being temporarily under a cloud by reason of the misfortunes of their leader, ex-Warden Thomas P. Walsh, and the death of his former faithful lieutenant, Jeremiah Hartigan.

In the Third Assembly district the balance of power is again with the County Democracy, led by Judge Daniel O'Reilly, a tireless and not ornamental politician, whose influence is extensive. He has the assistance, among others, of Patrick Napoleon Oakley, with Aldermanic honors thick about him. The Tammany contingent in the Third suffers the disadvantage of having a leader who lives beyond its confines. In a straight fight Tammany would probably lose by 500. The Fourth Assembly district is traditionally a Tammany stronghold, and its superiority to the County Democracy there would probably exceed a thousand. Commissioner of Jurors Reilly is the County Democracy leader. Ex-Alderman Fitzpatrick leads Tammany.

In the Fifth district the Democratic standard bearers are men of bulk, of force, and of large acquaintance. Ex-Coroner Donlin is the County Democracy, Judge Norton is the Tammany leader. This district—the old Eighth ward of historic memory—inclines in its party affiliations to the County Democrats, who in every straight contest have carried it since the foundation of their organization in 1881, except on the vote for Mayor in 1884. The district is still controlled by the County Democracy by a majority certainly not less than 500, and perhaps considerably more.

The Sixth, an east side district, has as leader a Senator, Reilly, on the Tammany side, and a Congressman, Campbell, on the other. Both factions are pretty evenly matched in numbers, but the County Democrats are more skilfully led, Timothy J. Campbell being one of the most experienced and resourceful district statesmen of the day, and one to oppose whom, in a hard fight, is often perilous. The contest between the two organizations in the Sixth would be interesting, with chances about even.

The six districts already named include—with the Eighth added—the whole of New York city below Houston street, running as that street does from river to river. They are all safely and securely Democratic, and however much the party might be divided, its differences would give the Republicans no opportunity whatever. As has been shown, the equilibrium between the two factions of local Democracy is almost perfect in these six districts, and unless new and unforeseen issues arise to upset present calculations, the strength of one would just about offset the other, leaving a very slight margin.

The Seventh district is a Republican district—Republican if the Democrats divide, Republican if they unite. Ex-Senator Thomas C. Dunham is the County Democracy, and Bernard F. Martin is the Tammany leader. The latter party has the better organization, and it is not encumbered by any amateur leaders, but which of the two forces has the more following is a fairly debatable question.

The Eighth is the district in which John J. O'Brien has been dethroned. It is now strongly Democratic, and the County Democrats are at least 800 votes stronger than their Tammany rivals. Daniel Patterson is their leader.

The Ninth district never had a Republican O'Brien, but it has become Democratic all the same. Police Commissioner Voorhis is the County Democracy leader. Judge Gorman directs Tammany. Both claim the ascendancy of numbers, and a spirited fight would result in a very small majority either way. Taken altogether, the Seventh and Ninth cast 9,000 Democratic votes.

The Tenth is now the banner County Democracy district in town, that organization being from 1,500 to 2,000 stronger than Tammany. W. P. Mitchell and Charles Steckler are the respective leaders. The Tenth is a German district—the strongest German district in the city.

The Eleventh Assembly district includes Murray Hill, but its Republicanism is not proof against the deep-working current of popular change, and the Democracy grows stronger there yearly. Judge Ford leads the County Democracy. John J. Scannell is the Tammany leader. The Eleventh is good fighting ground for both, with a probable Tammany majority of 300 or more.

The Twelfth Assembly is a County Democracy stronghold by from 1,200 to 1,500. Patrick Keenan is the leader. Daniel Hanley is the Tammany leader, but his following would not be imposing were it not for the assistance which this district has had in the Internal Revenue and other departments from the National Administration, which has been profuse in its recognition of Tammany here.

The Thirteenth district has two Republican parties. The County Democracy suffers for the want of a leader. Tammany is well equipped in that respect, but is weak in available candidates. So honors are easy in the Thirteenth. James Barker is the Tammany chieftain and is a candidate for Sheriff as well. The district is a Tammany one by a thousand votes or more.

In the Fourteenth, James Daly leads the County Democracy and John Reilly the Tammanyites. The Fourteenth is a small district in area, but politically it is well developed, and there is a permanent surplus of unemployed statesmanship. Mr. Reilly, the Tammany champion, is a singularly successful political General. Mr. Daly, his rival, is less fortunate, but his individual popularity as a candidate is remarkable. The Fourteenth inclines toward Tammany by about 800 on a full vote. Either of the Democratic organizations outnumbers the Republicans two to one.

The Fifteenth district has been the battle ground of many a vigorous political fight. Republicanism has all but died out in the Fifteenth, but the Democrats there cast 7,000 votes. The larger number of these, unquestionably, train under the County banner borne by the Chesterfield of portly Democracy, the Hon. Thomas Costigan. The Tammany leader is the district Alderman, R. J. Sullivan. The Fifteenth adjoins the Thirteenth on one side; it adjoins the Eleventh on the other. All three, taken collectively, will cast this year probably 15,000 Democratic votes, of which, it is fair to say, neither Tammany nor the County Democracy will get a majority of more than 500.

The Sixteenth Assembly district has Judge Maurice J. Power for County Democracy, and Edward P. Hagan for Tammany leader. It is a hotly contested district, but the County Democrats are more than ever likely to have this year a clear majority.

The Seventeenth, on the other hand, is a Tammany district to the extent probably of 1,500 votes. George W. Plunkitt is the Tammany, and Judge Henry Murray the County Democracy leader. The Eighteenth is also a Tammany district by about 1,200. Richard Croker is the leader, and the discipline and organization of the Tammany forces here reveals a capable and courageous regard for its 5,000 Democratic voters. James McCartney leads the County Democracy.

The Nineteenth Assembly district has Sheriff Hugh J. Grant for Tammany, and Denis A. Spellissy for County Democracy leader. The district is the largest in town in point of area and the most changeable in point of population. Tammany is the stronger here by from 1,500 to 2,000.

The Twentieth has hitherto been strongly Tammany, but the present drift is in the direction of the County Democrats, who have the advantage of a State Senator in the person of Charles A. Stadler and the support of interests hitherto antagonistic. James A. Flack is the Tammany, Patrick H. Kerwin the County Democracy leader.

The Twenty-first Assembly district is Republican, or rather it used to be Republican, for it went Democratic last year, and is quite likely to continue in that victorious column in November. The Tammany leader is James J. Martin; the County Democracy leader is James J. Kelso. The two organizations are of nearly even strength, with the advantage somewhat, though not much, in favor of the County Democracy.

The Twenty-second is the strongest Tammany district in New York to-day. In a triangular fight the County Democracy would expect to be outvoted here by 2,500 votes. Judge McQuade is the Tammany leader. Henry Clausen, John D. Crimmins, Charles H. Reilly, and Harry C. Hart have been respectively the County Democracy leaders here. The Twenty-second is so large that it could be divided into three districts, and each of them would be large enough and have votes enough to engage the exclusive time, patience, and attention of a local leader.

The Twenty-third is the Harlem district. Judge White is the County Democracy, Judge Welde is the Tammany leader. The Twenty-third casts an enormous vote, and is rather independent in its preferences. But the County men feel sanguine of their ability to defeat Tammany. Hitherto the Twenty-third has had a Tammany majority.

In the Twenty-fourth Assembly district, across Harlem River, George H. Forster is the Tammany, and Henry D. Purroy the County Democracy leader. The Twenty-fourth is a County Democracy district by about 700 votes, and that organization has never lost it at any election since the foundation of the party in 1881.

Whether those Democrats who deny that in union there is strength politically this year will force their views in local counsels is a question. But if they do, it is quite apparent that the two rival organizations to stand against each other are so evenly matched in leadership and numbers as to give promise of a political duel such as New York city has not seen in many a day. In such a fight the members of what is left of the United Labor, Progressive Labor, and Union Labor parties would naturally range themselves on one or the other side, and the issue would depend to a considerable extent on the influence and efficiency of the recently reorganized German Democratic faction which has superseded the previously existing German parties in town, and is a representative body. Our present Congress delegation in Washington is composed of seven Democrats and one Republican, and even should the division in the party's ranks extend to the Congress districts—something which is extremely improbable—there is no likelihood of the Republicans being able to elect more than one member of the delegation, and the chances are decidedly against their being able to do even that.

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## Will He Shave it Off?

Our esteemed pictorial contemporary, the *Graphic*, prints the best portrait yet unveiled to the admiring eyes of the public of the Hon. Melville Weston Fuller, Chief Justice appointed of the United States. Mr. Fuller has a very distinguished face—eyes brilliant and well set, a broad, clear forehead, a finely shaped nose, gray hair, arranged or disarranged in artistic and orderly disorder, a poetic rather than a judicial chin, a moustache, white, thick, decorative, and magnificent. If Mr. Matthew Arnold had lived to know that Mr. Fuller was one of our great men, he would not have said that "our great men are lacking in distinction."

But it is evident from an attentive study of Mr. Fuller's features that their chief curve of beauty, their piece of resistance and their point of support, is his uncommonly luxuriant and beautiful moustache. In bristling reds, in car-driver blacks, in characterless browns or yellows, this moustache would not be the thing of beauty it is. Its form is good, but it is the grayish white or whitish gray of its color which raises it above the mob of plebeian and ordinary moustaches, and gives it character, dignity, tone. This moustache in any other color would not look so handsome.

But it is said that, in accordance with judicial precedents and customs, this moustache must come off. The idea of a Chief Justice with moustachios is intolerable. As well think of John Marshall with a "Charley" or Roger B. Taney with a goatee! In the good old times the clean shave was demanded of the bewigged Judge and barrister. Moustaches were purely military ornaments or impediments. In the days before Waterloo Mr. Joseph Sedley's foraging cap did not bring on him more ridicule, as the students of "Vanity Fair" will remember, than his incipient moustaches. That a civilian should wear those gay adornments was absurd. Time was when the clerks of the Bank of England—and, indeed, London clerks in general—were required to cultivate no crop upon their upper lips on pain of losing their places. Even under the electric light of modern civilization English Judges sneak into side whiskers. Even the Supreme Court of the United States contains but one moustached Judge, Stanley Matthews—and there are many things of which Stanley Matthews is not a judge.

The question is, now eagerly asked, and will be still more eagerly asked by those who are familiar with the lovely perfection of Mr. Fuller's moustache: Must this fair pearl be melted in the vinegar of custom? Must this almost perfect moustache be sacrificed to agree with the musty traditions of the Supreme Court?

To say that Mr. Justice Matthews has violated those traditions is no guide. Mr. Fuller is not Mr. Matthews. It is said that he will decline to sacrifice his moustache. It is better to be handsome than to comply with foolish fogyisms. Besides, Mr. Fuller has that long upper lip against which that other poet, Heinrich Heine, who had it himself, protested so unreasonably. Mr. Fuller, in all the glory of his robes, but dismoustached, will not look so well as he

does with that white glory overhanging his mouth, a shield and a benediction.

We advise him not to shave it off.

### The Great New Trust.

So the charter has been filed for the Farmers' Federation of the Mississippi Valley, with a capital of $20,000,000. A sort of organization which the free traders have maintained was the result and creature of a protective tariff has been formed by the farmers, whose industry competes with that of other countries without any direct protection at all.

This shows that the tariff may come and protection may go, and the Farmers' Trust and all other Trusts may go or come independently.

The farmers have rarely taken any pronounced attitude in public questions, but the formation of their Trust has done away with one humbug by a simple method which would do honor to the most accomplished of professional statesmen.

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Incidentally we may remark that the party which commits itself unreservedly to the abolition of the internal revenue taxes, on whiskey as well as on tobacco, will get the support of tens of thousands of voters who would otherwise vote the Prohibition ticket.

A great many Prohibitionists and friends of temperance believe that it is immoral for the Federal Government to recognize the liquor traffic by taxing it. They may be wrong, but they believe it, just the same.

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Two of the most useful and picturesque members of the Fiftieth Congress were renominated last Thursday for the Fifty-first.

We are glad to find that the reported troubles within the Democratic party in Mr. Holman's district in Indiana disappeared like the fogs of the morning when the Convention met. There may be somewhere in Dearborn, Decatur, Franklin, Jefferson, Ohio, Ripley, Switzerland, or Union county a Democrat fitted by character and experience to fill Mr. Holman's place in the House of Representatives; but until the fact has been demonstrated beyond the possibility of doubt we hope the Democracy of the Fourth Indiana district will try no experiments. It would be a national misfortune if Mr. Holman should retire or be retired from Congress.

Now that his mind is relieved from all anxiety concerning his political future, Mr. Holman can give undivided attention during the remainder of the session to the important work which is almost peculiarly his own.

The other Representative renominated on Thursday is the Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed of Maine, the leader of the Republican minority and everybody's friend.

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Many European capitalists seem to be convinced that it will pay to run railroads across Asia Minor, opening up the region which was once the granary of the Roman world. Within the past year six financial syndicates have applied to the Porte for concessions, and the latest news from Constantinople points to the probability that before long railroad building on quite an extensive scale will begin in Asiatic Turkey. Several projects are on foot, the most important of which is a railroad from Constantinople through the entire length of Asia Minor to Bagdad in the Euphrates valley and then a little south to the Persian Gulf, shortening the journey from England to India by about a week.

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It will be a fraud on the people if the personalities of the Ingalls-Voorhees discussion are suppressed in the *Congressional Record*. This is the land of free speech, but free speech in Congress should go into the archives, without omission, or suppression, or modification.

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The inhabitants of the Eighth Congress district must have observed with extreme satisfaction that in one of the most exciting and bewildering episodes ever known in the House of Representatives, that of Saturday last, the only statesman who fully rose to the occasion was the committee of their Congressional privileges, the Hon. Timothy Justinian Campbell. The House was being shaken with a conflict of personal opinion between three of its members, compared to which the recent tilt between Senators Ingalls and Voorhees was as a Quaker meeting. The skeleton of the debate could fairly be represented by this formula:

Mr. Woodburn—Mayor Hewitt apologized.
Mr. Bryce—'Tis false.
Mr. Brumm—It's true.
Mr. Bryce—You're a liar.

Fists were drawn, and as they flashed in the air with increasing threats of danger, the voice of Congressman Tim put this impressive and happy question to the Chair:

"Mr. Speaker, is this the United States Senate?"

And all was still. The House recognized the searching severity of the rebuke and returned to its usual dignity, and Bryce and Brumm gave their fists to each other in reconciliation and friendship. If ever a statesman swayed a legislative assembly by a single utterance, the Hon. Timothy Justinian Campbell did upon this occasion.

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To-morrow is the day fixed for opening Denmark's exhibition of Scandinavian industrial products, supplemented by art contributions from France, Russia, Germany, and other countries. This show will make Copenhagen additionally attractive for visitors during the summer. A week later comes the opening of the world's fair in Barcelona, of which much is expected, since it is Spain's first undertaking of the sort, although she has been well represented in many an exhibition held in other countries. On the 2d of June Belgium will begin its international exposition, for which an invitation has been sent to the United States. The Senate has already voted to provide for an official representation at this affair, and the House is likely enough to concur.

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Philadelphia's latest project in commemorative enterprise is that of building within her limits a joint monument to the signers of the Declaration of Independence and the framers of the Constitution of the United States. To all parts of the country an appeal is to be made for subscriptions. The feature of inscribing upon the monument a fac-simile of the signatures upon the Declaration and the Constitution will add to its interest. But a less wise step taken by the recent meeting called upon this subject was that of reviving the old grievance in regard to the celebration of 1876. The meeting of representatives from the thirteen original States decided that it would be a good thing for Congress to pay to the people of Philadelphia the sum of $1,500,000, to reimburse them for their expenses on that occasion. This was the amount of the loan which Congress made, and which had to be paid back. Local appeals for a share of the surplus in the Treasury are abundant, but the chances of success for this one are not brilliant.

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The Flying Dutchman of American politics seems to have made a snug harbor at last—but it is on the other side of the ocean.

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Many New Yorkers knew W. Montagu Kerr, the African explorer, who some years ago was a member of our Stock Exchange, and whose last ambitious project of discovery was thwarted at the outset by his fatal illness. Possessing ample means, and allured to Africa by his love of adventure, he was the only white traveller who has reached Lake Nyassa from the southern edge of the continent, and the only explorer who has visited a large region between the Zambesi and that lake. He then conceived the difficult and dangerous enterprise of crossing the continent from the east coast by way of Emin Pasha's territory on the Nile and through the Mohammedan States of the Soudan to the Atlantic. He spent nearly two years in London fitting himself by hard study to give scientific value to his researches, and then set out on the most arduous undertaking of recent years in Africa. He had hardly collected his porters at Zanzibar and started into the interior when he was attacked by the fever that has finally ended his life in the south of France. He was one of the very few men who have made long journeys in Africa wholly upon their own resources, and he has left two interesting volumes in which his travels are recorded.

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And so Mr. Cleveland once offered Mr. Fuller a place on the Civil Service Commission—in other words, Mr. Cleveland thought that the gentleman he has chosen for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court was of about the right size to fill the shoes of Dorman B. Eaton!

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We have a high respect for the abilities of that distinguished and still so rising Democratic lawyer, the Hon. William Bourke Cockran. But in his zeal for his client he permitted himself last Saturday in the search for jurors for the Kerr trial to throw an unnecessary brick at the press. In examining Mr. William G. McCormack of the jury list, Mr. Cockran put this question:

"Have you, after attending a public meeting, or a trial, or anything else that attracted a great deal of attention, and after reading the reports thereof in the various newspapers, ever in your life found a truthful report of the same in any hostile paper?"

Whereupon the proposed juror, anxious enough, doubtless, to escape jury duty, replied: "I cannot say that I have." This was sufficient for Mr. Cockran, who evidently had his reasons for wishing that the juror should be excused. Whereupon the juror was excused.

If Mr. McCormack had spoken in earnest, as it is unlikely that he did, he would deserve to be excused as too unintelligent to be a competent juror. If his opinion of the accuracy of the reports of matters of public interest printed in the newspapers is such as to allow him conscientiously to give the answer he gave to Mr. Cockran's question, it is evident that he is not a reader of honorable, fair, and intelligent newspapers. The people want the facts, and they soon grow impatient of newspapers which habitually distort or color the facts.

We suspect that Candidate-for-Juryman McCormack was only too willing to give any opinion which would enable him to shirk jury duty. Otherwise we should know that he never read any newspaper but the New York *World*.

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Listen to one of our most esteemed contemporaries:

"In a matter of prophecy, when it comes to 'straddling the blind,' count the *Courier-Journal* 'last in say,' and ready to play up to the limit, and as high as the moon."

We fear that the Star-eyed Goddess, in her disinterested devotion to the promotion of tariff smashing, has been neglecting a function far more sacred and obligatory, namely, her maternal superintendence of the habits of her most beloved son, the Hon. Henry Watterson.

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Mr. Perry Belmont's action in promptly and courteously declining the decoration offered to him by the French republic, through Minister Roustan, was sensible. A similar course by all officers of the Government under similar circumstances would save much time for Congress, which is beset at each session with projects of legislation authorizing the acceptance of such marks of foreign esteem. The ninth section of the Constitution declares that no person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States "shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office or title of any kind whatever from any king, prince, or foreign State." Naval officers oftenest have occasion to ask this consent of Congress for their acceptance of a foreign ribbon or piece of plate, as Mr. Belmont, in his capacity of Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, has observed.

In declining the decoration which the French republic wished to confer, in recognition of the manner in which he had presented the resolution relating to the French centenary of 1889, Mr. Belmont has set a good example.

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## *REJECT THE TREATY!*

### An Eminent Democrat's Stirring Appeal to the United States Senate.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* The Chamberlain treaty is now before the Senate. It surrenders everything the United States have contended for since 1838, when the dispute on the three-mile limit began, contentions which the British authorities have assented to or temporized about as often as pressed, so that really in no entire year since then have they insisted on enforcing their headland theory.

The commercial rights of the United States under the agreements of 1830 are utterly abandoned by Mr. Bayard after much previous insistance on their obligation.

The rights of common humanity toward our vessels in distress, accorded everywhere except on the Canadian coast, are hereafter to be allowed only upon the condition that the United States shall change its present registry laws by repealing them, and enacting such new ones as are acceptable to the British Government before going into effect. This, of course, leaves the humanity of Canada to vessels of the United States in distress withheld until the United States shall pay the consideration by repealing its laws and making such new ones.

Commercial intercourse by our fishing vessels is disallowed, but they may be permitted to buy a narrow line of supplies, whose extent would not exceed $50,000 a year, when the United States shall have repealed existing duties, now over $611,000 a year, on Canadian fish and oil, and made them free in our markets.

This is the substance of the treaty, all losses to the United States both in honor and profit. Gen. Jackson and Mr. McLane, Van Buren and Forsyth, Stevenson and Everett, Webster, Rush, Grant, Evarts, and even Bayard and Phelps, for two of their official years, are buried beneath this treaty, and their memories dishonored by its retreat from their patriotic contentions for American rights.

Cavillers have said the treaty of 1818 was wrung from our weakness, but this treaty, made in the hour of our strength, surrenders what that never did, our markets; and it doubles the waters from which it requires we shall be forever excluded.

The consequence of adopting this treaty would be the destruction of the fishery under the American flag, the paralysis of our hope of naval power, and a British monopoly of our markets, aggrandizing its dangerous naval power. Let the treaty be rejected.

Charles Levi Woodbury.

Boston, May 4.

### The Yaqui War.

Washington, May 6.—The Yaqui Indians of Sonora are once more engaged in hostilities with the Government troops, in what may possibly prove their last struggle against subjugation. More than three centuries ago the Spaniards found them ready to defend their independence at all cost, and when the Mexican republic succeeded to the rights of Spain it became involved in long wars to subdue them. Doubtless Mexico could not permit the extreme pretensions of the Yaquis to self-government. Still, it is clear that a series of oppressions from taxation and schemes to get possession of the lands of the tribe led to the conflict which was prosecuted for two or three years prior to the death of Chief Cajeme, and now has been renewed. The present operations show that while the majority of the Yaquis are forced to see their settlements on the river overrun, a few determined bands have taken refuge in the mountains, there to face extermination rather than surrender their freedom.

### Louisville's Woman Postmaster Gives In.

*From the Philadelphia Press.*

Louisville, May 5.—Mrs. Virginia Thompson, Postmistress of Louisville, returned to-day from Washington, where she went to answer the charges of loose management which have been lately filed against her in the report of a special inspector.

A bitter fight has been made against her for retaining Republicans in the office, and she has yielded so far as to call for the resignation of E. S. Tuley, who has been Assistant Postmaster since 1864. Mr. Tuley was appointed to office by President Pierce, and has remained ever since, being soon promoted to his present position. Repeated efforts have been made to secure his dismissal, Democrats charging that the office has been very loosely conducted, and that Tuley is mainly responsible for this. He is a moderate Republican, but disclaims being an offensive partisan. He will have to leave about June 1. Sam B. Harris, the superintendent of mails, also a Republican, will have to go.

### His Night Out.

Wife (club night)—Will you be home early, John?

Husband—Ye'es, I think so; but don't keep breakfast waiting for me.

## *GOV. SWINEFORD IN EARNEST.*

### He Declares that the Alaska Commercial Company Holds its Indian Employees in Virtual Slavery—The Renewal Question.

WASHINGTON, May 6.—There is a grave misunderstanding somewhere as to the privileges and practices of the Alaska Commercial Company, to which the Government grants an exclusive right of taking seals on the islands of St. Paul and St. George. The Secretary of the Treasury has just sent a communication to the House, saying that the records of his department show no violation of the terms of this grant on the part of the lessees. Simultaneously the Secretary of the Interior sent to the same body a communication from the highest territorial authority in Alaska, Gov. A. P. Swineford, declaring that the company is doing a great public injury by its exercise of its monopoly.

One of the charges made against the company is specifically explained by the Treasury Department. In the original lease a clause was introduced making it obligatory upon the company to pay to the Government "fifty-five cents per gallon for oil obtained from fur seals killed on the leased islands." It has been asserted that the company has practically deprived the Government of many thousands of dollars by habitually refraining from extracting the oil from the carcasses of seals, satisfying itself with obtaining the skins and selling the salted meat to the Indians whenever it can. Secretary Fairchild answers the House resolution of inquiry on this subject by saying that the condition relative to the tax of fifty-five cents per gallon on oil was rescinded fourteen years ago by Secretary Richardson.

But this is only one of the accusations made against the Alaska Commercial Company. Gov. Swineford reiterates that its native employees are grossly abused, and in support of this charge produces an affidavit from one Isaac Anderson, formerly in the company's employ, and a Deputy Marshal of Ounalaska. The Governor says that the company has used a part of the wealth it has derived from its profitable lease to reduce the native population, where Government agents do not interfere, to helpless dependence upon it:

> It offers and compels the acceptance by the natives, on the pain of starvation, of such beggarly prices for their peltry that it manages invariably to keep them in its debt and at its mercy. In order to more effectually monopolize the trade, it has marked and mutilated the coin of the United States, and refuses to receive any other from the natives in payment for goods sold them. Without mail communication other than that supplied by the company, which is their master, the natives are effectually walled, and in the absence of all competition are forced to sell their furs to the company at whatever prices its agents may see fit to offer. It discountenances every proposition looking to the settlement and development of the Territory, for reasons that must be obvious to the dullest comprehension.

Perhaps it is this latter belief which arouses the special hostility of the Governor to the company, as he naturally aims at the greatest possible development of the region under his charge. But, whatever the motive, it is hardly a matter to be ignored that an official occupying Gov. Swineford's position publicly and officially declares that "wherever the company has obtained a foothold neither white man nor native can live in peace and comfort except by its sufferance;" that "its oppression and robbery of natives are notorious;" that its paid agents and lobbyists are kept at Washington to oppose the progress of Alaska, and have largely succeeded in keeping it back; and that it has "boycotted and driven away" from the islands Government officers who have refused to do the bidding of its agents. The affidavit of Anderson describes cases in which he found himself in open hostilities with the company whenever he attempted to protect the Government's interests in court; and it alleges that no United States official can properly discharge his duties in Alaska where the company is concerned without coming into open hostility with its agents.

The charge that the company is taking seals from regions not leased to it, and that other people are unlawfully prevented from fishing in the waters of Behring Sea brings up the whole question of the right of the Government in that sea. Section 1,956 of the Revised Statutes prohibits the killing of fur seals or fur-bearing animals "within the limits of Alaska Territory or in the waters thereof;" but a specific right is given to the Alaska Commercial Company of California to kill seals to the extent of 100,000 annually on the islands of St. Paul and St. George, and "the waters adjacent" thereto. The claim that the company prosecutes its industry hundreds of miles distant from these islands will probably not be listened to by the Government, provided it is not shown that the company has exceeded its lawful annual catch. It has been charged that during at least one recent season the company did go far beyond its legal limit of 100,000, but there does not appear to be good evidence to support this charge.

Taking, however, the accusation of Gov. Swineford, if this be well founded, it ought to be enough to offset the recommendation of Special Agent Tingle that a right to employ additional natives should be given to the company. The ground of this recommendation was that deaths from intemperance were creating great havoc among the sealers; and, if so, the close supervision of the company hardly seems to have been exercised for the good of the natives. Gov. Swineford also charges upon the company violations of the law and of executive orders in relation to the importation and sale of breech-loading firearms. Some of the private sealers additionally declare that it sells to the natives condemned and worthless tobacco, in violation of the revenue laws; that it abets the Indians in shooting from the shore, contrary to law, young seals and cows; that it employs and pays attorneys to aid in prosecuting Government cases in which it is concerned, and so on. But apart from these accusations of those who themselves have been pronounced violators of the law, there is enough in the official charges of the Governor of the Territory to demand investigation.

The lease of the company expires year after next, having been granted in 1870 for a period of twenty years. The question of its renewal will probably start a very animated controversy.

### He Took the Congressman's Advice.

*From the Philadelphia Press.*

Congressman Browne of Indiana has a constituent in Washington who occasionally indulges too freely in the flowing bowl. He has been a good fellow in his day, but, like men of his calibre, has rapidly descended the ladder, until now he is compelled to ask assistance to carry him through the day quite frequently. A few days ago he called on Mr. Browne and said that he wanted a dollar with which to get supper, lodging, and breakfast. Mr. Browne handed fifty cents to him with the remark:

"You can get all that you want as well as a few drinks for this half dollar."

He protested that he could do nothing of the kind, and asked Mr. Browne how it could be accomplished. "Take this half dollar," said the Congressman, "and spend it in the ordinary manner. Get full and the police will pull you in and take care of you for the night and give you a breakfast in the morning."

The constituent pocketed the money and departed, and Mr. Browne forgot all about him until the next day. In the morning a policeman came to his house with a message from the constituent. He sent word that he had taken Mr. Browne's advice, had been arrested, and he wanted him to come and get him out of the police court.

### Pat Collins's Distinction.

*From the Springfield Republican.*

By grace of the Democratic National Committee Patrick A. Collins will preside over the Democratic Convention at St. Louis. That gathering will experience the good fortune of having the most ready and capable presiding officer in Massachusetts at its service.

### Enough Railroad to Cross the Continent.

The State Board of Assessors of New Jersey have just completed their annual report. It shows a total of 3,507 miles of railroad in the State—more, in proportion to the size of the State, than in any other State in the Union. Of this 2,124 miles are laid with the finest steel rails and 1,383 with iron. The gross earnings from all sources were $32,041,417. The net revenue applicable to the payment of interest and dividends was $14,714,460, or 7 per cent. on the entire valuation of all the roads, including the franchises and a million dollars to spare. The average dividends for all the roads in the United States during the year was a little more than 2 per cent. The total taxes assessed for the year was $1,303,484.

### The Song of the New 306.

*Air: "Wandering Willie."*

Here away, there away, wandering Jimmy,
  Here away, there away, come away home:
Come back to my bosom, my wandering Jimmy,
  Here away, there away, come away home.

Your foes are all dead, and the prospect is brighter,
  Oh! what is the reason you longer should roam?
Poor Burchard is down on his back with the lockjaw,
  Here away, there away, come away home.

Your boom is a spanker and never will weaken,
  Gresham's a myth and Depew is a gnome;
There is not one of them all like my wandering Jimmy;
  Here away, there away, come away home.

Sir Thomas, the slayer, is at Quarantine anchored,
  And gazing intent on the salt water's foam;
Sir Barney, the faithful, at the Castle is waiting;
  Here away, there away, come away home.

The winter is past, with its blows and its blizzards,
  The springtime is here and the summer will come,
And the boys will be shouting for Blaine and Foraker;
  Here away, there away, come away home.

Here away, there away, wandering Jimmy,
  Here away, there away, come away home.
Your foes are all dead, and Burchard is silent;
  Here away, there away, come away home.

Read Clark Russell's great romance of the sea, "The Death Ship," the most powerful and imaginative literary production of modern times, which will begin in THE SUNDAY SUN of May 13.—*Adv.*

## *THEY THINK IT'S A CHIP OFF THE SUN.*

### A Bigger Meteor Than Joe Mulhatton's Comes Down Near the Mammoth Cave.

*From the Cleveland Leader.*

From Litchfield, Grayson county, Ky., comes news of the fall near that point of an immense meteoric mass which struck the earth on a tract of wild land near Bee Springs, in Edmondson county, owned by John E. Stone, County Surveyor of Grayson. Its approach was first discovered by Prof. Klein, an observer having a station at Hartford, over fifty miles away. It covers 140 acres of ground, and is described as a glowing metallic mass, emitting a terrific heat, and towering high in the air. According to Prof. Klein's deduction it is the offspring of the sun. Says the correspondent: "Every vehicle in Litchfield is in demand this morning, and hundreds of people are flocking to the springs. The following citizens of Litchfield have just returned from there: John E. Stone, County Surveyor; John A. Bishop, merchant; R. O. Willis, merchant; Judge T. B. McBeath, Circuit Judge. They fully corroborate all the details herein given, and pronounce it one of the greatest wonders the world ever saw. Bee Springs is fourteen miles from Litchfield, and seventeen miles from Mammoth Cave. The country is wild and broken. It is full of caves and sink holes. The shock was so great that the town of Litchfield was shaken as if an earthquake had taken place. People ran from their houses in great alarm. The Episcopal church, which was a fine brick structure, is a mass of ruins. Goods on the shelves in the stores were thrown violently to the floor, and houses rocked to and fro. Everybody supposed it was a great earthquake until Meredith, who lives near Bee Springs, came dashing into town on a bareback mule, bringing the startling intelligence, which, with a despatch from Prof. Klein in answer to one sent him, explained the phenomenon to a great extent. Litchfield is a town of about 1,000 inhabitants and the county seat of Grayson county.

## *PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS.*

### South America for Blaine.

*From the Times-Democrat.*

The papers way down in Barranquilla, Colombia, South America, are taking a deep interest in the political issues and campaigns of this country. The *Shipping List*, a paper published in the above named town, and edited by E. P. Pellet, devotes the whole front page to a boom for James G. Blaine. The fourth page contains Blaine's letter of Jan. 25, 1888, to B. F. Jones, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, in which he declines to become a candidate. On the same page, beneath the flag of the United States, in large letters, is the name of Blaine for the Presidency in 1888. Beneath this is an appeal to the American citizens abroad irrespective of party to urge their friends at home to nominate and elect Blaine. In another portion of the paper appears the following, marked with a blue pencil: We send by this mail a copy of the *Shipping List* to each member of the Republican National Committee, with the request that ten minutes be devoted to the article on first page.

The first article consists of an introductory and nine reasons why Mr. Blaine should receive the nomination. Beneath each paragraph is "Republican National Convention, please take notice." It states: "Mr. Blaine has been manly with his party; now let the party be equally manly with him, and with one acclaim inscribe his name on the banners of 1888."

The paper continues through the whole article in the same spreadeagle style of written oratory. Editor Pellet evidently is a great admirer of the Maine statesman, and, while he cannot vote, is going to do his share of the howling, even if it is done at a distance.

R. G. Evans of the Republican National Committee received the paper yesterday.

### Col. Bob Ingersoll for Gresham.

*From the Globe-Democrat.*

We are permitted to print the following letter from Col. Robert G. Ingersoll:

REV. E. P. POWELL—*Dear Sir:* I am in favor of Gresham for the following reasons:

1. He is a man of intelligence, well read, mentally trained.
2. His character is good. He is an honest, faithful man.
3. He has filled with honor every position in which he has been. He was a private soldier; he became a General; he did his duty.
4. He was a Judge. He decided according to the best of his ability. He was merciful as well as firm.
5. He was a Cabinet officer. He was natural, clear-headed, and firm.
6. He is now a Judge, and no political ambition has or can warp his judgment.
7. His record is clean, and he can be elected.

Yours truly, R. G. INGERSOLL.

NEW YORK, April 20.

### Michigan's Man for Second Place.

*From the Philadelphia Press.*

DETROIT, Mich., May 5.—It is said to be practically settled that the Michigan delegation to St. Louis will present the name of Allen B. Morse, Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, to the Convention as a candidate for Vice-President. Morse is a soldier politician, one-armed, and the Democrats calculate that if Alger should be nominated by the Republicans, Morse would more than hold this State against him. The proposition to nominate Mr. Morse meets the warm approval of Don M. Dickinson, who is still leader of the State Democracy, and Morse's name is pretty certain to go before the Convention. He carried the State against Judge Cooley by 30,000 majority, but under very different circumstances from what his run would be against Alger. The Democrats calculate on getting the vote of Indiana because of the split over Gray.

### Is It a Straddle or Not?

*From the Hartford Times.*

The Democratic State Convention of Connecticut adopted its platform by a unanimous vote. Our Republican contemporaries say it is a "straddle" on the tariff. It "straddles" nothing, but deals with the question fairly.

*From the New Haven Register.*

The Convention would have shown better wisdom had they stopped at a general endorsement of the President and his policy, leaving to the national Convention a more particular statement of principles. As it is, it has added nothing to the situation, nor has it modified it. It simply straddled the issues of the hour.

### Gresham in New York.

*From the Albany Express.*

We know of no candidate, outside this State, who would be more likely to secure New York's electoral vote than Judge Gresham.

### Hard Lines at Willet's Point.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You will confer a great favor on a large number of your readers at present serving in the Engineer Battalion at Willet's Point by inserting this in your columns. There are between three and four hundred enlisted men here, comprising three companies. Of this number about fifty-four are non-commissioned officers. Of the privates, about 175 men are on extra and daily duty. Those under hospital treatment will average twenty men. There remain about 100 men for guard duty, with about four nights off guard duty. Here let me say that one post is half a mile from the guard house, and the hours of rest while on guard are so broken up with trips for meals (a journey of half a mile), and the visits of the officer of the day, with other causes, that any sleep during the twenty-four hours' tour of duty is out of the question. Relieved off guard at 9 A. M., they are on pass until 7 A. M. next day.

Nature demands that they regain on this day the sleep they lost the previous night. Their pass allows them to leave the post, but they have little inclination to avail themselves of it.

On the days between guards they work seven and a half hours per day, besides attending dress parade at sundown. Extra and daily duty men work five days in a week, getting a pass for Saturday and Sunday.

Now, an order has been issued lately against granting passes to unmarried men doing guard duty other than the guard pass. All married men, however, are to be allowed two retreat passes per week additionally. These passes extend from sundown one day to 7 o'clock A. M. on the next, and do not exempt from any duty. The order effecting this change is looked upon as an unfair discrimination among men entitled to the same privileges, particularly as a recent act of Congress says that married men shall no longer be enlisted.

GEORGE JENKINS, First Class Priv., Eng'r Battalion.
WILLET'S POINT, May 2.

## *QUEER WRINKLES.*

### Festivities Ahead.

Young lady (visiting in Cincinnati)—Why, Cicely, what do you suppose all those kegs of beer are being taken into that private house for?

Cicely (a Cincinnati belle)—Oh, a wedding breakfast, probably, or something of that sort.

### Enough on Hand.

"My friend," he said solemnly, "do you ever look forward to the time when you will occupy a mansion in the skies?"

"Well—er—no, sir; I don't believe I do. I haven't the time. At present it keeps me busy to pay rent for a seven-room flat in Harlem."

### Not for General Perusal.

Uncle Rastus (in telegraph office)—Has yo' got a envelope, sah?

Operator—What do you want of an envelope, Uncle Rastus?

Uncle Rastus—Dis expatch, sah, am ob a wery private nature, an' I wants it sent sealed.

### The Hour When Churchyards Yawn.

"Papa," said a rich and beautiful girl, who has many, many beaux, "what is your idea in building our new mansion so near a graveyard. It will seem so ghostly after dark."

"That is exactly the idea," responded the old man. "I want to try and have the house closed before midnight."

### Revenge is Sweet.

Citizen (to leader of little German band)—Here, Dutchy, is a five-dollar bill if you will play for an hour.

Dutchy (highly pleased)—Ah, you vos fond of det music!

Citizen—No; but a two-hundred-and-fifty-pound enemy of mine occupies the second floor front, and he is too big a man for me to tackle myself.