The Sun.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1880.

Amusements To-day.

Academy of Music—Linda di Chamouni.
Abbey's Park Theatre—The Legion of Honor.
Bijou Opera House—Lawn Tennis.
Booth's Theatre—Hernani.
Brooklyn Park Theatre—Richelieu.
Chickering Hall—Lecture.
Daly's Theatre—Needles and Pins.
Grand Opera House—Fairfax.
Haverly's 14th Street Theatre—Prince Achmet.
Haverly's 5th Avenue Theatre—Othello.
Haverly's Niblo's Garden—Enchantment.
Haverly's Theatre, Brooklyn—Matrimony.
Koster & Bial's Concert Hall—Concert.
Madison Square Theatre—Hazel Kirke.
Metropolitan Concert Hall, Broadway, 7th av., and 41st st.
Novelty Theatre, Brooklyn—The Tourists.
San Francisco Minstrels—Broadway and 29th st.
Sarony's Gallery—Bernhardt Art Exhibition.
Standard Theatre—Sharps and Flats.
Theatre Comique—Mulligan Guards' Nominee.
Tony Pastor's Theatre—Variety.
Union Square Theatre—Daniel Rochat.
Wallack's Theatre—The Guv'nor.
Windsor Theatre—Old Cross.

The regular circulation of THE SUN *for the week ending Nov. 27, 1880, was:*

Sunday	122,253	Weekly	89,175
Monday	111,774	Thursday	103,982
Tuesday	131,765	Friday	109,137
Wednesday	110,111	Saturday	110,747
Total for the week			888,944

A Problem Yet To Be Solved.

The gigantic power which may be concentrated in the hands of a single individual, by his obtaining a controlling influence in several large corporations, was clearly presented in the sketch which we printed yesterday of our fellow citizen Mr. JAY GOULD, and his vast and varied business operations.

And now it is boldly announced that Mr. WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT, another of our fellow citizens, carries in his capacious pocket a majority of the New York Legislature, and that he will elect Mr. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW to the United States Senate.

New York would then have one Senator and Mr. VANDERBILT one.

Suppose the powers of Mr. GOULD and Mr. VANDERBILT united, and bent in earnest on the same enterprise: they would become tremendous, if not irresistible.

The power of great corporations is something not contemplated by the framers of our existing forms of government. These corporations have mostly grown out of discoveries and inventions made since the establishment of our forms of State and national government, and consequently could not be taken into account by the framers of these governments. They are an influence in politics which was unforeseen. And they have grown great with rapid and long strides until their power is colossal and often controlling. Already they can make a Governor in several States, or a President over all; for through all the broad avenues and ramifications of their influence, if combined and determined, they can wield the balance of power in an election.

How is the all-important problem of the control and regulation of these hundred-handed, hundred-headed novel monsters to be solved?

The Evolution of Imperialism.

The tendency of the Republican party toward a centralized government is unmistakable. Its recent success was achieved by a political union of great corporate interests and business monopolies. It means a political revolution which will increase the powers, privileges, and advantages, of the few against the rights of the many.

The election over, GEO. S. BOUTWELL, GRANT's Secretary of the Treasury and a loud advocate of a third term, airs in the pages of the *North American Review* a project of imperial government. According to him, the evolution under the GARFIELD administration must be rapid. He coolly assumes that GARFIELD is the bond servant of the conspirators who were temporarily baffled by his nomination. State lines are to be practically wiped out. Senators and members not in accord with the centralists must be thrown out of their seats by wholesale. The President, through his civil agents, must be a factor in all elections, with an ample military force within sight and call. There must be no revision of a tariff which enriches a few at the expense of the many.

Some of our contemporaries propose to pension GRANT and set him up in private splendor befitting one who aspires to a crown. Others, and with them sundry Republican committees, would make GRANT and HAYES Senators at Large for life. Anything to add to the grandeur of Federal officeholding! Anything to secure a recognition of the life tenure in political office! And so in all the States. We see everywhere a disposition to extend official terms, to enlarge official authority, to have fewer elections, to make government stronger and more permanent, and to render the people more dependent and submissive.

All signs point the one way. Those who value republican institutions cannot be too watchful.

Lord Beaconsfield's Political Novels.

A novel by the Earl of BEACONSFIELD may, with some propriety, be described as a political event. It is a study of society by one who has probed deeply the conditions, the tendencies, and the perils of the existing order. It is a picture of the present and a forecast of the future by one who has given, and may still give, a considerable impulse to the process of social evolution.

We have his own authority for expecting to find BEACONSFIELD the statesman interpreted by DISRAELI the novelist. He himself has bidden us to seek in his writings for an explanation of what he has done and what he would like to do; for the key to his social and political philosophy. In the preface to one of his novels, published more than thirty years ago, he tells us why he had determined to propound his political suggestions in the form of fiction. "He resolved," he said, "after reflection, to avail himself of a method which, in the temper of the times, offered the best chance of influencing opinion." Even at that date, although the writer had already shown himself one of the most adroit debaters in the House of Commons, the views and theories set forth in "Coningsby" and "Sibyl" were commonly regarded as the crotchets and vagaries of a dreamer and sentimentalist. Their significance has strangely broadened with the lapse of thirty years. The author of what seemed fantastic and high-flown rhapsody has demonstrated a positive genius for practical affairs. Since the preface from which we quote was penned he may be said to have created the new Conservative party, and he has succeeded, after divers Parliamentary vicissitudes, in grasping for a long term as absolute an authority over the British empire as has ever been exercised in modern times by a Prime Minister. Under these circumstances it is natural that a new novel from his hand should be clothed with a pregnant and, so to speak, oracular importance, independent of its merits or its shortcomings in respect of literary form.

Regarded as a chapter of autobiography, the new novel of "Endymion" invites serious attention, and may be profitably scanned in connection with what the author termed his political trilogy of "Coningsby," "Sibyl," and "Tancred." It should be classed with those books chronologically and psychologically; for the period depicted is substantially the same, and there is ample ground in internal evidence, as well as in hearsay authority, for believing that the story was written many years ago, and has merely been retouched for present publication. It is not a later but a far earlier composition than "Lothair," both as regards the persons and events delineated and the opinions disclosed. It is much less likely, therefore, to gratify the curiosity of the general reader, for the society it paints has wholly passed away, and the great names of the period have lost their glamour and ceased to have much significance for any but the students of political history. As a political essay and manifesto, on the other hand, "Endymion" seems to be a more capacious and impressive utterance than any of the earlier novels, whose drift and purport are in accord with it. For it was open to the author, at the age of seventy-five, to modify or disavow ideas put forth at the age of forty. He has chosen, however, at this time, when his political theories seemed discredited by events, to draw from his desk a long-neglected manuscript, and deliberately repeat, as the ripened outcome of his large experience, the notions of society and government asserted nearly forty years ago.

There is nothing that men who like to postulate adequate causes for large effects regard with more impatience than the flippancy with which English Liberals reject Lord BEACONSFIELD's claim to statesmanship, and dismiss him with the epithet of charlatan. Such a verdict, viewed in connection with the man's achievements, is a libel on the English nation, and an insult to common sense. No doubt there is a tinge of the showy and theatrical in his character and conduct. It is visible in the coxcombry of his early years; in the affectations of his literary style; in the impassive, mysterious reserve, broken by electric outbursts, which marks his Parliamentary demeanor; in the somewhat garish lustre of his ministerial and diplomatic performances; in the grandiloquence of his public utterances. He is not the first man of mark who has betrayed by foibles and eccentricities the fulness of his own share in the weakness of human nature; nor is he the first who has contrived to disarm a profound and rancorous prejudice by diverting the public gaze from a fundamental shortcoming to superficial peculiarities. The aim which he conceived must have proved impossible of fulfilment; the path on which he set his foot would have turned out a blind alley; had the onlookers been allowed the leisure, so to speak, to remember that the object of their wonder and amusement was an Israelite; that the swaggering politician who was elbowing his way to the vantage ground of power was one whose veins held no drop of any but Hebrew blood. If he would cajole the stolid and inveterate antipathy of generations, if he would overcome the vast *vis inertiæ* which resides in traditional prejudice, it was better a thousand times that he should be looked upon and talked about as DISRAELI the fop, as DISRAELI the sentimentalist, as DISRAELI the political acrobat, than as DISRAELI the Jew. When we survey his starting point, his surroundings, and the goal of his aspiration, we can only compare his situation to that of those men of science who strove to press their researches amid the blind repugnance, brutal bigotry, and malign suspicion of the Middle Ages. He has had to amuse and cheat the public eye by grotesque demonstrations, lest he should revolt and shock it by the scope of his ambition, just as the mediæval student veiled his search into the mysteries of astronomy and chemistry behind the tricks and claptrap of astrology and alchemy. It was his cue to further the impression to which his short-sighted opponents were eager to give currency, and to let the dull, unthinking mass of his countrymen believe that BENJAMIN DISRAELI was not to be taken seriously. Thus, and thus only, could the prejudice of race, nowhere so rank and so inveterate as among the British middle class, be beguiled and lulled to sleep until, the prize once seized, and the statesman flinging off the trappings of the mountebank, the average Briton rubbed his eyes, and beheld, to his amazement, a Jew, Prime Minister. It was, in short, by the very quaintnesses and follies scattered over the surface of his career, and to which quite probably he was instinctively impelled by the vein of extravagance and ostentation natural to one of Semitic lineage, that DISRAELI masked and neutralized the friction of his surroundings. To seek, however, in such traits, whose function is purely an ancillary, for the great propelling causes of his remarkable elevation, for the dynamic factors of his unparalleled success, is a preposterous blunder. We might as well look for the motive power of an engine in the oil that lubricates the wheels. DISRAELI rose to where he is by dint of solid and creative work in the field of statesmanship—because he is one of the few Englishmen who have perceived the true aim and function of a conservative party since the accession of the house of Brunswick, because, since the death of CANNING, he is the only statesman whom the English Tory party has produced.

What is the root idea of DISRAELI's political system as it was outlined in "Coningsby" and "Sibyl," and is now reiterated with more or less of emphasis in what may fairly be termed a posthumous novel of the same period? He found the central thought of his political philosophy, as he has intimated in more than one of his writings, in that conception of the British Constitution advocated by BOLINGBROKE in the "Patriot King." At the time that treatise was penned, the prospects of the Tories were well nigh as dark as they seemed a century afterward, when Sir ROBERT PEEL turned his back on their protectionist programme. For fifty years, indeed, after the accession of GEORGE I. it looked as if the coexistence of two constitutional parties were impossible in England, for the Jacobites were not a constitutional party, and the Tories, rightly or wrongly, were accused of Jacobitism. According to BOLINGBROKE, a solid and legitimate object might be secured for the conservative instincts and sentiments of the nation in a cautious rehabilitation of the monarchical principle in the Constitution. He pointed out that the Whig oligarchy and the bribe-taking, place-hunting Parliament, which had become its tool, were fast becoming discredited and disabled, and he suggested that the times were ripe for a partial reinstatement of the old theory of government, and for a moderate exercise of direct intervention on the part of the Crown. BOLINGBROKE's scheme was put in practice by GEORGE III., and it is commonly taken for granted that his theory was refuted by the collapse of that experiment. The significant circumstance, however, that GEORGE III. never lost his popularity, but was, from first to last, regarded by the people as in heart and purpose a patriot king, indicates that his partial failure to revive dormant prerogatives might simply mean that the Whig oligarchy proved too strong for him. It is certain that the same doctrine of personal government was in some measure reasserted during the long administration of WILLIAM PITT, when the national powers were exerted with unexampled energy, and the Government commanded, in a remarkable degree, the respect of the governed. After the death of PITT the public confidence in the Ministries, and in the whole political machinery, rapidly dwindled, and the hope of restoring the dignity and influence of the national legislature was one of the main agents in promoting the reform act of 1830. That hope, as we know, was disappointed; for, by the confession of English Liberals themselves, the reformed Parliament has actually occupied a much lower place than was held by the rotten borough Parliament which preceded it. That change for the worse, however, which Mr. GLADSTONE recognized, Mr. DISRAELI not only discerned, but strove to remedy. As lately as three years ago Mr. GLADSTONE avowed that in many respects the old parliamentary constitution, discredited as it had become in 1830, was yet intrinsically more favorable to the public interests than the system of to-day. He added that he agreed with Mr. LOWE in thinking that England is in danger of engendering both a gerontocracy and a plutocracy. Other Liberals have not scrupled to affirm that, sooner than bear the galling yoke of the old and of the rich, the people may at last be driven to take refuge in Cæsarism—that is to say, the coarsest form of personal government.

So far as the new party fashioned by Mr. DISRAELI may be called Conservative—so far as it meets those instincts which prompt men to hold fast what they have, and to feel the spell of prescription and old association—it is based upon two principles. It maintains that an aristocracy is, at the worst, a better thing than a gerontocracy or a plutocracy; that an oligarchy founded upon birth is less odious and less onerous than one founded on mere length of years, or mere amplitude of purse. It holds, further, that at the end of the downward course, along which the influence of Parliament by the admission of Liberals is travelling, lies more than one alternative; that, indeed, the best way of averting a republican dictatorship is by infusing new vigor into the hereditary monarchy. It may be said for these principles that they are something more than the assumptions of a theorist, that they avail themselves of existing agencies and correspond to facts imbedded in the nature of the English people. It is a fact that the English poor, even at this day, feel more respect for birth than for money, and that the sentiment of loyalty to the person of the sovereign is a strong and active force in the mass of the population. In a word, the new conservatism framed by DISRAELI deliberately recognized and openly proclaimed the truth that the mass of men must have something to venerate—that it is not the utility or abstract reasonableness of things which makes them to be revered, but rather the halo of prescription and the religion of association. In its monarchy and its aristocracy the English nation possessed objects venerable on these grounds, and which, as a matter of fact, are venerated. Let us turn to account, said Mr. DISRAELI, these forces that actually exist; let us reinvigorate the sentiment of loyalty to the sovereign, and the feeling of respect for the great names of the land; but let us at the same time look to it that the larger confidence and influence challenged for the governing elements shall be well deserved. Let us find room in the Conservative party for progressive impulses; let us try to reconcile the just demand for the redress of grievances with the equally legitimate regard for time-honored institutions. Such are the speculations and projects repeatedly set forth in the earlier novels of Lord BEACONSFIELD, and now again enforced by argumentative digression or earnest colloquy in the new novel of "Endymion." Again we are told, and with redoubled emphasis, that the reform act of 1830 was, in effect, a revolution scarcely second in importance to that of 1688; and the author of "Endymion" asserts, at the age of 75, what the author of "Coningsby" had predicted, that the solution of the new political problem must be sought in a marriage of conservative instincts with democratic aspirations—in a rehabilitation of the throne, won not against the will but by the glad concession of the people.

It is clear that the political movement of which the author of "Endymion" has been the most conspicuous promoter has many points of likeness to that religious movement which began at the same epoch in the English Church. Mr. DISRAELI advocated a return to the primitive Toryism of the seventeenth century, just as the leaders of the Oxford revival urged a return to the primitive Anglicanism of LAUD and ANDREWS. It may be said that the parallel ought to be carried a step further, that a *via media* is no more practicable in politics than in religion, that both movements were destined to be failures because they were anachronisms. Certainly the general election of April, 1880, was ominous of long eclipse and swift disintegration to the Conservative party. In view of that ill presage, it may be thought that the new political gospel unfolded in the novels of Lord BEACONSFIELD will lose its votaries with the death of its expounder, and that it will soon cease to have any other than a literary interest. For the student of history, however, these novels will always be invested with a strange and potent fascination, as disclosing the processes and instruments of an astonishing achievement, the consummate alchemy of statecraft by which an obscure adventurer propped a tottering aristocracy, and stayed, for forty years, the torrent of reform and innovation, and by which a man born a Jew lived to see himself the virtual master of the British empire.

Who Told the Story?

The Hon. CHARLES FOSTER of Ohio is a candidate for Senator. So is JOHN SHERMAN. The story is current in Republican newspapers that after JOHN SHERMAN had refused to pay a hotel bill of $2,800, incurred by SHERMAN delegates to the Chicago Convention, Mr. FOSTER paid the money out of his own pocket, to save the credit of Ohio with politicians of the practical sort.

This was very generous and disinterested of Mr. FOSTER, and may influence Ohio legislators in their choice of a United States Senator; but how did the story get out?

Probably JOHN SHERMAN did not publish a transaction which, justly or unjustly, might operate against his own chances in the canvass.

As for Mr. CHARLES FOSTER, who generously devotes part of the fortune which he made by the rise in calico during the civil war to maintaining the credit of Ohio politics, his modesty and reticence are as well known as his patriotism. Besides, he has informed a reporter of Field Marshal MURAT HALSTEAD's newspaper that he regrets exceedingly that the story has got into print, and that "its publication is calculated to stir up personalities that should not enter the contest."

The only other person in a position to know the facts was the landlord of the Chicago hotel, to whom the public-spirited Mr. FOSTER paid the $2,800. Is this landlord a leaky or a malicious person? Why has he wantonly wounded the good Mr. FOSTER's sense of the appropriate?

The Release of Brockway.

Only a short time ago the Secret Service Bureau of the United States was receiving compliments in all the public journals for having effected, after much difficulty, and by the employment of rare skill, the arrest of WILLIAM E. BROCKWAY, one of the most dangerous of counterfeiters.

Yesterday it was announced that BROCKWAY had been quietly taken before a United States Judge, and that he pleaded guilty; but then, instead of being sentenced to a long and richly deserved term of imprisonment, he was allowed to go free on giving bail in the paltry sum of five thousand dollars.

There are various significant winks and knowing nods of officials about the matter, which is said to be "all right," and the release of the prisoner is stated to have been made at the suggestion of the chief detective of the secret service.

It may be "all right," as represented; but allowing a notorious counterfeiter, of skill that almost defies detection, to go at large, when he is once securely in the grasp of the criminal law, is an act which will not be generally accepted as "all right" on the mere wink or nod of any one. The public officers concerned may as well understand that the proceeding is regarded by the community as of a very suspicious character. Of course, we do not intend to reflect upon any person in particular; but we do say that whoever exercises the questionable power to deal with prisoners of BROCKWAY's class in this manner assumes a grave responsibility, and has no right to expect a universal concurrence of public opinion in its propriety, unless reasons of the most convincing character can be assigned for such an unusual course.

Why is Tourgee Silent?

The *Springfield Republican* calls Mr. ALBION W. TOURGEE to account for some misrepresentations in one of his political romances. The point seems to be well taken. Mr. TOURGEE should correct his book in accordance with truth.

There is another matter, however, of more importance to Mr. TOURGEE, respecting which he would do well to offer an early explanation. We refer to certain allegations, set forth officially, in document Number Eleven, published by the Legislature of North Carolina, under an act passed in 1877 appointing a commission to inquire into charges of corruption and fraud brought against various officials of the State.

According to the report of this commission, made upon the evidence taken before it, Mr. TOURGEE does not enjoy that cleanness of his hands which might qualify him to sit in judgment upon other men.

A Practical Idea.

We are informed by an esteemed contemporary of Philadelphia that one of the New York papers has recently developed a project for electing Gen. GRANT to be a Senator in Congress from this State.

This is a much more practical idea than that which has found some advocates of making him a Senator for life or a Senator at large—an office unknown to the Constitution, and which could not be created without a change in that great instrument.

But there need be no difficulty about electing GRANT to the Senate in the ordinary manner in the place of Mr. KERNAN. The Republican party have a majority in both branches of the Legislature. It is understood that Gen. GRANT has taken up his residence in this State; and if the Republicans wish to pay him a distinguished mark of their great esteem, let them elect him. They have the power to choose any citizen whom they may wish to choose. Then GRANT will be a Senator in the regular course of things, and nobody can complain about it.

The subsidists are rallying in force at Washington. They must know that the session will be too short to give much opportunity for their private business; and they must look forward more hopefully to the next Congress and to GARFIELD. Still, they doubtless expect to slip through some little jobs as riders to general appropriation bills, if in no other way.

Sixty men swallowed in a snow slide is a Colorado announcement, suggesting that snow accidents begin early this season. This one happened on the day of thanksgiving, which chanced to be prolific of disasters by land and sea.

Four railroad accidents in a single day, killing or injuring many persons and wrecking four trains, was Buffalo's allowance for Saturday. The two collisions and the two derailments were alike due to inexcusable carelessness.

The recent accident to the Kearsarge's steam launch, near Fort Monroe, in which one man was drowned and the launch was sunk, though afterward recovered by grappling, will form the last, it may be hoped, of the remarkable series of disasters which attended the vessels assembled to take part in Mariner THOMPSON's late review in Hampton Roads.

TALMAGE found the wind taken out of his sails yesterday morning. He entered his pulpit intending to launch his anathemas against the Passion Play, not knowing that the manager had decided not to produce it. One of his deacons, who had read the Sunday SUN, told him the news. It was too late, however, for TALMAGE to get up another sensational sermon; so he preached the one he had prepared. It was Hamlet with *Hamlet* out.

The Dulcigno farce ended in a tragedy after all. The losses of the Turks in the battle are put at three hundred, and those of the Albanians at four hundred. If ever war was murder, it seems to have been so in this case. The result of the affair was inevitable, with all Turkey against Albania, and all Europe backing up Turkey; hence the battle which preceded the surrender was simple slaughter.

The rough usage to which the Salvation Army was subjected in the Newark streets on Thanksgiving Day is to be regretted, but may have been the fruit of the rash public exposure of this body on the annual day of prayer and praise. This occasion is traditionally preempted, for purposes of street parade, to such organizations as the Squareback Rangers, the Original Hounds, the Feeble Frogs, the Mellow Horns, the Wild Gang, the Full Moons, the Midnight Warblers, the Turkey Gobblers, the Ruddy Conks, and the various target-shooting companies, knights of the pocket pistol, and competitive hurdle jumpers, who celebrate the Puritan anniversary by feats of muscular Christianity. The imported Salvation Army perhaps mistook the real character of the day, from too close a perusal of the official proclamations; they should have remained indoors, instead of supposing it a field day for themselves.

ONE WAY OF LOOKING AT MISFORTUNE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Reflecting Democrats are very little concerned about the loss of the organization of the House of Representatives. They will be so nearly equal in numbers to the majority, and so far superior in parliamentary experience, ability, and weight of individual character, as to enable them to improve every advantage over the adversary, without the responsibility of power. In the Senate, close as it will be, they will have the means of interposing a check to any special enormities of legislation, and may also, if they mean to preserve the country from the assault of the imperialists, reject all appointments which are manifestly made in pursuance of the corrupt bargain of Mentor, and in the interest of the third-term conspiracy.

It is doubtless better that the Republicans should be permitted to have the House and the petty patronage which at one time did so much to demoralize the Democrats. Any attempt on the part of the Democrats to organize it by dickering with the Greenbackers or other loose, unattached elements, and still worse by arbitrary rulings of the Clerk, would be a fatal mistake—only second in suicidal folly to a serious effort to count New York for Hancock. All talk of this kind is the idle chatter of the hangers-on of committees. No man of sense or standing ever countenanced it for a moment.

Barring a few early mistakes in the appointment of some of its officers, the history of the House of Representatives under Democratic management has been, in the main, extremely creditable to the party. Its Speakers were men of marked ability and unsullied purity of character. Mr. Kerr sank into a premature grave, honored and regretted by his associates of all parties. Mr. Randall has been the recognized barrier against all corrupt and costly schemes. He has probably saved to the Treasury, all told, more millions than any other one man in our history. As Chairman of the Appropriations Committee he began the system of retrenchment which diminished appropriations over thirty millions for a single fiscal year, and under his administration as Speaker the lobby has been almost entirely extinguished. No bounties, no subsidies, no land grants, no huge doubtful claims of any description have been passed, and the executive departments have been kept by Congressional vigilance and economy in tolerably decent order. This is a record of which the party has reason to be proud. It presents an honorable contrast to that of the Republicans, when Mr. Blaine was Speaker, and Mr. Garfield, as Chairman of Appropriations, "held the purse strings of the nation;" when the railroad lobbies took possession of the very floor; when Credit Mobilier and De Golyer scandals came thick and fast; when members hoarded their land-grant bonds; when carpet-baggers were formed in squads for sale; and when every day's report was loaded with accounts of Congressional corruption, until the people rose and swept out the whole concern in a storm of wrath and disgust.

Will the lobby now return? Will the old Rings reappear? Will the late system of grants and subsidies and bounties, under the guise of internal improvements, accompanied by increase of the army and other public burdens, be revived? We shall see. All these questions will be more or less definitely determined by the organization of the House.

Meanwhile the Democrats can afford to watch and wait. With such a leader on the floor as Mr. Randall, no mistakes of the majority will be suffered to pass unimproved by the minority. With management only moderately wise, the Democrats will certainly regain in two years enough seats to change the complexion of the House. The policy of Randall and Tilden carried the country in 1876, and will do so again upon issues squarely defined in 1882.

The Winter Firmament.

With the opening of December the brilliant constellations of winter begin to illume the sky. Whoever at this season commences to make himself familiar with the stars will never be likely to abandon the study. The glories of the firmament seem to increase with closer acquaintance. A star becomes much more interesting when one knows its name, and its times and seasons. In the clear, frosty air of winter the chief stars glitter more brilliantly than cut gems, and the Milky Way in places resembles frosted silver. Humboldt liked to describe the appearance of the stars in the tropics where they glow in the serene nights without twinkling, but with wonderful lustre. It is doubtful, however, whether the tropical skies exceed in beauty the northern heavens in winter. The rising of Orion, which now occurs at about 8 o'clock, seems to make the whole sky brighter. Before him goes the Bull, with his rose-tinted brilliant Aldebaran flashing in his forehead, and bearing the Hyades and the Pleiades, the most beautiful of star clusters. Above him shines Capella, the sacred Goat, carried in the arms of the giant Auriga. Behind him chase the Dogs, with Sirius and Procyon, the first named the brightest of all the stars. To the left of Capella are the Twins, and following them comes the Lion, with the great star Regulus, named after the famous Roman, glittering on his breast.

Among all these stars striking differences of color are seen. Orion's principal twinklers, Betelgeuse and Rigel, are totally unlike in hue. The first named is a pure topaz, and the other has a tinge of sapphire. But the grandest sight in this splendid constellation is the Great Nebula in the Sword. Huygens, the Dutch astronomer, who was the first to see this wonderful object through a telescope, questioned whether it was not an opening in the heavens through which he caught a glimpse of brighter and more glorious regions beyond. The amateur may apply every test of excellence to his telescope without turning it away from this nebula. The spectroscope shows that this nebula is not, like many others, composed of stars, but that it is a vast mass of glowing gas. Changes are taking place in it which indicate that it may be condensing into suns and worlds, just as our solar system grew out of that state of chaos in which it was "without form and void." Thousands of millions of years hence, if this view is correct, when the earth is dead and the sun burned out, life will make its appearance upon the untrodden worlds in this new universe in Orion. Prof. Draper has recently succeeded in photographing the nebula, and thus the means are supplied of studying its changes with more precision than has heretofore been possible.

Perseus, Andromeda, and Cassiopeia may be counted among the winter constellations, although, like the Bears, their proximity to the pole makes them conspicuous at other seasons also. Cassiopeia, which may be recognized by a zigzag row of five bright stars, shaped like a section of rail fence, overhead about 8 o'clock, is particularly interesting, because there is reason to expect that the wonderful flaming star of 1572, called the Pilgrim, will soon blaze out again in this constellation. Tycho Brahe, the astronomer, says that this star sprang forth in its full splendor in a spot where he was sure there was no star visible an hour before. It was so bright as to be visible at noonday. In 1264 a new star appeared and disappeared near the same place, and in 945 a similar phenomenon was observed. So, if these appearances are periodical, its return may be looked for at any time from now until 1890. By calculating backward it will be seen that an appearance of this star would be due about the beginning of the Christian era, and the astrologers of Tycho's time said the new star was the same that the Magi saw at the birth of Christ. So they predicted that the Last Judgment was at hand. A reappearance of the Pilgrim in our day would cause no such alarm, but it would make a profound sensation among the astronomers for scientific reasons.

Information Wanted.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: I think the people of New York city should drop talking about erecting monuments in honor of anybody until they erect that monument in honor of George Washington, which the school children of the various schools of the county of New York subscribed money for some ten or twelve years ago. I was one of the pupils of Grammar School No. 55 in West Twentieth street, and subscribed my mite with the rest. Now where is all that money, and where is the monument?

JERSEY CITY, Nov. 25. AMERICAN.

THAT BIG FISH NET.

A Veteran Fisherman Makes Some Valuable Suggestions Concerning It.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I see by your issue of the 21st inst. that there is a company about to erect an iron pound net on the shores of Long Island. The net is one of the great inventions of the age, and if they are built of suitable size mesh so as to take only marketable fish, they would not deplete the waters in which they are set. The mesh should be two inches square. That would let the young fish through, and the net would stand in a storm, when a fine mesh net would be carried away. Fish are local in their habits, and the old fish travel the same route that they did when they were young; and if they are not taken when they are young they will surely come back to the same ground when they are old and fit for market.

Such fish as shad, and many other kinds of marketable fish at two years old, weigh on the average about three-fourths of a pound, and when they are three years old they will weigh three or four pounds. Now make the mesh of your net so large that the small fish can go through, and your net will pay for many years. But make the mesh small, and take every fish large and small that comes along, and it will pay for about four years, and then you will have destroyed all the family of fish that strike on your coast at the point you set your net.

That is the result of pound net fishing on the great lakes.

The same rule works with fish as with animals. Kill off the young and the old will soon become scarce. There are thousands of tons of white fish sold for herring in the New York market that are taken in pound nets in the great lakes. The fishermen get about a half a cent each for them, and if they were allowed to live one year more, they would bring the fishermen at least fifteen cents. SETH GREEN.

ROCHESTER, Nov. 23.

ATHLETIC MATCHES AND PASTIMES.

To-day at 11 o'clock Edward Trickett of Australia and Wallace Ross of New Brunswick are to scull their match for $1,000 a side on the Thames, from Putney Aqueduct to the Ship at Mortlake. The final deposit was duly made by both on Friday, so that there is little doubt that the race will come off. Though both have been recently beaten, it is conceded that they were not at their best, and they cannot be reckoned other than first-class oarsmen. The betting has naturally been in Ross's favor not so much on account of the Hanlan-Trickett match as from the fact that in the international regatta Trickett was easily defeated by Smith, who next day was as easily beaten by Ross.

The Eastern Field Trials Club begins its second annual meeting to-day on Robin's Island, in Peconic Bay, Long Island, the first trial being the Nursery Stakes, the Puppy Stakes following to-morrow, the All-aged on Wednesday and Thursday, the Brace Stakes on Friday, and the Club Stakes on Saturday. The schedules for judging the points and for recording them in detail have been revised, several valuable contributions for prizes have been made, and, should the weather prove favorable, the large number and high class of the entries will insure interesting trials. The island has been well stocked with birds, and the first annual meeting, held there last December, showed its capabilities for its purpose.

The proposed race at Washington on Thanksgiving Day between Davis, Kennedy, Lee, and Plaisted, came to nothing. The Washingtonians will have to do better in order to secure a race between Hanlan, Ross, and Laycock.

The success of the Citizens' Association races in Georgia last week was somewhat interfered with by stormy weather. The last week in November is not apt to be favorable for horse racing, North or South.

As the great game of the year at college foot ball, played last Thursday by the present champions, the Princetons, against the leading aspirants for the championship, the Yales, ended in a draw, the advantage really remained with the Princetons. Its practical result was that the effort to wrest away the championship honors, which they have now held during three years, proved unsuccessful. Doubtless it was this knowledge that a drawn game would enure as a victory to them that caused the Princetons to occupy its last ten minutes in so rolling the ball as to kill time. This fact and the number of safety touch downs to which Princeton was compelled to resort showed that the champions felt they had a dangerous team to compete with. But it is a more than counterbalancing fact that the Princeton team played with three substitutes, in place of three excellent players hurt in earlier games. Besides enjoying this advantage, Yale had put two graduates into her team, and these were two of her best men, Camp being her hardest kicker, and Harding her best runner. Princeton played wholly with undergraduates, and yet, as a much smaller college, had far fewer men to select from. On the whole, therefore, Princeton eminently deserved to retain her championship. She is first in foot ball, as Cornell is in boating, as the University of Pennsylvania is in cricket, and as Yale is in base ball. Pennsylvania failed to meet Columbia in the game set down for Saturday, but a still better one is hoped for soon between Princeton and Columbia.

There were 114 entries in the late Vincennes field trials, a number surpassing anything before known in this country. The frozen ground, however, foiled the scent in many instances of trials.

A remarkable short stop to a ball was the one given by Father Moran to the Hibernian dancing entertainment at Ware, Mass., last week. He denounced it from the pulpit, and was also on hand in an ante-room, on the night of the ball, warning people away. The enterprise was a dead failure, and now the managers talk of suing Father Moran for damages.

The visitors carried off the laurels in the three days' gun tourney of the Long Branch, Maryland, Philadelphia, Riverton, Narragansett, Orange, Staten Island, and New York Gun Clubs, and the Westminster Kennel Club, which ended at Bergen Point on Saturday; and among the visitors the Philadelphians were preeminent. They secured the first and second prizes in the first day's match; they won the Barron Cup and the handicap match on the second day, and they captured the handsome Champion's Cup on the third day. Philadelphia's Riverton Club may well be accounted the champion gun club of this country. The winning scores were in some cases remarkably good.

A noteworthy scientific event of the past week, in the sporting world, was the glove fight at Bridgeport between Messrs. E. McGlinchy and Mike Donovan. Even the most knowing of the spectators are said to have admitted that they had rarely seen such head work, and the handiwork, too, was impressive. After the fight ended in a draw, Donovan said he would encounter Mr. McGlinchy again with pleasure, and McGlinchy said the same with regard to Mr. Donovan. If these statements can be relied on, there will be another match, but there had been mutual fibbing that night.

No better evidence could be given of the hold that athletic sports have taken upon the community than the competition games of Thanksgiving Day. The athletes ran, leaped, kicked and shot in snow; not to be foiled of their sport at hare and hounds, the hares took bits of colored paper with them instead of white, to give the scent on the snow; and the spectators assembled at the various matches in goodly numbers, sometimes stamping to keep warm, and taking the snow squalls in good humor. A few years ago there would have been many postponements or reductions of open-air programmes in such weather.

Grant.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Through a typographical error last week you asked the question:

"Is it not an object of charity?"

Why, you might as well have called him a hog.

I'm yet to know before that a [illegible] could know not the difference so easily. JOHN SCORES.

Peculiarities of a Great Man.

From the Globe-Democrat.

Jefferson liked horseback riding. Next to a good fiddle he loved a good horse, and he had few equals as an elegant and fearless rider.

A Chance for a House Cleaning.

Garfield, put your house in order,
Ere the troublous times begin!
You should hire a stalwart warder,
For a watch about the border,
Seeing who goes out and in.

Schemes destructive and seditious,
Harmful, hateful to the land,
Wait the time and place propitious
For an entrance surreptitious
To the house where you command.

Some, you know, have gone a great way
From the course that made us free;
Some who, if they might, would straightway
Make that house of ours a gateway
For an empire's pageantry.

Should you let those people enter,
Loaded down with selfish schemes,
Drawing all things to their centre,
You would best have stayed at Mentor,
Free from all ambition's dreams.

Let your house be not surrounded
With De Golyer's rotten wood,
Though its praises once you sounded,
For a purpose badly grounded,
When at Shepherd's side you stood.

Firmly drive the fat and wealthy
Corporations from your doors;
Or, with action quick and stealthy,
They may make it quite unhealthy
In the house for you and yours.

Sooner or later a neglected cold will develop a constant cough, shortness of breath, failing strength, and waste of flesh, all symptomatic of some serious lung affection which may be avoided or [illegible] by using in time Dr. Jayne's Expectorant.—*Adv.*

SUNBEAMS.

—Mr. Parnell's brother is a fruit farmer on a very large scale in the South.

—The Prince of Orange, like his brother "Citron," makes Paris his headquarters.

—A man hanged himself at Bedford, Ind., because his daughter's husband deserted her.

—A visitor at Venice complains that gondolas are painfully suggestive in their general get up of floating hearses.

—During the last fifty years 2,490 persons have been sentenced to death in France, and of this number 1,461 have been executed, while 930 were pardoned or obtained a commutation of their sentence.

—The case of Thomas John (commonly called Monsignori Capel came up on Nov. 11 in the London Court of Bankruptcy. He applied to pass his examination. Various creditors opposed, and the sitting was adjourned for five weeks.

—A young thief, on being arrested at Reading, Pa., said he hoped God would paralyze him if he was not innocent. Within a few days he was stricken with paralysis, and he is now firm in the belief that it was in consequence of his impious prayer.

—All the M. P.'s placed on trial in the Irish State prosecutions, save one, are bachelors. Mr. Parnell is unmarried. So are Messrs. Sexton, Dillon, and Biggar. Mr. T. D. Sullivan, who is a poet, is the only Benedick among the Parliamentary martyrs.

—A writer in the November *Belgravia*, on Boston, England, says that while in Liverpool there are not more than six Everetts and not one Cushing or Frothingham, these and many other names well known in the American Boston are common in Lincolnshire.

—There have been several serious railroad accidents in Germany lately. It is estimated that since the Government has been running the railroads it has, for economy, so reduced the staff that the employees cannot exercise the needful supervision under the new regime. Switchmen get from 37 to 43 cents a day.

—A good many excellent and graceful actresses come from the ballet. Carlotta Leclercq was a danseuse, so was Mme. Celeste, so was Polly Marshall, so was Lydia Thompson, so was Mary Gannon. Charlotte Cushman was originally a singer; so was Mrs. Keeley, who sang in "Oberon" and many English operas.

—The London *Economist* says that the fact of consols getting above par raises the question whether it is possible to lower the rate of interest. Three per cent. is not much, to be sure; still, if the public can borrow at 2¾, its agent, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, should place its loans at that rate. Mr. Gladstone's attempt to place a 2½ per cent. stock in 1853 failed.

—Edward Simms has arrived in Washington from Canton, Ohio, and is ready to be inaugurated as President. A compromise bargain was made by Hancock and Garfield, on the morning of election day, he says, by which all the votes of the Electoral College are to be cast for him. He has documents, enormous in size and extravagant in seals, proving to his satisfaction the validity of his claim.

—Lord Henry Gordon, brother of the Marquis of Huntley, and formerly of the firm of Newton, Gordon & Co., tobacco and general brokers, is a bankrupt. Lord Henry's grandfather, Lord Huntley, had the same sad fate, and the sheriffs occupied his house. The present peer, an able man of high character, repaired the fortunes of his family by marrying a Manchester millionaire's daughter.

—Amos Briggs was the tallest and fattest man in northern Georgia. "Seeing you're so big," said Henry Carter to him on meeting him at the country store, "it's strange I couldn't hit you last night. I fired twice from a distance of forty rods, I guess, and never touched you." Briggs knew that Carter was his enemy, but this was his first intimation that the firing he had heard was aimed at him. Carter added: "Here's for you at short range," and drew a pistol, but bystanders disarmed him.

—At Linares, Spain, lately, three miners were sinking a shaft, and after charging the bore holes with dynamite, two climbed to the gallery above, while the third remained to light the fuses attached to the charges. Having done so he signalled to his comrades, and was being hoisted up, when, on nearing the top, he lost his hold, and fell a distance of fifty feet to the bottom, where he lay, stunned and disabled, close to the lighted fuses. One of his comrades instantly put his knife between his teeth, and, descending by a chain ladder, severed the fuses as they were about igniting.

—Jerry Williams of Louisville, though a notorious rough, was very fond of his young sister, and when he heard that John Watson had talked against her, he sought him out with the intention of killing him. These two men stood just outside a saloon, Jerry reiterating the accusation, and Watson strenuously denying it, when Charley Williams, a brother of Jerry and the girl, staggered up to them. He was quite drunk, and, just as he joined the others, he heard Watson say, "Who told you I said she wasn't a good girl?" Charley did not know that his sister was meant, but in a recklessly jocose way he cried, "I said she wasn't, and I can prove it." Then Jerry stabbed his brother to death.

—The Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago has called the Rev. John MacIntosh of Belfast, Ireland, at a salary of $8,000 a year. The committee who chose him think it necessary to offer the following explanation: "We canvassed the country thoroughly to find an American-born and American-educated minister to present as the candidate for the pastoral office of the church, and on whom the church could unite, but have not been able to find the suitable person for the place who would or could be moved. Mr. MacIntosh, whom we recommend to you, is a native-born American, of Scotch parentage and Irish education, and this means a thoroughness of education that qualifies him to fill any pulpit in the land."

—The Empress Eugénie aspired to be the leader of dress and fashion, and many a middle-class family in England was sorely embarrassed by the long dressmakers' bills which an imitation of her innumerable and always expensive costumes entailed. Several crowned heads in Europe, however, determined not to accept the parvenu Empress as their guide. The late Empress of Russia passed through Dijon and Lyons with her husband in 1865 on her way to Nice, and the *Courrier de Lyon* recorded that her attire would have been despised by a shopkeeper's wife, but then the courtly journal added: "When a lady has the honor of being the wife of the Emperor of all the Russias, such simplicity is only an additional charm." The late Queen of Holland appeared at Fontainebleau about the same time in a hat and pelisse which had done long duty at the Hague.

—Count Drohojeski, a youthful Polish patrician of Lemberg, was entertaining a select circle of noble friends at a card party, and, while his attention was riveted on the game, had the misfortune to be disturbed by the jangling strains of a barrel organ, played by a poor old blind man who had contrived to enter the courtyard of the house in the hope of earning a few kreutzers. Moved to ungovernable indignation by this intrusion upon his privacy, the Count took down a loaded fowling piece from his gun-rack, threw open the window, and, taking deliberate aim at the audacious organ grinder, dexterously shot him in the neck. The old man was conveyed to the nearest hospital on a stretcher, and the noble marksman resumed his game; but, greatly to his astonishment and disgust, was presently arrested by the police, and conveyed to prison, where he now lies, awaiting his trial for murderous assault.

—In Berlin the average number of horses killed for food this year has been 450 per month, while last year it was 350. All the horses eaten are killed in a central slaughter house, and each horse before it is killed is carefully examined by two veterinary surgeons. At the present time the butcher pays about 42 marks, or $10.50, for a piece of horseflesh weighing from 250 to 300 pounds, but he retails it at 40 pfennige or about 10 cents a pound for the [illegible], 25 pfennige per pound for other pieces, and 20 pfennige for parts only fit to be made into sausages; and as horseflesh is naturally very dry, a good deal of it can only be utilized by being mixed with lard and converted into sausages, which are, it is suspected, largely consumed by persons who are [illegible] of what they are eating. In [illegible] towns the consumption of horseflesh is, in proportion to their population, even larger than in Berlin.

—In 1765 Legoyt calculated that there were in France 70,000 monks and [illegible] nuns. The number of monks is now far behind what it was a century ago, but the number of nuns is considerably above it. Eighty-six different orders of monks are represented in France and they have 2,720 establishments; 281 different orders of nuns are represented, and they have 12,934 establishments. Seventy-two per cent. of the monks and sixty [illegible] per cent. of the nuns are engaged in education; two per cent. of the monks and twenty-two per cent. of the nuns are engaged in attending on the sick, and twenty-two per cent. of the monks and eight per cent. of the nuns are devoted to a purely contemplative life. The Barnabites, who have just been expelled, are one of the smallest of the religious orders in France; they have only three establishments, with twenty-five members between them. The largest order is that of the Christian Brothers, who number 9,900, and have even increased largely since 1861, when they were only 6,[illegible].

—Albert Wolff tells how, once upon a time, he and some of his chums, hearing that Offenbach was coming to Etretat, organized a triumphal reception in his honor. A collection of arms and costumes was procured from a friend's house, and half a dozen halberdiers, worthy of a place in the troops of the Grand Duchess of Gerolstein, were drawn up in military array in front of the hotel. A boy, attired as a herald, was mounted on a jackass, and two toy cannon thundered a salute, while the halberdiers presented arms. Wolff himself came forward and presented the keys of the hotel on a plated salver to the maestro, who accepted the whole thing with effusion, didn't see through it at all, and, as the tears stood in his eyes, exclaimed, "Oh, but this is too much, too much!" The same sort of joke was carried out many years ago, with equal success, at Pencarrow, Lady Molesworth's seat in Cornwall, when Lady E., famous for the tremendous airs she gave herself, came on a visit. Some wags in the house got up triumphal arches, with "Welcome," and [illegible] "Hail, Queen of Society!" and [illegible] "[illegible] Charlotte" [illegible] it all down [illegible] when her husband, a sensible man, came to hear of it he was greatly mortified.