



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1897.

Subscriptions by Mull Post-Pald DAILY DET VEST BUNDAY, per Year. 900 chief end of taxation, this Mas DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Year. 800 plan of taxation deserves praise. DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Month 20 Postage to foreign countries added. THE SUN, New York City.

Fants-Klosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and Flosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication with to have rejected articles returned. they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Behind Seth Low.

The business community are at last thor oughly awake as to the danger of the Low movement. His candidacy is a threat against the

prosperity of New York and the security of property, which becomes more and more obvious to all conservative citizens.

Behind SETH LOW stalks HENRY GZORGE, an alarming figure, and the two are inseparable.

New York and St. Louis.

A contemporary asks what the St. Louis or Chicago platform has to do with the election in New York city.

The greatest material injury which could come to New York to-day out of the possibilities that are visible would be the national Administration's change from the St. Louis platform, under which New York is now flourishing, to the Chicago platform of Populistic recklessness and dishonor. No other question equals this in its vital in portance to New York. The Raines law or any State question is nothing to it.

How trivial the municipal issues really are which are before the New York public appears the moment they are examined. Mr. SETH Low's consists of a pompous promise to observe, if elected Mayor, an oath which all Mayors are compelled to take and can be removed from office for violating. Mr. GEORGE's municipal issue is municipal ownership of railroads and dollar gas.

New York would better elect for its Mayor an inexperienced theorist like HEN-BY GEORGE, if his election helped to make firmer the principles of St. Louis, than a trained public man and able administrator like BENJAMIN F. TRACY championing the principles of Chicago.

How loud, therefore, should be New York's declaration in favor of Gen. TRACY when, in addition to his far superior personal fitness for the office of Mayor, he disfinctively and emphatically represents the honorable and fruitful principles of the St. Louis platform !

Taxation in Massachusetts.

In 1896 Governor WOLCOTT of Massachusetts appointed a special commission of five to investigate taxation in that State. The best-known members of the commission are Judge DUNBAR, Prof. TAUSSIG of Harward College, and Mr. THOMAS JEFFERSON COOLIDGE, sometime Minister to France. These and one other member have brought

In a majority report, which is a rather singular document. Of their recommendations we shall mention here only the following: "An inheritance tax levied with respect to realty

as well as to personalty at the rate of 5 per cent., with an exemption for estates not exceeding \$10,000 and an abatement of \$5,000 on estates between \$10,-000 and \$25,000. The revenue from this tax to be distributed from the State Treasury among the several cities and towns, one-half in proportion to popu-lation, one-half in proportion to assessed valuation. "A tax in proportion to house rentals; only the exceas over \$400 of rental being taxable.

The apolition of the taxes on intangible perso alty, such as stocks, bonds, mortgage loans, and in-

This abolition part can be commended. "We think," say the majority of the comtax to reality especially desirable, because it brings about substantial taxation on the well-to-do and the rich, and so secures a better distribution of the burden of taxation." Both in the proposal for the extension of the inheritance tax to realty and in the proposal for a tax on house rentals the Commissioners show by the exemptions that their theory of taxation does not aim at equal taxation, but at the unequal taxation of the well to do. They do not, indeed, favor a graduated tax, but they do propose to exempt the great majority of owners of realty and of hirers of houses.

matters: it simply uses the evidence of a man's means which he sires if offers."

This tax has the merit of being a substitute for the existing income tax. In defending it the Commissioners again expose their theory of taxation. They say that it would not be felt outside of the citics, and would be paid by the well-to-do and rich. If to mulet those unfortunate folks is the chief end of taxation, this Massachusetts

How to Make Sure Gen. Tracy's Election.

The Republicant alone can elect Gen. TRACY in this campaign of so much apparent confusion and complexity.

In 1892, when the Democratic party was united and of its greatest strength, its vote for CLEVELAND in the territory included in the Greater New York was 292,322. The Republican vote for HANRISON, though then at a remaritably low ebb, was 181,002.

This year Tanmany is split squarely in two the year's necessities. by the George excitement. Gronge is the regular Chicago platform candidate, and as bread caters will aggregate 1,990,000,000 such will command the great majority of bushels, while, to meet these demands, the Democratic vote, along with that of the there will be, apparently, but 1,590,000,-Socialists and other politically eccentric 000 bushels, after setting aside 320,000,and radical bodies. Low is a disturbing 000 bushels for seed. It follows that but force, but his candidacy will only help the three-fourths of the required bread can be Republicans united against him by further provided, unless larger drafts than now dividing the opposition to them.

harvest year, despite the fact that the

and Africa, was 138,000,000 bushels below

To comprehend the present situation with

Russian Minister of Ways and Communi-

cations, Prince HILKOFF, was in this coun-

try last October he declared that Siberia

never had produced, and never would pro-

duce, wheat and rye enough to feed the

The End of a Great Experiment.

About five years ago the late Baron DE

Siberian population.

seem possible can be made upon re-Their vote of 181,000 in the Greater New serves already reduced to the lowest point York in 1892, when the party fell behind its consistent with the safety of the exporting usual percentage of the total vote, has been nations. That scarcity and high prices increased by natural growth and by large achave not prevailed in recent years is due to cessions to the party since that time, and the harvesting, since 1889, of seven world more especially last year. Thus swelled, crops of wheat and six of rye, giving out there is no doubt that if concentrated upon puts so much above the average as to result Gen. TRACY it is ample to elect him. Morein great accumulations that have served over the Republicans will draw to their aid all the conservative vote in the Greater New to obscure the fact that the harvests of 1895 and 1896 were each much below cur-York without regard to party affiliations rent requirements. As reserves will wholly in the past, as affording the only way of disappear at the end of the year 1897-98, beating the menacing George candidacy. requirements must be met hereafter from

The dickering of the Low agents with current harvests, further accumulation the George managers opens the eyes of all being impossible. Republicans and all honest men to the political immorality and the dangerous regard to breadstuffs and its bearing upon character of the Low movement, Such readiness to assist in electing GEORGE, the prospects of our Western farmers, the following facts, brought out by Mr. DAVIS, to do anything possible in order to beat the Republican party, startles the must be kept steadily in view. First, although the world's output of wheat in 1897 whole community. Though begun ostensibly and pretentiously as a distinctively is several hundred million bushels less than municipal movement, it has gone into the world's requirements, acre yields have been but little below the average. Secondly, State politics by putting up candidates even an average yield from the acres now for the Assembly, for the sole purpose of beating the Republican candidates. Acemployed would be 275,000,000 bushels tually it can hope to do no more than divide less than present needs, and the greatest the vote sufficiently to foist upon the State crop ever grown would not equal them. Thirdly, although requirements for wheat the disgrace and the menace of George As-

and rye progressively increase year after semblymen. How many Republicans will assist in that year by more than 40,000,000 bushels, not an acre has been added to the aggregate of conspiracy against their party and in the the world's bread-bearing area since 1884. interest of HENRY GEORGE! There are said Lastly, an acreage deficit exists equal to to be a good many in Brooklyn now, but by the 2d of November they will be precious the supply of as many bread enters as have few. All honest men will refuse to lend been added to the world's population in the last twelve years. aid to such detestable political business,

whatever may be their party allegiance. We see, then, that there is no likelihood The Republican party has now upon it a that the world's supply of breadstuff's will grave responsibility. In its whole history it ever again meet the world's requirements, has had no graver, and the burden rests on unless, as we began by saying, Europeans the conscience of every member of the can be persuaded to eat bread made from Indian corn or maize. There is no foundaparty. It is a high responsibility to civtion for the belief that the Trans-Siberian ilized society. The party also has before it Railway is about to open a vast region a great opportunity. The Mayoralty of New York for four years to come is within adapted to the production of wheat and rye. In all Siberia not more than 50,its reach, and it can now strike against Bryanism the hardest blow since the defeat 000,000 acres can be regarded as cultivable. of BRYAN last November. and much more than half of these are already employed in the production of food Voting for SETH LOW or for VAN WYCK staples. Mr. DAVIS tells us that when the

will be voting to elect HENRY GEORGE and to strengthen Bryanism. Voting for Gen. TRACY, the ablest man ever nominated for Mayor of New York, will be voting to crush out GEORGE and all he represents. Gen. TRACY is the one honest candidate

in the field. He alone is uncontaminated and unhampered by political bargains, and no Republican can desert him without treachery to his party and to society. All honest opponents of HENRY GEORGE, every man who really desires to prevent the dis-

HIRSCH, the Jewish millionaire, controller of large financial enterprises and liberalgrace and the calamity of his election, must vote for BENJAMIN F. TRACY. those charitable institutions which seemed

THE SUN, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1897.

It requires no inquisition and no inquiry into private only did this production, so far above the use; some preferred life in the cities United States and from foreign countries. average, add to our store of supplies 1,200.to work on a farm, and a good many of 000,000 bushels of wheat, but there was an them left the country, in a discontented immense synchronous over-average producstate of mind, before they had lived in it tion of rye, as well as a great augmentation for a year. It is doubtful whether more of exportable Russian surpluses of wheat than 2,000 Russian Jewish immigrants and rye, by reason of a decline amounting are now living in the Argentine colonies to 13.5 per cent, in the consumption of that were founded, at a heavy expense, for bread per head of the liussian population, their especial benefit. It is grievous to These extraordinary conditions served comknow that such has been the outcome of pletely to obscure the existing acreage dethe generous purpose that was enterficit; to depress prices to an unremuneratained by the wealthy Baron. It has been tive level and to store up great reserves that made manifest that the Jewish Rusenabled the bread eaters of 1895 to secure sians, unaccustomed to farming in their abundant supplies, notwithstanding the native country, could not be quickly fitted fact that the wheat harvest of that year in to engage in it in another and a strange 'contributory areas," plus imports from country. It would be unfair to cast too Asia and Africa, was 75,000,000 bushels much blame upon them for the failure of below requirements. It served, also, to the agricultural colonies. furnishall needed supplies in the 1896-97

A fitter man than Baron DE HIRSCH to carry out the plan which he devised could product from that year's harvest in "connot have been found in Europe. His miltributory areas," plus imports from Asla lions were counted by the hundred; and he was ready to expend many of them in what he believed to be the interest of his people.

We come to the year 1897-98, when the He was a man of large experience in practi food requirements of the 510,000,000 cal affairs. He had been successful in nearly all the undertakings of his life. He sympa thized deeply with the unhappy Jews of those countries in which they are subject to disabilities, and he was most anxious to offer them such relief as he believed it to be in his power to provide. It was before his death last year that the Argentine enterprise fell under a blight. His widow, exceedingly desirous to carry out all his wishes, and with abundant means at her command, is

yet unable to accomplish the purpose for which he provided so great a fund. She has recently sent much money to Russia, to be used for such educational, scientific, and industrial purposes as promise benefit to the six million Jews who live there. It was that shrewd observer of Jewish

character and Jewish experiments, Rabbi ABRAM S. ISAACS, who recently made the remark: "The Russian Jewish problem can be solved only in Russia."

A Successful Anti-Trust Law.

Some doubting spirits have questioned the value of statutes against trusts. The country is crowded with statutes of that sort, they say, and yet trusts increase and multiply. The Illinois law against trusts at least is of value to the Federal Govern ment and to all the citizens of the United States, and the fact was proved last week. If that law does not hurt trusts beyond remedy it helps the country in general, as will appear in a moment. For six years Illinois has possessed, if not enjoyed, a law forbidding trusts and threatening them with big and cumulative fines. Although a fat part of these fines is assured to the informer when a conviction is obtained, the law has slept and informers have not been enriched. Last week the law awoke, threw away its nightcap indignantly, and called for pen and paper. The Secretary of State, who is

fragrant in the name of Rose, but has sworn to be a upas tree to the unholy combinations of monopoly, notified 25,000 incorporated companies that on or before Nov. 6 they must place on file in his department affidavits that they are not doing a forbidden business in the trust line.

Twenty-five thousand two-cent stamps at two cents apiece come to \$500. Twentyfive thousand more, for the answers, at the same, come to the same. The direct addition to the revenues of the Post Office Department is \$1,000. To this sum may be added a contingent pile, the size of which will depend upon the formal exactness of the affidavits submitted. In drawing these up the services of a notary public will be required. Say 25,000 affidavits and notary publics at fifty cents apiece, making \$12,500.

Here is a direct benefit of \$1,000 to the whole country and \$12,500 to the Illinois notaries. Moreover, when official correspondence is once begun, its inertia quickly becomes enormous, and it is hard to stop it. If Secretary ROSE is the man we take him for, he will afford great happiness to handed provider of funds for the use of Postmaster-General GARY before this cruel war against trusts is over.

From this point of view, therefore, Chicago is an ignitible, if not an altogether inflammable city, and the danger of a prairie fire in State street or in Michigan avenue, for instance, is always imminent. Moreover, the bucket brigade is not always available as a fighting force.

This matter of prairie fires seems certain. sooner or later (and more probably sooner). to engage the attention of the professional reformers of Chicago, who have recently been thrown out of their professional jobs by the unwillingness of the great body of Chicago voters to accept further guidance from them. These reformers, having certainly nothing better and perhaps nothing else to do, might to great public advantage consecrate themselves to the task of getting at the root of the prairie fire trouble by the possible introduction of lawn mowers and reapers for use upon Chicago streets. It is obvious that the removal of grass from the Chicago prairie would diminish the dangers of conflagration.

Persona Grata.

We print elsewhere a summary of an exceedingly able and comprehensive statement of the reasons for the annexation of Hawaii, together with an examination of the arguments which have been advanced by the opponents of annexation.

The whole case is there, and there has been no clearer or fairer statement of the whole case. It is an enlightening and convincing document which every American citizen should read.

The author of this notable pamphlet is the Hon. LORRIN A. THURSTON, formerly the Hawailan Minister to the United States and persona non grata to the Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND, but distinctly and emphatically persona grata to several millions of Americans who will shortly welcome him to fellow citizenship.

It is reported that the exposure of SETH Low as simply a tail to the Henry George kite induced some of the brokers on the Stock Exchange yesterday to turn in their alarm to VAN WYCK as their means of political salvation. That showed that however much they know about the stock market they know very little about politics. Obviously, the strength of GEORGE is the weakness of VAN WYCK. GEORGE is only formidable because he is likely to carry off the great bulk of the Tammany vote, leaving VAN WYCR's candidacy beyond salvation.

A merely casual examination of the election returns of last year and for several years past will prove conclusively that if GEORGE is beaten it must be by the Republican party. In that there is a sure and calculable vote, and if to it is added the conservative vote without regard to party, Gen. TRACY's election is certain. It is sure anyway if all the Republicans pull together; but the addition of the other vote will make it certain that the calamity of the election of HENRY GEORGE will be prevented.

In the Philadelphia Press of yesterday the enterprising proprietors of a burglar alarm telegraph made this seasonable announcement

LOOK OUT FOR BURGLARS !

You are about making your summer plans. WHY WORRY ABOUT YOUR HOUSE DURING YOUR ABSENCE?

Can it be possible that they are about making their plans over there for summer l

The appointment of Gen. RAMON BLANCO as WEYLER's successor in Cuba will be interpreted as heralding the abandonment of codless brutalities that have made WEVLER's name notorious. It would not be surprising, for example, to find the system of compulsory conentration in towns either greatly modified or done away with altogether. Out of it have prung unnumbered sufferings.

Such a change may also be interpreted as de noting the willingness of the new Ministry to deal directly with the patriots for terms of peace, Gen. BLANCO having a reputation for reliance on diplomacy as well as the sword, and for willingness to make concessions. In this respect he may be better compared, perhaps, with MARTINEZ CAMPOS than with WEYLER. But neither change of commanders nor change of policy can now avail to divert the aim of the patriots from that independence which begins

THE EXPANDING BULLET.

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9.

Some Remarks on Great Britain's New Missile TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT / I notice in this morning's SUN a special London cable despatch stating that "the Government is considering the question of adopting a new lead bullet invented by a Birmingham firm. Instead of a conical top the new bullet has a cup-like cavity in its striking end. When it first enters the flesh the front of the bullet acts like a punch, cutting a clean round hole, which does not close up. Then the missile commences to expand, and after it has travelled six inches it produces a jagged hole three or four luches in diameter. It seems probable that the right of England to use such a bullet as that described may be seriously questioned under the rules of international law. Davis, in his "Outlines of International Law," p. 224, says: "The decision as to whether a particular instrument may, or may not, be employed in war will depe the wound or injury caused by its us wound produced by it cause unnecessar SATY S ing, or needless injury, it is to be wise not This rule is applicab ments of whatever character, when o all instru when not interver character, whether weapons or projectiles, which may be used in war. The application of this rule forbids the use of rut-ting or thrusting weapons which have been poisoned, or which are so constructed as to in-flict a merely poinful wound. To this chase be-long arrows with easily detached heads. Xr. The recommendations of the St. Petersburg conference upon the subject of explosive pro-jectiles, forbidding the use of projectiles weigh-ing less than 400 grammes (weive ounces avoirdupois), has received the general sametion of civilized nations. The adeption of this rule renders unlawful the use of explosive bullets in small arms." Inasmuch as the proposed new bullet is de-signed to produce "a jaggred bole." It would

Inasmuch as the proposed new bullet is de-signed to produce "a jagged hole." It would been that it would clearly come under the pro-hibition of the above rule, unless it can be shown that the wound would be large enough to cause certain death, which apparently would not be true in many cases, as, for instance in case the bullet struck a fleashy portion of a man's leg. Is it a sign of decaying greatness that at the close of the nineteenth century England should resort to a practice so closely akin to the heliah custom of savages who chew their bullets, which was condemned by the civilized world more than 100 years ago 7 C. NEW YORG, Oct. 9.

Is Gen. Tracy Guilty of Republicanism !

To the Epiron of The Sun-Sir: Mr. Low argues that the election of Gen. Tracy would please Senator Platt. Granted, and what of 11? What great disaster that would bring to New York, neither Mr. Low nor any one else pretends to say. Mr. Low does not claim hat in that case the affairs of New York would go to the dickens. To the contrary, his complaint is widely different, and is that Gen. Tracy, in making appointments, would select Republicans in order to strengthen the Republican party as much as possible for the Presidential election of 1900.

As if it were a monstrously wicked thing to think of, Mr. Low, at Cooper Union last night, launched this fearful indictment at Gen, Tracy: "Appointments will be made to strengthen the party, and the patronage of the city, wherever possible, will be used for the same purpose." That is, a Republican Mayor would be guilty of the heinous crime of building up, instea of pulling down, the Republican party. How shocking! Because of the apprehension that Gen Tracy would perform that fearful thing, patriotic duty, we Republicans are urged to bolt. Yes, scriously beseeched to destroy the Republican party, the hope of the nation at this crisis, lest, otherwise, it nay become powerful in the financ al centre of the New World. Was more senseless twaddle ever addressed to a sensible community :

The inference to be drawn from Mr. Low's arraignment of Gen. Tracy is that, though claiming to be a Republican, Mr. Low, if elected, would make appointments so as to ward off the deplorable evil of a trong Republican party in New York. Judging by his past, there is no room for doabting him on that point. From 1879 down, except when he was a can-didate for office and there was hope of gaining the support of the Republican party, Mr. Low either has been engaged persistently in organizing or favoring movements for the overthrow of Republicanism. What was he doing but that in 1879, 1881, 1882 1853, 1854, 1855, 1858, and 1892? What he then did is precisely what he is now attempting, disrupting the Republican party. STEPHEN B. JACOBS BROOKLYN, Oct. 7, 1897.

Who Steers Reynolds?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : No one has shown the "true inwardness" of the continuance of the Low candid cy, which, originating in Mr. Low's proper ambit on, would have been abandoned under prevalling conditions had Mr. Low judged for himself Unfortunately for the city, for the Republican party, and for the nation, exceptionally clever wire pullers were on hand to work President Low through Rer nolds and others of the clique. All men have their weaknesses. Low is not suf

generis. Strange he should be weak enough to allow o paltry a British parody to influence him; but slack, alast so it is. And now for the nigger in the pil Who steers Reynolds ? Bah! Who but the astute lawyer with Gallic cog-

nomen and virulent hatred of everything Repub-lican in reased tenfold by the bitter necessity of voting that ticket in '96. He and Godkin, the hjundere who managed to flop the Fost ever to the Democrata at exactly the most inopportune moment that could have been selected between 'h's and '96. Their and

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY.

Golf so completely monopolizes the social and porting world at present that those who are not tired of it are apparently interested in nothing else. As the former may possibly be in the ma jority, however, it is well to make a passing allusion to the great tournament now going on at Ardsley, for which the astonishing number of over 100 entries was made, among whom are two members of English clubs, and one or more cracks from every golf club in this country. The fall tournament of the Meadowbrook Club was brought to a close by the victory of Quincy A. Shaw of the Myopla over James A. Tyng, aitherto considered invincible and the winner of many tournaments. In addition to championships, cups, and prizes, golf is going at innumerable smaller clubs, and at all the gentlemen's houses on the Hudson, at Westchester and on both Long Island's shores there is scarcely a prominent woman in tociety who is not an expert at the links. At Ferneliff, Ellerslie, Carnmath and all the show places of the Hudson, where house parties are now assembled, golf and bieveling fill up the measure of the days, which fortunately close in early, thus giving a chance at evening for cards, dancing, billiards, and such indoor amuse ments as might quite easily be forgotten if the sun would be obliging enough to stay above the

horizon as long as golfing enthusiasts desire. The Baltusrol Golf Club has issued invitations for a golf tea on Thursday next, which promises to be a very pleasant affair. A ladies' tournament will be played in the morning, the prizes for which will be quite original, consisting of ministures and other pretty triffes, purchased by the Secretary of the club in Paris, The patronesses of the club are Mrs. John C. Wilmerding of Orange, Mrs. Edward R. Jones, Mrs. C. C. Moore and Mrs. William R. Beckman of this city, and Mrs. Edward H. Wright of Newark. The great craze of the day, next to golfing, in horse shows and hunting. All the Jersey world and hundreds from this vicinity have visited the Morristown Horse Show, which has the advantage of open air surroundings of richly wooded mountains, acres of lovely meadows, and an expanse of hill and dale which is to be found nowhere else. The owners of all the beautiful places in the neighborhood, including Mr. H. McK. Twombly, who has some of the best horseflesh on exhibition; Mr. G. G. Frelinghuysen, Mr. George B. Post, and their families, been frequent visitors, as have also Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland and Vice-President Hobart. Hempstead and Tuxedo will soon be the great centres of social life. Lenox has fallen off a good

deal this year. It is full of gay people, but they are so wrapped up in outdoor sports that they have no strength or taste for evening functions. It is curious, but nevertheless true, that a ball dress is no longer a temptation to a young girl. Golf clothes, which show the pedal extremities in not very attractive form and are otherwise most unbecoming, are the only wear. There have been several pleasant teas and dinners, and at a musicale given at Mrs. Greenleaf's, who has a delightful music room, the acoustic properties of which leave nothing to desire. Mrs. Grenville Snelling sang charmingly in French, English, and German, and Miss Gaertner and Mr. Mulligan discoursed very good music, Tuxedo, on the contrary, is full of life. The

beautiful clubhouse there is always an inducement to evening festivities, as its theatre, ballroom, and restaurant are always open to visitors and seem to be continually saying: "Come and enjoy yourselves here." A vaudeville entertainment under the direction of Mr. Harry W. Mc-Vickar, is now in course of preparation and will probably be arranged by Oct. 15. Mr. James L. Breese will assist Mr. McVickar in his labors. and two better impresarios could not readily be found. The annual ball will take place on Oct. 29. A prominent wedding in the near future will be that of Miss Nanna Langhorne, who will be married to Mr. Robert Shaw of Boston at the country place of the Langhornes, in Albemarle

county, Va. Miss Langhorne is a sister of Mrs. Charles Dana Gibson, who is as noted for her beauty as Miss Langhorne is for her vivacity an't superabundant animal spirits.

Miss Alice Martin, daughter of Henry T. Martin of Albany, whose flance is Mr. Benjamin T. McAlpin, will also be one of the brides of the autumn, but with the exception of Miss Barlow's and Mr. Jay's wedding, which has been already appounced, no other important marringes are likely to take place before Christmas.

The engagement of Miss Eileen O'Donnell to the Count de Seyr, which has been only recently announced, will not result in a marriage until the opening of the new year. Miss O'Donnell belongs to the well-known Baltimore family of that name, is an orphan, a niece of Mrs. Adrian Iselin of this city, and on her mother's side of Gov. Carroll, and cousin of Miss Helen Carroll, who is now Mrs. Herbert Robbins. There will be, therefore, not many gay and pretty wedding shows to bring the young and gay to town, and

The Commissioners admit that "doubtless there are possibilities of evasion," but they believe that an inheritance tax of 5 per cent, will yield \$2,500,000 a year. Possibly the rich and well-to-do of Massachusetts love to have their estates sliced off to the extent of a tweatieth.

The tax on house rentals seems designed. in part, as an apology to Boston and the other big towns which the Commissioners sacrifice to the country districts. The Commissioners estimate that the rentals tax in Ward Eleven in Boston will yield \$300 .-000 a year; that "the financial loss of Boston from other sections of the report would be fully made up ;" that Newton, Brookline, Cambridge, and so on would get a good revenue, and that the "summer resort towns" at which rich Bostonians have been living and paying taxes on "intangible personalty," would also get some compensation from the rentals tax. It will be interesting to see how the cities and summer. resort towns receive the suggestion. Let us hear the Commissioners set forth this part of their scheme :

"We propose that a tax shall be levied on all persons occupying dwellings of an annual rental of more than \$400, at the rate of 10 per cent, on the excess of re-tal value over that sum. We propose to levy no tax of this sort on persons whose incomes are so mode ate that their expenditure for dweiling accounted tions is not over \$400 a year.

"Those whose income is such that they exceed this expenditure for their dwelling are to pay, not in proportion to their total dwelling routal, but in proportion to the excess of rental over the exempted limit

"Thus a person occupying a house whose reutal watue was \$500 would pay a tax of \$10 a year, this being 10 percent, on the excess of the rental value ever \$400. A person occupying a bouse whose rental value was \$600 would pay a fac of \$20; a house of \$500 rontal, \$40; a house of \$1.000 rental, \$50, and so ch. The tax, it will be observed, is on the occu-pler of a dwelling and of a dwelling only. Houses or parts of houses used for business purposes are in no

"The tax is to be levied upon the occupier whether he be owner or totant. If owner, it is a tax on his general income, additional to the direct tax which he pays as owner of the house. If tenant, it is again a tax upon his general income separate from the direst tax which the landtord pays on the house. In either case, it is a tax on presumed or estimated in come, proportioned (in the manner described) to the expenditure for dwelling accommodation.

"It is clear, almost impossible of evasion, easy of administration, well fitted to yield a revenue for focal uses, and certain to yield such revenue; it is dear, because the rental value of a house is comparatively easy to ascertain. The tax is based on a part of a man's affairs which he publishes to all the world.

deserving of his favor, devised a plan for The Impending Deficiency of Breadthe betterment of the condition of the stuffs.

bread made from Indian corn.

as it is now, increasing more rapidly than

were grain-bearing acres. Indeed, not an

acre has been added to the world's wheat

The fact is that the enormous world crop

of 1882 was but the beginning of an al-

niest continuous succession of great world

crops of wheat, so much above the average

in acre yield that the over-average product

and rye area since 1884.

Jews of Russia and other parts of eastern In the current number of the Forum, Mr. Europe by establishing large colonies of C. Woon DAVIS, who is an authority on them in a new country. His plan was wrought out with the utmost care. He conthe relation of food-bearing acres to the world's bread-eating population, undertributed several millions of dollars to protakes to show that our Western farmers mote its execution, he established a great are entering upon a period of unbroken and fund for its permanent support, and he perincreasing prosperity. He maintains that, sonally supervised the labor of the men after Europe shall have exhausted all poswhom he employed to carry it to success sible supplies from the harvest of 1897, believing that the accomplishment of his design for the relief of his suffering coand such crops as may be harvested prior to July, 1898, there will be a deficit of the religionists would be the crowning achieveequivalent of 700,000,000 bushels of the ment of his life. bread-making grains, with no resource ex-It is with regret that we learn from an official report that Baron DE HIRSCH's plan cept meagre remainders from former harvests, and with no substitution possible, for the formation and development of great unless Europeans can be induced to eat

Jewish colonies in the Argentine Republic has proved to be a failure. A stop has A review of the prices of wheat during been put to assisted Jewish emigration the last century furnishes the premises from Russia to Argentina. The funds from which Mr. DAVIS'S deduction is which the Baron had intended for the enlargement of such colonies as already exist drawn. It seems that, from 1821 till 1882, the world's seasons were so equable, and there are to be used for other purposes. wheat acreage was so well proportioned to The change has been brought about under increasing world requirements, that prices the advice of his widow, who is a woman were comparatively constant. In England, of sound judgment, and who acts under the they never fell below \$1.20 per bushel, authority which her husband gave to her and rarely below \$1.40; while but twice, while yet he was hopeful of the growth and then only for periods of three and two and the success of his Argentine colonica years respectively, did they rise to or above She is unwilling that more money shall be \$2 per bushel. In 1839, 1840, and 1841 expended upon efforts that are not justified the rise resulted from scanty harvests in by their results. both Europe and America. In the other, which was a biennial case, the advance was

There is no country in South America or in any part of the world that offers more advancaused by the Crimean war. Owing to the tages to Jewish agricultural colonies than addition of more than 17,000,000 acres to Argentina, There are millions upon millions the wheat fields of the United States beof acres of unoccupied and fertile land in tween 1870 and 1880, the very scant Eurothat country, both farming lands and paspean harvest of 1879 and 1880 caused only ture lands. Wheat and other grains can a moderate increase in the prices of the be raised there; grape vines and sugar, bread-making grains, although, through and many varieties of fruit can be raised; an exhaustion of reserves, they served to horses, cattle and sheep are raised. The prevent the rapid fall that would have folclimate of the greater part of the counlowed had the harvest in either of the two try is temperate and healthy. Were 50, last-mentioned years been as abundant as 000,000 new settlers added to the 4,000,was that of 1882. From and after 1882 000 inhabitants, there would be room for prices fell rapidly until the year of the Rusmore. Hundreds of thousands of Italians sian famine. The harvest of "contributory have found the country a desirable home, areas" in 1882 exceeded the average of the

and the foreigners residing there number preceding three crops by as much as 320,more than a fourth of the population, 000,000 bushels, or 18 per cent., and, in It is also to be said that the Government conjunction with imports of 40,000,000 of Argentina favored the Jewish immigrabushels from Asia and North Africa, extion. It was upon easy terms that Baron ceeded requirements by 160,000,000 bush-DE HIRSCH acquired agricultural lands els. Had the harvest of 1882 not been folto the extent of 330,000 acres in the lowed by one still larger in 1884, and that provinces of Buenos Ayres, Santa Fé and by other crops of equal proportions in 1887 Entre Rios. Here was a country for the and 1885, the decline in price would have dissatisfied Jewish people of Russia, better been arrested, for consumption was then, and more friendly, and with more liberty

than that in which they lived. It has never been possible to induce more than a very few thousands of these Jews to go there, even though a free passage and other favors of far greater value were offered to

them by the Jewish Colonization Association. From those who went there complaints were constantly received at the offices of the association; some of

But perhaps it is unjust to a great princi ple to dwell too long upon the merely pecu niary results of the Illinois Anti-Trust law

The noble simplicity of the plan of forcing suspected or suspectable trusts to write themselves down in an affidavit will appeal to all the foes of trusts, and would have made DogBERRY wag his head and wave his lantern with satisfaction. If it is thought that some of the 25,000 companies are trusts and false knaves, yet will it be writ down that they are none. The Illinois law is terrible when it is set a-going.

Prairie Fires in Chicago.

The difficulties of municipal administra tion in the city of Chicago on the non-par tisan plan, or any other, have been aug mented recently by conditions peculiar to Chicago among American cities; that is to say, by prairie fires. Recently there have r money refunded. been a number of prairie fires in the flat plain upon which the city of Chicago is built. It is no uncommon thing for a resident of that city to find at his doorsteps in

the morning an excited crowd of fire fighters battling with the devouring element, and endeavoring, with the cooperation of the Chicago Fire Department, to keep the dry grass in the Chicago streets from burn ing too brightly. One day last week as many as six prairie fires were reported within the limits of the city, some of them upon its important thoroughfares. Here is a local narrative of the danger which besets while the sun shines. some Chicago residenta :

"Another prairie fire was reported at Evansio evenue and North Fifty-minth street, but it was pu out without causing much excitement in the neigh bornood. Soon after another alarm was sent in from 100th street and Avenue K, where fiames were sweep ing the prairies in that district and causing much un essiness among the residents. Headed by Officer Ban cock, a crowd of citizens, carrying buckets of water extinguished a grass fire which originated in the ricinity of Eighty fifth street and Pittsfield avenue and much excitement prevailed until the bucket brigade accompliated their purpose."

The Chicago Fire Department, it is well known, is superior in efficiency and promptness and in organization to the Fire De partment of any other city of Illinois. The Chicago bucket brigade has been as effective in fighting prairie fires as the bucket brigade in any other city in Illinois, Indiana, or Iowa. Prairie fires must be met with vigilance, eternally the price of security, when they threaten to close Chicago's thoroughfares to pedestrians and to vehicles, Prairie grass is easily ignited, especially in the fall of the year. The luxuriant prairie grass which sprouts in Chicago streets easily becomes inflammable. The danger

of such a catastrophe as that of a blazing Chicago street has to be averted, if it can be averted, at any hazard.

It happens that wood from the neighboring forests of Wisconsin and Michigan enters largely into the make-up of Chicago. There are wooden houses in great number. There are wooden sidewalks. The wooden docks of the fliteen harvests ending with 1896 them refused to settle upon the lands of the Chicago River have long attracted the was more than 1,200.000,000 bushels. Not] which had been provided for their | attention of tourists from other parts of the

to seem not far off.

HALL CAINE is already at work on a new novel, which deals with the drink question.-Cletriand

Mr. CAINE will be pained beyond the power of even his own expression by this indiscreet disclosure. Ever shunning notoriety, composing in solitude his enormous masterpleces, nourishing upon solitude his mighty heart, hating the shrill penny trumpets of the literary sandwich men, he lives and works apart, a misty granite cliff, a lopely island of the mind. Since his secret is no longer secret, however, it may tranquilize an excited universe to say that his new masterpiece will be alcoholic, total abstinent. allopathic, homeopathic, therapeutic, pathological, hypnotic, vegetarian, physicopathic, Mahatmic, osteopathic, and hyperhyperic. It will contain 787 characters, all of which have been studied from life and repaired and corrected by 787 specialists. It will be the most sublime production of Surrey meiodrama ever printed in book form. Satisfaction guaranteed.

The Japanese are very practical people. and the extent to which they are rushing emigrants into Hawali gives a pretty clear hint that they know annexation to our Union is coming.

Of course, the steamship companies are specially concerned in this movement, as they want to get all the passage money they can while the treaty with Hawail remains in operation. With annexation the treaty lapses, and Uncle SAM's laws will prevail. We doubt whether the Japanese would talk of putting 9,000 more of their copie on the islands, between now and the New Year, unless they felt that they must make hay



Rayleigh's Way to Strengthen Negatives. From the Pall Mall Gazette.

Lord Rayleigh has published a novel and ingenious way of intensifying w. ak photographic pictures, not y chemical but by physical means. It is well known that a weak positive transparency shows much greater contrasts of light and shale when held in front of a white sheet of paper than when held up to the light. This is due to the fact that through the transparent parts the white paper is seen with little loss of brilliancy, while the more opsque parts act, as it were, twice over, once when the light passes through to the paper, and once when it is reflected back to the eye. Lord Rayleigh's method, based on this fact, is to back a weak negative with a flat polished reflector, and to copy it in the camera by means of the usual condensing lens, with the light placed as much in a line with the copying lens as possible. The positive thus obtained can be used to make a still further intensified negative in the same manner. To get rid of the effect of false light re lected by th optical surfaces, it is necessary either to give a slight slope to the condensing lens, or, if this is not used, to attach a prism of glass to the face of the negative to be copied.

Pleasures of Travel in South Africa. From the Swaziland Times.

Mr. J. B. Buchanan, travelling along under the Mananga with a wagon, came a ross five lions, two of which were adult male and female and the remaining three cubs. The whole family sat eighty yards off and watched the oxen pass, and the only weapon in the wagon was one rusty assent.

Threatoning in All Its Aspects.

From the Rochester Demonst and Chronicie. The Citizens' Union itself, in 11s inception, actions actives, and tactios is a councildated threat to the

tork well to erallew bas same boog

DOCKOLS ould far sooner have George or Van Wyck elected than any nominee of the R publican party. The above remarks are written by a friend, and, to

a certain point, an admirer of Mr. Low; by one who certainly would have voted for him under almost any ther conceivable conditions than the present dog-in manger, smash if he can't get for himself, and abs lutely suicidal policy of his Adultamite congregation. A REPUBLICAN WHO VOTED FOR CLEVELAND. UNION CLUB, Oct. 8, 1897.

Pumpkin Pie Information.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : Why does he asl for New England pumpkin ples when we make the for an article in New Jersey? We are not dealers in the article, but will be most happy to fill that bungery New Yorker with as good pumpkin ple as can be made in any State. P. e made in any State. NEWALK, Oct. S.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : "A New Yorker" can get his mother's or grandmother's pumpkin pies from the Woman's Exchange, 12 West Thirtieth street. If they do not touch the spot I are much mit taken. He will probably be obliged to wait for while after frist time to get the full flavor. YANKEE, NEW YORE, Oct. 8.

Seth Low's Friends in Brooklyn.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: I admire your stand on the Mayoralty question. The average structor is not fif for public office, and if he be fit for public office he is but a sorry teacher. The Sux is calling many friends by its advocacy of real good government, not the bouns k(n). I hope that Low will find binned? as high as Haman on Nov. 2. BROOKLYN VOTER. BROOKLYN, Oct. 9.

A Pecultar Tombstone Inscription.

At the entrance of the church of San Salvador in the city of Oviedo, Spain. is a remarkable tomb erected by a prince named Silo, with a v ry curious Latin in eription which may be read 270 ways by beginning with the capital S in the centre:

SILO PHINCEPS FECT. TICEPSPBCNCEPSPBOIT CEFSPECKI NCEPSFEC CEPSPECSIEINCEPSPEC EPSPECSIEPEINCEPSPE FAFECSI RPOPRINCEPS. SPECKIEPOLOPHINCEPS PECSIRPOLILOPRINCEP PECSIRPOLILOPRINCEP SPECNIEPOLO PRINCEPI FRFEGRIEPOPRINCEPSF EFSPRCRIS PRINCEPSPR CEPSPEONIBINOEPSPEO ICEPSPECNINCEPSPEOI TIGEPSPECNCEPSPECIT

In addition to this inscription on the tomb are cribed these letters: II. S. E. S. S. T. T. L.

which are the initials of the following Latin words: His sitos est Silo, ait tibi terra levis. (Here reats Silo. May the earth lie lightly on bim.

Australian Rheterio Gets Mixed.

From the London Daily News. Mr. John Want, Attorney-General of New South Wales, does not favor federation. In a recent speech he describes it as follows: "Federation is a fashionable vermin which threatens to undermine the free Constitution under which we live Its proper name oucht to be "Faderation." Unil lately it has been hanging up like Mahomet's coffin. Now it has come to earth with a alckening thud, and is seen in all its nakedness and uastiness. and people find that they have been mistaking scoured tankard for a celestial being."

Who Are Their Friends and Who Their Exemics

From the Commercial Advertiser. Mr. Low's friends could not confer with the Republeans to defeat Tammany, but with Heary George and his followers they can make a straight "deal" to defeat the Republicans.

those who are compelled to remain here m content themselves with the glitter of streets and shop windows and the nightly amusement of theatres and music halls.

A great deal of speculation is going on about the coming winter, and doubts and hopes as to its gayety are freely expressed. To a casual observer the lookout is not promising. Alken, that most seductive of Southern homes, is almost ready for its winter colony. There hunting, quail shooting, the perfection of golf links, and every other athletic sport, hold out their attractions to the men, while the women have the run of all the same amusements, and, in short skirts and Tam o' Shanter caps, carry their guns over their shoulders, tramp five or six miles over the golf links, and lead a the oughly free and easy life. Mr. and Mrs. Royal Carroll have already closed their Newport cottage and are preparing to occupy their Alken home, All last winter's colony will return thither, and the new cottages that have been built during the summer are nearly all taken.

In town the new houses that are building in upper Fifth avenue are not yet ready for occupancy. Mr. William C. Whitney, after his return from abroad, will live in the present residence of Mr. Oliver Harriman, in West Fiftyseventh street, and the new ballroom in the Sixty-eighth street house, about which so much has been predicted, will certainly not be opened. Some few of the uptown people propose to close their houses until the hurly-burly in the streets is ended. Mr. P. F. Collier, for instance, has taken Mr. Charles A. Post's house in Washington square for the winter, and there is a greater demand than usual for furnished houses downtown, where Fifth avenue is smoothly and securety asphalted, and it is devoutly hoped will not be opened again for at least ten years.

There are li elv to be a good many absentees this winter among the smart set. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Vanderbilt are said to have it in contemplation to go abroad, and the same is rumored of Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Mills. These, with the larger contingent who always depart in February, will make a big hole in society's ranks, during at least a part of the winter.

A question now in debate, and involving seriously the comfort and convenience of the New York public, is whether gentlemen are to be allowed to smoke indiscriminately in the large restaurants of the Waldorf. Delmonico's, and other well-known places. In all the fashionable hotels smoking rooms are provided. where men may dine or sup, and smoke as pleasure. In the palm room of the Waldorf, which is especially adapted, by its ventilation. to the comfort of smokers, cigars and cigarettes are not prohibited, but the Empire dining room has been, and we trust always will be, reserved for those who wish to lunch and dine without the annoyance of breathing the odor of tobacco, or having it mingle with the perfume of the delicate viands that are spread before them. Because the habit is allowed at Prince's and the Savoy in London, or Joseph's and the Ambassadeurs in Poris, is no earthly reason why it should be introduced here, and An ericans should have the privilege of regulating their social customs according to their own views and tastes. The class of people who frequent the best New York restaurants are not the same as those who are to be found at the Savoy in London or at Joseph's in Paris. the Savoy a great many of the respectable smart set may be seen after the opera or the theatre, but they are check by jowl with the semi-disguised worst characters in London, and

are not in any way to be named with the ladics and gentlemen at Delmonico's or the Waldert,

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