The Sun.

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Is the Farmers' Alliance Done For?

Gen. JOHN B. GORDON, the Governor of Georgia, is one of the shrewdest politicians in the South, understanding as well as any one the ways and impulses of his constituents, gifted with the ability to tolerate or even caress any sentiment whose ephemeral character need not evoke from a far-seeing statesman a needless conflict which might leave serious troubles behind it, and to hold his own principles in check until their assertion would be desirable, an avowed candidate for United States Senator, and he has just denounced the Sub-Treasury scheme, substantially the entire platform and the only rational explanation of the existence of the Farmers' Alliance.

The Farmers' Alliance had already captured Georgia's politics, so far as that could be achieved by nominating an Alliance candidate for Governor in the Democratic State Convention. The Alliance wave rolled higher and less curled over Georgia than over any other State in which it had gathered headway. Though the Sub-Treasury plan is not unanimously received within the order, yet it is the only proposition which can in any way identify the Farmers' Alliance from this or that other party. It is the focus of the farmer excitement. Whether accepted or not, without it the organization would become a clamoring crowd, with no perceptible purpose than to shout its dissatisfaction with things in general and without discrimination. Such is the measure which Gen. GORDON, after long and careful reflection and observation of his own surroundings, has declared himself opposed to.

The only sensible deduction from this fact is that the Farmers' Alliance, as a political agitation, has already reached that stage of dissolution when all is over but the shouting. When its single representative idea can be boldly condemned in the State where it has been strongest, most aggressive, and most successful, the bottom of the movement must have dropped out.

However surprised the Alliance may be at Gen. GORDON, the statesman in whom it had placed its fullest trust and sympathy, that feeling is not so overpowering but that it will fight. The *Southern Alliance Farmer*, the Georgia organ, denounces the Governor furiously, and a farmer candidate seems to be supplied in the person of the Hon. THOMAS M. NORWOOD, once a Senator himself. The machinery seems to be still sufficient for testing the real value of Alliance sentiment through a Senatorial canvass, and the disposition to try it on is not lacking. But on general principles it is safe to assume that Governor GORDON's judgment of the situation must be accurate and that the Alliance movement is no longer dangerous.

As the first Democrat to perceive this development, and to declare his opinion so that it is bound to exert a powerful influence throughout politics, Gen. GORDON is entitled to almost the same credit as if he himself had caused the change. The Alliance in the South had promises in it of the very highest danger to the national Democracy. If it is now exploded, the statesman who set it off has conferred a benefit upon the Democracy such as graces the record of few of his contemporaries.

The Federal Writ of Habeas Corpus.

We recently noticed a very important decision of the House of Lords in the case of the Rev. JAMES BELL COX, relating to the office and scope of the writ of habeas corpus at common law, and declaring that under the law of England as it now exists no appellate court possesses the power to review or reverse the decision of a single Judge or a court of original jurisdiction in discharging a person from custody in habeas corpus proceedings. The English law in this respect differs from that of New York; for here an order in habeas corpus proceedings discharging a prisoner who has been committed to jail upon a criminal accusation may be reviewed by the General Term of the Supreme Court and also by the Court of Appeals.

In the pamphlet number of the United States Reports bearing date Sept. 15, 1890, which has just come to hand, we find a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States which is of similiar importance so far as the writ of habeas corpus in the Federal courts is concerned.

The case arose in the District Court of the United States for the District of Nebraska. It was a controversy relating to the custody of a child named EVELYN ESTELLE MILLER. The father, after the death of the child's mother, had placed the girl with the mother's parents. He subsequently married again and asked the grandparents to deliver the child to him, but this they refused to do; whereupon he instituted habeas corpus proceedings to regain the custody of his daughter, before Judge ELMER S. DUNDY of the United States District Court. Judge DUNDY held that the child was improperly detained by her grandparents and awarded her to the care and custody of her father. The only question which came before the Supreme Court at Washington in reference to this decision was whether the District Court of the United States for Nebraska or the District Judge had any jurisdiction whatever to inquire by means of the writ of habeas corpus into the legality of the detention of the child by its grandparents.

The opinion of the court is delivered by Mr. Justice MILLER. He declares that the question of the authority of the courts of the United States to issue the writ of habeas corpus as a means of releasing persons held in unlawful custody has always been clouded with more or less doubt and uncertainty. The Constitution provides that "the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it." Under the Federal Judiciary act the courts of the United States are expressly empowered to issue writs of habeas corpus provided "that writs of habeas corpus shall in no case extend to prisoners in jail unless where they are in custody under or by color of the authority of the United States or are committed for trial before some court of the same, or are necessary to be brought into court to testify." The later enactments of Congress in respect to the writ of habeas corpus were considered by the Supreme Court in the case of Deputy Marshal NEAGLE, who killed Judge TERRY of California; and in that case the conclusion reached was that all the courts and Judges of the United States may issue the writ of habeas corpus in any case where a party is restrained of his liberty "for an act done by or under the authority of the laws of the United States, or where his imprisonment is in violation of the Constitution of the United States, or where it is supposed to be in violation of the law of nations or of the United States." But the Supreme Court says that it is not the law now nor has it ever been the law that every person held in illegal imprisonment has a right to invoke the aid of the Federal courts for his release by writ of habeas corpus. This great writ, so far as the Federal courts are concerned, is to be granted only when applied for upon some ground which warrants the intervention of the Federal authority as distinguished from State authority.

In the case we have mentioned, which is reported under the title of the matter of BURRUS, that being the name of the child's grandparents, the jurisdiction of the Federal courts was not invoked upon the ground that the parties were citizens of different States, and the question whether diverse citizenship would confer jurisdiction in such a case has not been decided by the Supreme Court; but that tribunal expressly declares that the relations of parent and child are not governed by the laws of the United States, but are matters belonging to the laws of the several States, and that the writ of habeas corpus cannot be used by Federal Judges or Federal courts except in cases appropriate to their jurisdiction.

All the Judges concurred in this decision except Mr. Justice BREWER, the newest member of the court. It is good Democratic doctrine, for it refuses to permit any encroachment by the Federal courts upon the habeas corpus jurisdiction of State tribunals.

The Jiboose Appears.

The general public and the noble science of progressive philology are alike indebted to the Hon. JOHN L. BUTLER of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for a new word which the language needs:

"Ji-boose', n. A professed Democrat who is better and purer than his party, in his own estimation, and is loaded with a set of prize-package principles which can never be put into practice. Cf. MUGWUMP.

"The Hon. ROBERT E. PATTISON is a Jiboose." *Butler.*

This spirited definition is all that is needed to win for the new noun immediate recognition by those who appreciate the value of terms which express the finer shades of meaning.

It will be observed that while a Jiboose is generally, if not always, a Mugwump, a Mugwump is not necessarily a Jiboose. The latter word is a step further in the differentiation of political nomenclature. It means a certain sort of Mugwump, whose existence is generally recognized, but who has been described heretofore only imperfectly or by the aid of clumsy periphrase.

We are by no means satisfied with the illustration which Mr. BUTLER of Harrisburg gives of the use of his new word. He is not pleased with the Hon. ROBERT E. PATTISON as a Democratic candidate for Governor, and he has bolted the nomination. He declares that "PATTISON is a Jiboose; he is not a Democrat; he has never by voice or purse helped the Democratic party, except when there was an office at stake for himself."

As the situation is in Pennsylvania, we think that Mr. BUTLER would do much better to stand by his party and its candidate, and apply his valuable noun to clearer cases of jiboosity than ex-Governor PATTISON's. He is probably in error in describing PATTISON as a Jiboose.

But the question of interest is not whether Mr. PATTISON is a Jiboose or not; nor whether Mr. BUTLER, by his bolt and his etymological thunderbolt, has done serious injustice to the Democratic candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. The Jiboose undeniably exists in that State and elsewhere; and the new word is welcome.

Who are the Incendiaries?

Let us see whether the statistics of incendiary fires tend to justify the course of Boston underwriters in refusing insurance to Jews on the ground that it stimulates them to burn up the assured property.

In 1887 Mr. FRANKLIN WEBSTER, the editor of the *Chronicle*, an insurance periodical, read a paper before an underwriters' association, in which he pointed out that causes were assigned for only 21,055 of the 44,216 fires which had occurred in this country during the three years immediately previous, and the cause in 5,459 was attributed to incendiarism. That is, about one-eighth of the whole number of fires and more than one-quarter of those of discoverable origin were criminal. The causes of the majority not being accounted for, the percentages do not seem to be very valuable; but Mr. WEBSTER thinks that probably about 26 per cent. of the fires annually occurring are wilfully caused. As the amount of property burned up yearly is estimated at $100,000,000, the loss due to downright criminality is enormous.

How much of this property is burned to get the insurance? The statistics of the incendiary fires would seem to show that really it is small. Out of the loss of $7,769,690 from incendiary fires in 1886, the assured lost over and above the insurance nearly as much as the companies lost by their policies, or $3,833,808 to $3,933,882. That certainly does not look as if the property was destroyed to get the insurance. It is not a sort of business into which shrewd Jews especially are likely to go. Losing about as much as you get is not the road to wealth.

The statistics of these incendiary fires show that they are more likely to occur in the agricultural districts, where the Jews are not, than in the towns where they are. Incendiarism in Prussia, the great Jew-hating country, is from three to four times more frequent in the farming districts than in the towns; and generally, to use Mr. WEBSTER's words, experience with us demonstrates that the proportion of incendiarism in different States and sections is determined, other things being equal, by the relative extent of their agricultural areas. It is greater in the Southern States than elsewhere, as this table of the ratio of incendiarism during four years shows:

	Per cent.		Per cent.		Per cent.		Per cent.
States.	Proved.	States.	Proved.	States.	Proved.	States.	Proved.
Alabama	49	Louisiana	34	New York	13
Arkansas	32	Maine	17	Ohio	27
California	15	Maryland	19	Oregon	23
Colorado	41	Massachusetts	12	Pennsylvania	18
Connecticut	44	Michigan	27	Rhode Island	23
Delaware	36	Minnesota	30	South Carolina	31
Florida	43	Mississippi	34	Tennessee	32
Georgia	48	Missouri	47	Texas	47
Illinois	18	Nebraska	41	Vermont	26
Indiana	46	Nevada	43	Virginia	40
Iowa	30	North Carolina	31	West Virginia	31
Kansas	39	N. Hampshire	18	Wisconsin	21
Kentucky	34	New Jersey	23		

The fires in the farming districts are especially numerous during harvest time, when barns and granaries are crowded, and the farmers would be least likely to destroy the fruit of their labors. "The wave of incendiarism," Mr. WEBSTER tells us, "reaches its highest altitude in the tobacco and cotton States."

Here capidity can hardly be at the bottom of the crime, for usually the loss to the assured is greater than the gain. The other fires of an incendiary origin are most frequent in country stores, in jails, in rinks, in livery stables, and in slaughter houses, but as many insurance companies refuse to take these classes of risks, and they are always looked upon with suspicion, the fires cannot be due to criminal greed in many cases. In 1886 the property burned by incendiarism was insured to a less extent than the property destroyed in general.

What, then, are the prevailing motives to the infamous crime? Mr. WEBSTER enumerates them thus:

"Private enmities, business rivalries, mischief, malice, race prejudices and hatreds, factional quarrels, jealousy, religious intolerance, fire-raising for purposes of theft or to hide theft, fire-raising for purposes of murder or to hide murder, labor troubles, and so on."

They are due to the depravity of men, to their devilishness, and not to vices peculiar to the Jews, or even common among them. The crime is the more frequent because it is committed with comparative impunity. During the three years ending with 1886 there were 5,459 criminal fires, and yet the number of "firebugs" confined in penal institutions in 1887 was only six hundred or seven hundred. Whether Jews or Gentiles, the incendiaries vent their malice and go unpunished. Meanwhile and consequently the cost of insurance is made greater to honest people.

Therefore, instead of discriminating against Jewish risks, we advise the underwriters to redouble their efforts to detect the actual incendiaries and bring them to deserved punishment. The public, who pay more for insurance because of this "moral hazard," as the underwriters call it, will also be wiser if they stir up legislators and prosecuting officers, instead of starting an anti-Semitic agitation.

Foolish Prejudice Against Flags.

An unfortunate incident occurred in the Labor Day parade at Allegheny City, near Pittsburgh. The Bakers' Union were carrying a German flag. The appearance of this standard excited some persons who are described as "a party of American mechanics." This party broke into the line of procession, and notwithstanding a vigorous resistance on the part of the bakers, seized the German flag, trailed it under foot, and tore it to pieces. The policemen on the scene appear to have done their best to prevent the assault, but in vain.

This was a proceeding which reflects only discredit upon the persons concerned in the attack on the flag. We should be very sorry to believe that such men represent the true American spirit. The flag of Germany or of any other foreign nation, or of Ireland, carried in a procession under such circumstances, betokens no hostility to American institutions or the Government under which the bearers of the standard are now living, but it merely signifies their love for the land which gave them or their fathers birth, and is not only a harmless, but a pleasing expression of a natural and praiseworthy human emotion. There is no occasion to regard the carrying of a foreign flag in such a parade with distrust or disfavor. Americans ought to be big-hearted enough to look upon such displays without feeling that they detract in the slightest degree from the greatness of their own country, or the supremacy on their own territory of the American flag over all other flags.

A noteworthy contrast with the illiberal and outrageous treatment of the German flag in western Pennsylvania may be found in an incident which occurred nearer home only the other day. At the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the foundation of the town of Southold, Long Island, on Wednesday last, there was a procession in which the local officers, the speakers of the day, a Grand Army post, and various fire companies appeared. The town authorities, in the published programme relative to this procession, assigned a place in it to "foreign-born citizens with flags and banners," and the programme concluded in these words:

"Our foreign-born German fellow citizens are invited to march in a body, with the flags of the fatherland.

"Our foreign-born Irish fellow citizens to carry the flag of old Ireland.

"Everybody is kindly and cordially invited to join the procession, without reference to race, religion, politics, or social position."

This is patriotism and good sense as distinguished from prejudice and folly on the flag question.

That somewhat distant *Kansas City Journal* launches a highly scientific dart at one of the most popular of New York's surrounding race tracks:

"Our correspondent had a letter the other day about the Monmouth race track—its 'reverse' order of running. The horses run in the reverse order, carrying to the right instead of the left. Our theory is that the race was run against nature and its laws—which in circles always has the left to the inside. You may take soaring birds, animals, everything that moves in the air or on the earth, and it has a spiral movement to the left. It is what makes people right-handed—the positive side of organic life being the right. Then, again, you may observe the fact in the vegetable world. All climbing plants, so far as we know them, follow the same law, with the single exception of the hop vine, which follows the reverse order. You may take the paths of wild animals, roadways broken by simple use, where no obstacles compel an arbitrary course, and the same fact is apparent.

"That is simply the fact, as verifiable by universal observation, and, arguing from that law, the race course that curves to the left gives the horse all the normal natural conditions of movement—in harmony with the positive and negative divisions of his brain, nervous and muscular organism. If you run him in the reverse method you simply force him to antagonize all the natural impulses, and control his speed by compelling him to overcome this obstacle, which is organic."

Here is both the fruit of investigation and the field for it. Are birds left-pinioned as well as men? We shall not undertake to confute or confirm our contemporary's statements in general; but there is one thing to which we should wish to call its attention, in regard to the right and left growth of vines. If nature has given all such of its creations this human twist, why is it that the vines north of the equator grow one way around a pole and those south of the equator the other way?

President CHAUNCEY DEPEW will have to explain why the arbitrage of arbitration, for which he has always professed affection, was rejected by his corporation without even an apology.—*Pittsburgh Dispatch.*

No explanation will be required of Mr. DEPEW whatever. The principle will neither work nor wash.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Chicago *Herald*, prints and illustrates a splendid description of a rearing prairie fire in "Ward 34." There's your Fair site. There you will find a vast and levelled field of untrammeled horizon, for the Fair of future generations.

It is sad to notice that the Hon. JERU BAKER has failed to receive the Republican nomination for Congress in the Eighteenth Illinois district. The man who struck out WILLIAM MORRISON has himself been struck out. Mr. BAKER takes his defeat like a philosopher and will be known no more in the world of politics. He is a quaint and kindly old figure, and the Republicans in his Congress district should have stuck to him.

We observe with sincere approval the disappearance from the title headline of the *Albany Argus* of the emasculated version of young Mayor MANNING's immortal poem on the *Argus's* mortal dullness. If we cannot have the masterpiece in its original and genuine form, let prose replace it by all means.

Young Mayor MANNING now displays in the place formerly occupied by his celebrated poem a charitable sentiment some years ago expressed by the editor of THE SUN. "Under whatsoever loadstar," was the hope thereby expressed, "may the *Argus* long flourish as the champion of Democracy and of all the beneficent and progressive forces and tendencies which Democracy includes."

That is a standard of excellence worth trying to live up to, and if young Mr. MANNING were a bright editor, like his predecessors in the *Argus* office, instead of the very dull young man he is, the *Argus* would probably sell be famous as the champion of the beneficent and progressive forces and tendencies of Democracy.

Young Mayor MANNING has given to the venerable sheet quite a different sort of fame. He has made it celebrated the world over as the dullest newspaper printed anywhere.

The disclosure of Mr. POWDERLY's pleasant scheme of tying up the railroads of the country in 1893 reveals the great meddler in a characteristic attitude.

The Republicans succeeded in carrying Vermont yesterday. Arguing after the Republican fashion in the case of Southern elections, it is impossible not to conclude that there must have been gross fraud and intimidation in the Green Mountain State.

GRANT MONUMENT DESIGNS.

The Executive Committee Will Probably Make a Selection To-Morrow.

The Executive Committee of the Grant Monument Association will probably select the plans for the monument to-morrow morning. The committee had a meeting in its room in the Equitable building yesterday afternoon. Gen. C. H. T. Collis presided. There were present ex-Mayor Grace, H. L. Hotchkiss, A. L. Sanger, Charles H. Woodman, E. M. Knox, ex-Gov. Cornell, and Secretary Greener. Cornelius O'Reilly and Sidney Dillon, the other members of the committee, were out of town. Plans had been submitted by Architects Carrere & Hastings, Charles W. Clinton, N. Lebrun & Sons, J. H. Duncan, and John Ord. Most of the committee attended with the expectation that these plans would be examined then and there and a selection made. This was impracticable because the room was not large enough. Boxed as they were they took up nearly one quarter of the office. It was finally decided to appoint a committee to select a suitable art gallery or room where the plans could be exhibited, and to have them in position by Thursday morning, then to call the entire committee together to view them and make a selection.

The question of raising money to carry out the plans after they were adopted was discussed. A. B. De Freese, who bore a letter from Gov. Hill, took part in the discussion. After the meeting he said he was going to devise a scheme to raise the rest of the $500,000, which, it is proposed, to spend in building the monument. The possibility of the removal of Gen. Grant's body from Riverside to Arlington was not discussed. A member of the committee said after the meeting that he didn't think such a thing was worth considering. Gen. Collis said that if the committee was not satisfied with any of the designs that had been submitted they would put aside all of them, and would fall back on some of the designs that had been submitted at the previous competition. Some of these he said were very good, but he hadn't seen anything yet that he thought was quite satisfactory. Gen. Collis said that Gov. Hill in talking with Mr. De Freese brought assured the committee that he would gladly do all he could to aid the committee.

All the designs that have been submitted in this competition are drawn on the basis of an expenditure of $500,000. The Executive Committee has not the power to make a final selection, but will recommend what it thinks the best to the association.

WANT A RECOUNT IN NEW YORK.

The Democratic Aldermen Do—The Republican Aldermen Don't.

On the motion of Alderman Tait, the Aldermen yesterday adopted this resolution:

Whereas, There is reason to believe that the enumeration of the inhabitants of the city of New York, made in taking the eleventh census, is so defective that a very large number of the residents of this city have been omitted from said enumeration, and, as consequence of such omission, grave injustice is done to the city in many respects, and especially is substantial injury and wrong likely to occur through the deprivation of just Congressional representation by an apportionment based on such defective census; and

"*Whereas*, The statistics of the Health Department, those of the Department of Taxes and Assessments, the registration of voters and the returns of votes cast at elections, all indicate that the said enumeration of the eleventh census is deficient to the extent of not less that 200,000 persons, and such official demonstrations are confirmed by the statistics of city travel and by the daily observation of all New Yorkers; and

"*Whereas*, In other cities, including the city of Albany in this State, application has been made for a recount on the ground of inaccuracy in the census, and such application has been granted by the Department of the Interior of the United States Government, having charge of the census, therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That application is hereby made to the President of the United States, the secretary of the Interior, and the Superintendent of the United States Census, to order a recount of the population of the city of New York in order that the inaccuracies of the enumeration which has been had may be corrected."

Aldermen Gregory and Morris actively opposed the adoption of this resolution, but the Democrats voted solidly for it.

TAX RATE, 1.92.

A Slight Increase Over Last Year's—Agreed Farce in Cabs.

The Board of Aldermen met yesterday afternoon and fixed the tax rate at 1.92, as against 1.95 last year. The increase is not the result of unusually large appropriations, for the appropriations amount to only $200,000 more this year than they did last year. The income from the general fund, however, which was $4,000,000 last year, will be during the coming year but $2,000,000, and the difference must be raised by taxation.

According to the report of the Finance Committee, on the recommendation of which the tax rate in question was adopted, the assessed valuation of taxable property in New York is $1,696,978,590, and the amount to be raised for appropriations $58,212,034.83. The special tax rate for corporations and joint stock companies is 1.6048.

The Board set Oct. 16 as the date for the hearing in the case of the East and West Broadway Railway Company, which wishes to lay tracks on the upper west side of the city. A resolution of Alderman Lynch that the wilful neglect to pay cab fare, as agreed by a passenger and cabman, be made a misdemeanor was referred to a $100 fine, was referred to the Law Committee. The application of the Boulevard branch of the Forty-second street horse car line, and of the Thirty-fourth street branch of the Fourth avenue line, that they be exempted from the provisions of the ordinance requiring that horse cars be run between midnight and 6 A. M., was also referred to the Law Committee.

Short Form Deeds or Extra Fee.

The law passed by the last Legislature, providing for a short form of deeds and mortgages, went into effect at the Register's office yesterday. Hereafter $5 will be charged, besides the usual fees, for recording deeds and mortgages of the old form.

Missions of the Paulist Fathers.

The missionary season of the Paulist Fathers, who are in charge of the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, in Ninth avenue and Fifty-ninth street, will be opened on Sept. 14. On that day Fathers Doyle, Hedges, Burke, and Searn will begin a two weeks' mission at Manchester, N. H., and Fathers Smith and Hepper a two weeks' mission at Ridgeway, Pa. A week's mission will be begun at Torrington, Conn., by Fathers Clark and Cullen on Sept. 21. On the first Sunday of October the eight Fathers of the three bands will unite to open a two weeks' mission at the Philadelphia Cathedral. After this they will separate again. Father Doyle will take a band to Terre Haute, Ind., St. James's Church, Chicago, and the Cathedral, Cincinnati. Meanwhile Father Smith's band will give missions at New Haven and Portland, Conn., and at Lynn and Adams, Mass., and this city. During this time Father Brady and other members of the order will be giving missions at Danvers, Mass., East Boston, and St. James's Church, Boston. This programme will bring the work of the missions up to Christmas.

Time's Reversals.

From the Dispatch Journal.

MISS ANN FLINN—Well, somewhat. In my day the girls wore one-button gloves and dresses buttoned up to the neck; now they wear one-button dresses and gloves buttoned up to the neck.

The Wonderful Progress of Baltimore.

From the Baltimore American.

Mr. George M. Murray left at the American office yesterday a tomato that weighed one pound and fourteen ounces.

A Rising Author.

"Humble complaints that he doesn't sleep well in the mornings now."

"Yes, I know; it's his book."

"His book? What do you mean?"

"He's just published a book, you know, and now he's practicing waking in the morning and finding himself famous."

Jerry Rusks, 7000.

From the American Grocer.

"It's strange," asserted Diogenes, "how politics creeps into the business of favorite edibles. Now, there's Washington pie and Cabinet pudding and——"

"And summer pudding," biped his wife, who reads the newspapers.

THE NEXT CHIEF OF ORDNANCE.

Wrangling for the Vacancy to be Created by Gen. Benét's Retirement.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—The approaching withdrawal of Brig.-Gen. Stephen V. Benét from the active list of the army on account of age has already been foreshadowed by the opening of the canvass for the succession to his place at the head of the Ordnance Department. This prompt beginning of the contest can hardly be called premature, in view of the great importance which now attaches to this office. Perhaps it is not too much to say that it never was more important in time of peace. Within the next year steps will undoubtedly be taken for rearming all the regular forces with magazine guns, and the manufacture of these weapons will be carried on under the supervision of the Ordnance Department. The adoption of a smokeless powder for our service and sundry other improvements in military appliances, now under consideration, also give consequence to the coming work of the Ordnance Corps. In the task of preparing plans for the new guns and mortars for coast defence, and of fabricating these guns and mortars and their carriages, the Ordnance Department also has a very extensive field before it. Very likely, also, it will be called upon to establish one or more gun factories like that at Watervliet.

The present Chief of Ordnance has been at the head of the department for more than sixteen years, and an officer of ordnance for more than forty. Appointed to the Military Academy from Florida, his native State, on graduation he was made a brevet Second Lieutenant of Ordnance, and has continued in this branch of the military service from that time to the present, although for a year and a half, just preceding the outbreak of the civil war, he taught history, geography, and ethics at West Point. During the first three years of the war, however, he was an instructor of ordnance and gunnery at that institution. He received the brevets of Major and Lieutenant-Colonel for services in the Ordnance Department during the war. An experienced student of his branch of the military art, his conservative disposition has occasionally nettled private manufacturers of arms, who have considered him too much devoted to the products of the Springfield armory and other Government military factories. It is admitted, however, that a great deal of conscientious work has been laid out in maintaining and improving these institutions.

A prominent candidate for the vacancy which will be created by Gen. Benét's retirement is Col. James M. Whittemore, and another is Col. Adelbert R. Buffington. The former is a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Virginia. Col. Whittemore on graduating from West Point, in 1860, joined the artillery, but was transferred to the ordnance the following spring, when Col. Buffington was also appointed to that department from the Military Academy. Both have served in it ever since, each receiving the brevet of Major at the close of the civil war. But it cannot be said that seniority candidates are wholly confident of promotion on the score of superior rank. Secretary Proctor has taken strong ground, and with entire reason, against the bill in Congress requiring promotion by seniority to the heads of staff departments. It is evident, in fact, that the high degree of responsibility devolving on these officers is ground enough for retaining the present rule of promotion by selection, in order that the country may have the benefit of the services of the best officer in a department at its head; although, with other things equal, seniority should turn the balance. Since the present Administration began, President Harrison's appointments of general officers have more frequently been those of the senior, but repeatedly juniors have been selected. Instances of the former sort are those of Major-Gen. Miles, Brig.-Gen. Grierson, Adjt.-Gen. Hilton, Commissary-Gen. Jno. Barry, and Surgeon-Gen. Baxter. Instances of the selection of juniors have been Brig.-Gen. McCook, Paymaster-Gen. William Smith, and Quartermaster-Gen. Batchelder. It is quite within the possibilities, therefore, that for the new Chief of Ordnance the President may go to grades below that of Colonel, since several officers in those grades are men of marked ability. During the few months of interval before the appointment the qualifications of all the candidates will no doubt be fully set forth.

ROGER SHERMAN INTERVENES.

Says He is Counsel Now for the Jap Doomed to Die by Lightning.

Lawyer Roger M. Sherman, who endeavored to prevent the killing of Kemmler by electricity, has taken up the case of Schiok Jugiro, the Japanese sailor, who was convicted in the Court of Oyer and Terminer of killing a shipmate in a sailors' boarding house in Water street, and sentenced to die by electricity. Jugiro's counsel, Lawyers John R. Heintzelman and Jacob Berlinger, appealed from the conviction, and the appeal was argued recently before the Court of Appeals, decision being reserved. There is likely to be a first-class shindy as the result of Lawyer Sherman's appearance in the case, for Lawyer Heintzelman emphatically protested against it, and maintained that he was still Jugiro's counsel and proposed to continue to be.

Lawyer Sherman asked Recorder Smyth, yesterday, in the General Sessions, for an order authorizing and directing Warden Brush of Sing Sing to permit him, Mr. Sherman, to confer with Jugiro, and to have T. Kioto, Japanese Vice-Consul in this city, act as interpreter at the conference. In his affidavit in support of his motion for the granting of such an order Lawyer Sherman says he is counsel for Jugiro, and that Jugiro does not understand English. Recorder Smyth granted the order asked for by Mr. Sherman.

When Lawyer Heinzelman heard of Lawyer Sherman's step he was full of wrath. "Sherman is not Jugiro's counsel," he said. "Mr. Berlinger and I were appointed Jugiro's counsel by the Court, and we defended him to the best of our ability. We argued and I recently argued the appeal before the Court of Appeals. There has been no substitution of Sherman as counsel, and we are Jugiro's counsel and propose to continue to act under the appointment of the Court. I will apply to Recorder Smyth to rescind the order to-morrow, and I have no doubt that it will be rescind."

The Clock Had a Vacation, Too.

When 4 o'clock came yesterday afternoon, Judge Martine said, in Part II. of the General Sessions:

"We will now adjourn, gentlemen of the jury, the regular hour for adjournment having arrived though you would not suppose so if you relied upon the court clock."

The Judge looked up quizzically at the clock hanging under the plaster coat of arms of the State. It had obstinately said all day that it was 5 minutes of 9 o'clock. It stopped two months ago on the day after the court adjourned for the summer, and the salaried clock winder and regulator of the city had not thought it worth while to start it again.

The jurors and spectators smiled as they compared their watches with the somnolent clock, and Judge Martine added:

"The clock, I presume, has been on a vacation—like the rest of us."

A Correction—Daniel Webster.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I beg leave to correct some misprints of figures given in my letter concerning Daniel Webster which was printed in your issue of Sunday last. The figures should have read as follows:

Whole number of States in the Union in 1850	30
Whole number of electors	296
Number of free States	16
Number of slave States	14
Electoral votes of the free States	176
Electoral votes of the slave States	120
Necessary to a choice of President	149

The argument which I contend amounts to a demonstration, was that Mr. Webster in March, 1850, could not have expected, by any speech that he could make, to gain 149 electoral votes from the free States; and that if he expected to gain the Presidency by conciliating the South, that section lacked 29 electoral votes, in addition to those to which it was lawfully entitled. Supposing that Webster's speech of March 7, 1850, was made to win the votes of the slave States, he could not possibly have obtained 29 votes from the free States.

Sept. 1. GEORGE THOMAS OTIS.

Jews and the Manhattan Club.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your correspondent is misinformed when he stated that there is a prejudice existing in the Manhattan Club against Hebrews. Social position and personal characteristics are the factors of admission.

In proportion to the city's population more Catholics who have applied for admission have been rejected than Jews, yet no one ever thinks of saying, "Catholics are rejected." It happened that those rejected Catholics had personal characteristics objectionable to the management, and these things had nothing whatever to do with the religions, neither have the Hebrews. I repeat, it is precisely the same with the Hebrews; their religion has nothing whatever to do with it when they are rejected, any more than if the individuals were Episcopalians, Baptists, or any other religious sect. Neither will I for that matter. Suppose I, for the reason, I am a Hebrew, should be rejected. Mr. Ely resigned because of a disagreement of a private nature between himself and some other club members. A HEBREW.

ALBANY, Sept. 2.

When leaving home for the summer the prudent provide themselves with Dr. Jayne's Carminative Balsam in order to treat promptly and effectually an attack of cramp, diarrhœa, dysentery, cholera morbus, &c.—adv.

PARSON ARNEY'S EXPECTATIONS.

His Coming Arraignment for Horse Trotting Has No Terrors for Him.

From the Chicago Herald.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Aug. 27.—The Rev. J. W. Arney, pastor of the Methodist church of Saranac, who recently officiated at a horse trot in this town, a sporting event that attracted widespread interest, is not in the least sorry for what he did, and any action that the Conference may take in his case at the meeting in Muskegon Sept. 10 has no terrors for him.

"I expect to be called up before the Conference to explain, but I have a clear conscience and have no fear for the consequences," he says. "I shall simply make my explanation, and I think it will end there. Soon after the race the district Conference met and held an inquest upon my conduct, and after I told my story the pastors agreed there was nothing wrong in my conduct. You see, my salary is small, and to increase my income for a year past I have been buying and selling horses. I have bought about twenty horses for Boston parties alone, and have made considerable money out of the business. I am a fairly good judge of horses, and am very fond of them. It was born in me, and I can't help it, and I don't know as I would if I could. In the course of my dealings I picked up two or three very promising young horses—horses that were too good to keep, and worth too much to sell as ordinary animals. I thought the race would advertise the horses and help me sell them, and the race came off according to programme. I think I have received all the benefits I calculated on. The horses would bring fully $1,000 more to-day than they would before the race, and I figure that I have received several thousand dollars worth of free advertising in the newspapers to help me in future operations. At the conference I did not intend to offer any apologies or plead extenuating circumstances, but will simply explain my participation in the races, and am willing to abide by the results. My people find no fault with the race, but seem rather to like it. My congregation is larger than it ever was before, my prayer meetings are well attended, and the spiritual condition of the church is all that could be desired. My people like me and want me returned, and this feeling at home, coupled with the favorable report of the district conference, will, I am sure, have a favorable effect upon the Conference."

"Have you prepared any written statement of the case to submit to the conference?"

"I have not considered it necessary. I shall simply make a verbal explanation. Elder Moore asked me to prepare a statement for publication in the *Christian Advocate*, and outlined what I ought to say. He suggested that I write explaining how I happened to give the race; that the race was for gain, and was not a quiet neighborhood affair, but that the papers magnified it into an event of wide importance, and, thirdly, that I should say, had I known what the results would have been, I would never have had anything to do with it. I was not prepared to subscribe to the last proposition, although I have regretted it. As long as in my own heart I do right I do not care what the world thinks or says. Before the race I figured I would meet with criticism from some, and that I would receive approval from others, and calculated that one would just about balance the other. I find, however, that the approval is heartier than the condemnation. The pastor of one of the local churches has used me and the horse race for a text every Sunday since the event, but my congregation is now much larger than it was before and a great deal larger than his, and I do not let his remarks worry me. A Detroit clergyman last Sunday preached against me, but I do not consider myself injured thereby. I have undoubtedly lost some friends, but I figure that I have gained many more than I have lost."

How to Get Two Drinks for 10 Cents.

From the Washington Post.

"Every barkeeper who has been in the business long," said a popular Washington mixer of stimulants, "has met in his time many ingenious and impecunious citizens, but the smoothest plan of working the bar for two drinks for 10 cents I ever met with was successfully tried with me to-day.

"Everybody present was anxious for such valuable information, and he continued: "Two men came in this morning with the air of men of cash and one of them asked the other what he would have to drink. 'Nothing,' was the reply, 'don't mention drinks to me again for a month.' Then the man who proposed the treat says: 'Oh, take something; a little seltzer and lemon, or soda cocktail,' but he thanked his friend and asked to be excused. 'Well,' insisted the man of the ready, 'don't take a shingle off the man's house, have a cigar.' No, he would not even take a cigar; that would make him sick. He did not want anything, and he would have to be excused this time.

"With this the generous man poured a large thin whisker glass full of Bell of Nelson to the brim. There was more than three ordinary drinks in the glass. He then drank about half of it, made a face, and said to me: 'What's the matter with that whiskey?' I replied with some emphasis that it was first-class goods, four years old. Turning to his partner with the third half, he said: 'John, taste that and see what you think about it.' John swallowed the big drink with a relish, but shook his head and replied: 'It ain't right.' Then they strolled out, leaving a dime on the counter."

Reflections of a Grandson.

All in the shade of Grandfather's Hat
There sat a shape so wee.
And sadder than a love-lorn cat
It wailed out painfully,
"I think it's very singular that
There's nobody cares for me.

"There's Mr. Blaine has heaps of friends
Who always swear by him.
My ear right bitterly it offends
To hear them praising 'Jim.'
And I fear that as his star ascends
My own must be growing dim.

"Reed is so big of body and brain,
He makes me feel too small.
And like the other man from Maine
Has been who follow his call,
He begins to affect me with a pain,
Though I know I know it all.

"There's McKinley with his Tariff bill
Has now some sort of fame,
And Cabot Lodge though Quay should kill
That election scheme, is won a name,
But I—the reformer makes me ill—
Just drag on, just the same.

"And when I think of the candidates,
Alger and all the rest,
Various men from various States,
North and East and West,
Sadly my mind contemplates
A Stump from the nest.

"I lay my ear to the cold, cold ground,
To hear the people call,
But there comes never a sound at a sound,
Never a sound at all.
Why won't somebody rally around
Me? I'm great enough I'm small.

"Sequoia shade of my Grandfather's Hat,
What can the matter be?
What is it makes me fall so flat
From so tall an ancestral tree?
I think it's very singular that
There's nobody cares for me."

COUNTESS VON GLUMER'S VISIT.

The Famous "Diamond Wedding" of Thirty Years Ago Recalled.

Countess Frances Aurelia Bartlett von Grümer, who arrived in the Cuban steamer Yumuri on Monday, is at the Park Avenue Hotel for a stay of several months in this city. She is better known here by the name of her first husband, whom she married at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Oct. 13, 1