The Sun.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1899.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, per Month	$0 50
DAILY, per Year	6 00
SUNDAY, per Year	2 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Year	8 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Month	70

Postage to foreign countries added.

THE SUN, New York City.

PARIS—Kiosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and Kiosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines.

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

South of Manila.

The tradition in the Philippines, as in the Antilles, seems to have been that the rainy season is a bar to military operations by white troops, and this tradition Gen. OTIS is rapidly destroying. While MACARTHUR's division rests for the present in its advanced positions north of Manila, LAWTON's, in the region of Laguna de Bay, shows great activity. Its operations of a few days ago around Morong were followed on Saturday and Sunday by sweeping the country south of the Pasig River and between Manila Bay and Laguna de Bay. The insurgents were driven back, with a loss estimated by Gen. OTIS at 400, to Paranaque and to Las Pinas, about due east of Cavite.

In these operations the heat was overpowering, but our troops pressed unflinchingly through jungles and swamps until their work was done. The boldness with which the enemy has drawn in upon the lines around Manila may perhaps be ascribed in part to the belief that our troops would undertake no aggressive operations until the end of the rainy season. They are likely to learn that it is not safe to count on this protection. Some of our most famous and successful campaigns against the American Indians have been those undertaken in the dead of winter, when they relied on the cold and the snows to shield them.

West Point and Annapolis.

The graduation of the year's classes at the Military and Naval Academies and the examinations for entrance have called attention to the need of maintaining a larger number of cadets at both institutions. The recent reorganization of the line of the navy added about a hundred officers, while the enlisted force of the regular army as at present constituted is more than twice as large as it was before the war with Spain. The addition of two regiments to the artillery and the increase of the infantry by giving it the three-battalion organization may be regarded as permanent changes requiring more officers than were needed before these changes were made.

The May examinations at Annapolis supplied an unusually small class, and it seems clear that, with the increase in the number and aggregate tonnage of our ships in commission, more officers are desirable, and the Naval Academy will be relied upon to supply them. With the great additions to the Academy buildings now going on, which will amount practically to the reconstruction of the whole establishment, there will be quarters and other facilities for over 500 cadets, or nearly double as many as are now allowed by law.

In the army the need of officers is emphasized by the recent graduation of a class at West Point ahead of the regular time, on account of the immediate demands of the service. But with our possessions in the Antilles, the Philippines, the Ladrones and Hawaii requiring garrisons beyond what was necessary a year ago, and with the number of new forts and new and costly guns on the home coasts, it is clear that we must always maintain a larger army than that of the early part of 1898.

It may be urged that the proper number of cadets cannot be ascertained until the legislation for the reorganization of the army is completed. There are, no doubt, advantages in making these two changes parts of one system; but, on the other hand, since it takes four years to prepare a cadet for commission, any increase in the number of the regular army would require the commissioning of civilian appointees to supply immediate needs, unless there should already be an extra number of cadets preparing at West Point. Some excellent material for officers has been developed in the volunteer regiments during our wars with Spain and AGUINALDO, but a permanent supply from the Military Academy must be provided for.

In West Point and Annapolis the country has two splendid schools, which have been of benefit beyond computation to the army and navy. We are now at a point where we should educate still more officers for both services.

A Request from a Woman Denied.

Miss FANNY L. ABBOT of Cambridge in Massachusetts asks us to publish the text of an "anti-imperialist" petition to the President prepared for the signatures of women specifically. "We, the women of the United States," it starts out, but to the credit of American women it misrepresents totally their spirit, for it is simply a feminine device to help along the grotesque, impertinent, and treacherous gang at Boston which styles itself the "Anti-Imperialist League."

The petition Miss ABBOT sends is not worth printing in THE SUN, for it is unworthy of the attention of any intelligent man or woman. It protests "against the war of conquest into which our country has been plunged in the Philippine Islands;" but there is no such war. Our soldiers there are simply resisting rebellion against the authority of the United States, provoked and conducted by a man who has arrogated dictatorship to himself and does not represent the sentiment of the great mass of the natives.

The petition goes on in an attempt to justify itself by quoting from our Declaration of Independence the phrases that "all men are created free and equal and that they are endowed with certain inalienable rights," and that Governments derive their "just powers from the consent of the governed." That generalization, already worked to death, has been used as this petition uses it for the purpose of excusing every rebellion against the authority of the State, as, for instance, the attempt at secession in 1861. At the time the Declaration of Independence was put forth, moreover, there was in the American colonies no equality of rights recognized as inherent in nature or inalienable by the law, and there was no intention on the part of the revolutionists to grant any. People without the requisite property qualification were shut out from voting and thereby made distinctly unequal. Slavery existed and was protected by law, and it continued to exist for nearly a century afterward, and was only abolished incidentally to the civil war and purely as a war measure.

The reference in the petition to the Declaration of Independence, accordingly, is without pertinence, and it comes with the less reason from women, for they are still debarred from joining in the "consent of the governed." They have no say on the subject, are not consulted, but are compelled to submit to government without their consent at the dictation of men. "Those eternal truths," of which Miss ABBOT's petition speaks, therefore, have no application to her. She must submit to be governed whether she consents or dissents. The Declaration of Independence does not recognize her existence among those from whose consent the "just powers" of government are derived. It ignores her altogether as a factor of the problem and treats her simply as a creature to be governed in the way men think best. We do not deny the expediency of this rule of masculine government, but as it shuts out women from the "inalienable rights," it would seem to be reasonable for Miss ABBOT and her "anti-imperialist" sisters to leave to the men "anti-imperialists" the attempt to justify treason by the generalization of the Declaration of Independence.

It is the obvious duty of the United States to provide the Philippine Islands with a good and secure government, for they are now under our authority and we are responsible for them to civilization. Exactly what form that government will take must be determined by time and experience; that it will eventually be in strict accordance with American political principles is as inevitable as that meantime and afterward it will conduce to the liberty and welfare of the inhabitants to an infinitely greater degree than has done any other which they have ever had. But before a just and orderly government for the Philippines can be established it is manifestly necessary that armed resistance by an unrepresentative band of the natives shall be subdued. First of all, there must be peace and order, and the sole purpose of our military operations is to compel such tranquillity by putting down the lawless effort of this band to obtain despotic control of territory belonging to the United States.

The men and women "anti-imperialists" are practically assisting this barbarously rebellious band in wounding and killing American soldiers, their own countrymen, who are heroically obeying the orders of their Government in a campaign as great in natural difficulties as it is distinguished in the high moral qualities displayed and military ability demonstrated. The enterprise of Miss ABBOT and her men assistants is treasonable, infamous. We should as soon think of assisting miscreants to poison the wells from which our soldiers in the Philippines drink as of giving any aid or countenance to this Boston plot to subject them to their Filipino enemies. Alas, that an American woman should have been deluded into abetting such treachery!

Canadian Comments on the Joint High Commission.

The prospects of the Joint High Commission are discussed with candor and liberality in the *Canadian Magazine* by Mr. JOHN CHARLTON, one of the Commissioners and also a leading Liberal member of the Dominion Parliament. To him, also, has been attributed an article of similar tenor published in the *North American Review*. No reader of these papers can doubt that, if views equally reasonable and conciliatory were held by the Canadian community at large, an agreement upon some of the subjects in dispute between the United States and Canada would be speedily reached. Whether reciprocity in trade relations will ever be ratified by the United States is a different question.

By the equitable tone of his article, Mr. CHARLTON has given offence to some of his countrymen. The Canadian Tories, who are vexed at the relatively cordial relations now existing between the United States and Great Britain, and who gladly would see them interrupted, denounce him with much bitterness for his approval of those relations, and insist that he ought to resign his place on the commission, for the reason that the good will expressed by him for the American republic is, as they assert, inconsistent with loyalty to his native land. Mr. CHARLTON expressed regret that the provincial legislature of Ontario should have laid an embargo on the export of rough lumber to the United States, and had suggested a doubt as to its legal competence to impose such a prohibition. He also pointed out that the Joint High Commission had been embarrassed by the passage of an Alien Labor law, the result and obvious purpose of which was to exclude American citizens from British Columbia. It is for these criticisms on provincial legislation passed by Canadian Jingoes, who desire the failure of the attempt to settle long-standing controversies between the United States and Canada, that Mr. CHARLTON is stigmatized by the *Toronto World* as a traitor. He ought, according to that newspaper, to be "cashiered from the commission and called before the bar of the Ottawa House of Commons." It will be some time, we imagine, before the *Toronto World's* opinion is adopted by the Government of which Sir WILFRID LAURIER is the head, or by the majority of the Canadian people, who, above all other things, desire that improvement of trade relations with the United States which is Mr. CHARLTON's primary aim.

No Canadian has ever presented a more plausible argument for such an improvement than was put forward by him and his fellow Commissioners in Washington. The use which they made of recent statistics reflected not a little credit on their forensic skill. They succeeded in proving that, even under the existing tariffs, which are sometimes spoken of as if they were mutually prohibitory, not only does a large trade exist between the United States and Canada, but it is far more profitable to the former than to the latter country. Thus, in 1898, the total imports into Canada from the United States amounted to $86,587,000, whereas the exports from Canada to the United States were only $35,464,000. Moreover, the average rate of duty imposed by the Canadian tariff on the total imports from the United States was 12.05 per cent., while the average American duty levied on the total imports from Canada was for the same year 21.78 per cent. That is to say, less than 6,000,000 Canadians bought last year twice as much from 75,000,000 Americans as the latter did from the former, and taxed it only half as much. Of free imports into Canada 72.5 per cent. came from the United States, only 17.7 from Great Britain, and 9.8 from all other countries. Canada gives the United States a free list of over $40,000,000 worth of goods, and gets, in return, a free list of only $14,000,000.

Let us see, now, how the case stood with regard to farm products on the one hand and manufactured articles on the other. In 1898 the United States took from Canada only $5,326,000 worth of farm products, and sold to her $15,000,000 worth of the same. In the same year Canada imported from the United States $35,000,000 worth of American manufactures, or $6,000,000 more than the value of the manufactures imported from Great Britain. This, notwithstanding the lower rate of duty accorded to English goods under the so-called Jubilee tariff. Finally, the importance of the Canadian market to the United States is summed up as follows: Our total exports in 1898 to Mexico, Central America, the West Indies and the whole of South America, which countries have an aggregate population of 54,000,000, amounted to $86,786,000, while less than six million Canadians took $86,537,000 of United States goods. These figures are taken from the article in the *North American Review*, which is ascribed, rightly or wrongly, to Mr. CHARLTON, but most of them were used by him and his fellow Commissioners during the late attempt to arrive at improved tariff relations in Washington.

There is no doubt that the trade between the United States and Canada might be greatly enlarged by a reduction of the duties levied by us on the farm, forest and mine products of the Dominion, and by a corresponding concession to American manufactures. But Mr. CHARLTON is justified in expressing apprehensions that, even if such a reciprocal arrangement could be brought about by the commission, it would fail to be sanctioned by the needed two-thirds majority of the American Senate. There is a widespread and deep-seated feeling on this side of the border that, so long as we keep up the tariff bars, the arousing of an irresistible movement on the part of the Canadians for annexation to the United States is only a question of time. Lord ELGIN believed and said that only by the reciprocity treaty which he effected was the success of such a movement averted more than forty years ago. Far-sighted Canadians are as certain now as they were then that they have nothing to hope for from Great Britain. They have tried the experiment of admitting British manufactures at rates lower than those imposed upon similar goods from other countries. They have secured absolutely nothing in return. They have no chance, as they now must recognize, of persuading even the present imperialistic Government of Great Britain to admit Canadian food stuffs to the markets of the United Kingdom upon terms more favorable than those imposed upon like staples from the United States.

The one suggested alternative for the market to be gained through admission to our Union has thus been proved to be a dream.

The Struggle for Asia Minor.

Recent news from Constantinople conveys the impression that the question of the Near East that has vexed Europe for the best part of the century is again coming to the front. Since the Armenian massacres of 1895 and 1896 the elements of disorder then let loose in Turkey have remained unchecked, and reports arriving daily at Constantinople are said to show that the social, economic, and administrative condition of the whole of Asia Minor is worse than ever. No hope appears to be entertained that any change for the better can come under Turkish rule, and the direct inference is that foreign intervention in some form is necessary, and must come soon at that, if the country is to be saved from the worst consequences of the anarchy now prevailing.

The Sultan himself is fully alive to the dangers of the situation, but he is powerless to control it, and awaits with the liveliest apprehension the result of the return of the Armenian refugees from the Russian Trans-Caucasus to their homes, from which they fled during the time of terror. As a precaution he has ordered preparations for the enlistment of the whole arm-bearing population of the empire, something undertaken only in view of a great national emergency.

Another event has created the liveliest sensation in political circles in Constantinople. This is the agreement reached between the Deutsche Bank of Berlin and the Anglo-French Imperial Ottoman Bank, now more French than English, to join their forces for the prolongation of the Anatolian railways to the Persian Gulf and in other directions. In order to prepare the way for the enterprise, a special commission of inquiry, at the head of which is the German Consul-General at Constantinople, is about to traverse the country to study the economic conditions of the Tigris and Euphrates valleys.

The Russian Government found that the route selected from Sivas to Baghdad ran too near to the boundaries of what is described in a German paper as the Russian sphere of interest, but offered no objection to an alternative line further west and south. As a line from Konieh across the Taurus Mountains to Biredjik, on the Euphrates, presents many and formidable obstacles, it is thought probable that a middle line will be adopted. The Sultan, however, would prefer for military reasons the more northerly of the three routes and would like a branch to Erzinghian, the headquarters of the Fourth Army Corps, west of Erzeroum. It is for this reason that the Russian Government objects to the construction of the northern line, disturbing, as it would be, to the existing military conditions on both sides of the frontier in Asia to the prejudice of Russia.

But Russian interests are not the only ones involved in the proposed extension of the Anatolian railways. The English Smyrna-Aidin Railway Company is in danger of being squeezed out by the Franco-German combination, which aims at bringing all the Anatolian railways into one system. Taking advantage of the financial embarrassments of the English line, the German Anatolian Company made it certain proposals favorable to the debenture and bond holders. They, however, were rejected, because the control of the line would have passed out of the hands of the English company. The Franco-German syndicate will now, it is reported, try to bring the English company to terms by establishing a rate-cutting campaign on the rival lines under their control. In the meantime an application for a concession to build a railway from the Syrian coast to Baghdad has been made from London, but Constantinople palace circles predict that it will not be granted, the German influence being used against it.

So the struggle for supremacy in Asia Minor goes on, to be settled whenever the misrule of the Turk provides the opportunity.

The Dinner at Quantico.

The Hon. ARTHUR PUE GORMAN has sent out his corps of billposters, and, doubtless, believes himself to be the favorite candidate of the Maryland anti-Bryan Democrats on the first ballot. He is mistaken, as reports of the Turtle, or, in local speech, Turkle dinner at Quantico last week show. The "Gazetteer" is not very communicative about Quantico, only telling us that Quantico contains "a lumber yard and three churches." Our esteemed Maryland contemporary, the *Salisbury Courier*, is more satisfactory, and lets us know that Quantico, situated at the head of Quantico Creek, "has always been a favorite rendezvous for politicians and political meetings, and is a kind of dépôt for all the good things in the eating way in which the west side of Wicomico abounds." Among these good things are the wild duck, muskrat, oyster, diamondback terrapin, white perch, quail and rabbit. Finally, continues our geographer, "Quantico is noted for its mild and equable climate, its picturesque scenery, and its large production of mud turtles."

On account of the turtles the scenery is made more picturesque every year by a Democratic dinner known as the Turkle Dinner. "It is an unwritten rule," says our contemporary, "that he who wants a Democratic nomination must be at the Turkle Dinner either in person or by proxy."

Last Wednesday one hundred Democrats went to the Quantico Turkle Dinner. Hungry Neck, Barren Creek, Tyaskin, Quantico sent forth their favorite sons. Col. BILL MAJORS was out for turkle, and so were Constable WALLER and Sheriff DASHIELL and the TOADVINES. The Chicago platform was discussed, and so was the dinner, which consisted of boiled turkle, fried turkle, fricasseed turkle, pot-pied turkle and every other form of turkle known to men or gods. Ice cream followed the turkle just as the anti-Trust issue is added to the Chicago platform.

At last the destined Maryland candidate, bar BRYAN, was produced. It was and is Capt. BUNKER SMITH of Tyaskin, who ate 365 turkle eggs.

A man who can eat 365 turkle eggs can swallow the Chicago platform a good deal more easily than the Hon. ARTHUR PUE GORMAN can.

It is gratifying to observe that our Consular service, as a whole, shows a high degree of intelligence and zeal in the collection of accurate statistical data. The way our Consuls occasionally distance foreign compilers of trade figures is worth remarking. One of the British annuals, for instance, in its edition for 1899, says of the trade of Liberia: "No statistics are available, but the exports and imports combined probably do not exceed £500,000." The latest issue of "Commercial Relations," however, has tables prepared by our Minister to Liberia, giving, at least approximately, the nature, quantity and value of the imports from four leading countries for the fiscal year 1896-97, and the nature, quantity, value and destination of the exports.

"It may be that the Democratic party is to be 'born again,'" writes Mayor SAM JONES of Toledo; "is to be inspired with a moral purpose to lead the people out of the distress of present social conditions." The Hon. SAM JONES will be convinced that the Democratic party has been born again and inspired with a moral purpose if it will nominate him for Governor of Ohio.

As we believed, the report that Gen. ADONIRAM JUDSON WARNER called silver a secondary issue was an invention of the plutocrats. He has "never said to anybody that silver is a secondary issue" and he never will. The Money Devil has been foiled, as usual.

The Thessalonians Praised in the Scriptures; the Bereans Not.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* One of the famous Protestant controversial texts formerly so often quoted, but now seldom or never by scholars, is the following (Acts, xvii., 11): "These were more noble than those at Thessalonica, in that they received the word, &c." In reply to letters in THE SUN attacking my statements I will give the following explanation, which I hope will be satisfactory and final:

St. Paul made converts of both Gentiles and Jews at Thessalonica; then going on to Berea he made other converts there; at which place he converted the greater number we do not know, but the majority of his converts at Thessalonica were Gentiles, the majority of those at Berea were Jews; the Jews of this place were of a nobler or higher class than those at Thessalonica. The Jewish converts at Berea were worthy of praise for listening to Paul with readiness of mind and for searching the Scriptures to verify his statements; the Jews of Thessalonica who did the same thing were equally worthy of praise, so were the Gentiles of both places who listened to him; but St. Luke praises none of them, nor passes any comment whatever on their conduct. He is writing as a historian, merely stating facts. He characterizes the Jews at Berea by the Greek word "*Eugenesteroi*" (literally of nobler birth or descent); they had a higher social standing or were more cultured than those at Thessalonica, and a larger percentage of them perhaps listened with readiness of mind to Paul, and that's all.

Luke does not suggest any connection between their higher social standing or culture and their readiness to hear Paul; he does not say or insinuate that they were more noble because they listened readily to Paul, or that they listened with readiness to him because they were more noble. This hitching together of these two facts and making one dependent on the other was the work of the makers of the Authorized Protestant version, who completely altered the meaning of Luke's words by the interpolation of the words "in that" into the text. The words "in that" are not in the Greek, they are not in the English version attributed to Wiclif, A. D. 1380; they are not in the Protestant version of Tyndale, 1534; Cramner, 1539, or the Genevan, 1557. Tyndale and Cramner misunderstood and mistranslated this text in another way, but the insertion of "in that" into it is the work of the makers of the Authorized version.

Neither the Thessalonians nor the Bereans are praised in the Acts of the Apostles, but St. Paul praises the Thessalonians in the two Epistles that he sent to them. "Ye are ensamples," he says, "to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia, for from you hath sounded forth the word of the Lord * * * in every place your faith to Godward is gone forth." (I. Thess., i., 7, 8). St. Paul calls them his "glory and joy" (I. Thess., ii., 20). Though not so aristocratic as the Jews of Berea, they seem nearer and dearer to his heart. To the Bereans he never wrote anything, nor does he ever mention them in any of his letters. Their abnormal prominence is due solely to the mistranslation in the Protestant version and to its use in controversy.

Mr. Faught of Philadelphia in last Sunday's SUN tries to justify the insertion of "in that" into the Protestant text by the two words, "*hoitines*" and "*To kata*." He says: "First, *oitines*, impossible of being rendered 'who,' since it is an indefinite relative pronoun, &c." He is mistaken. It is rendered "who" in many places in the Protestant version. It is nowhere else rendered "in that."

The following are a few examples from the Acts:

VII.—"Who" have received the law.
VIII., 15.—"Who" when they were come down.
X., 41.—"Who" did eat and drink.
XI., 20.—"Who" when they were come.
XIII., 31.—"Who" are his witnesses.
XIII., 43.—"Who" speaking to them.
XVII., 10.—"Who" coming thither.

Many other examples may be found in a concordance.

This same word in xvii., 11, should be translated in the same way, and so it is translated in our Catholic version. There is no doubt that this text and many others will be corrected in the next Protestant revision or version, but it is a pity that it was not done long ago. The other word, "*To kata*," has nothing to do with the clause; it belongs to the word "*hemeran*," which follows, and is correctly translated with it, in all versions, "daily."

(Rev.) JOSEPH F. SHEAHAN.

POCANTICO HILLS, N. Y., June 10.

ZION THEIR HOPE.

The Jews Still Wretched as a People—A National Reunion Indispensable.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In an editorial printed in this morning's issue of your paper you state in a rather emphatic manner that Zionism will never solve the Jewish question, and insinuate that, in fact, there is but one solution of that question, to wit, the intermarriage of Jews with the other races.

In support of your statement as to the utter impracticability of Zionism, you say that Jews have emigrated to America, that they have not attempted to settle in Palestine, which is quite true, since the Porte has opposed wholesale emigration of Jews into Palestine, and since the emigrants knew that their rights would be protected under the laws of this country, while in Palestine they would be at the mercy of the tyrannical pashas. But Palestine, as a dependency of the Ottoman Empire, is no argument against Palestine as the national home of the Jews; its natural resources, undeveloped under Turkish rule, will be utilized by a free people, and will revive the commerce and industry of a once prosperous country.

The Jews, under a free Government, will make of Palestine the commercial centre of the Orient.

That "the many signs of prosperous Jewish merchants on Broadway are not likely to be removed to Jerusalem;" that "the multitude of Jew brokers in Wall street will not leave the tickers in that financial mart to set up a stock exchange in the Holy City," is logically obvious; wherever the Jews prosper they will remain, and they prosper and are unpersecuted in America and England, and nowhere else.

As a solution of the Jewish question, would you have the 4,000,000 Jews at present living, or rather dying, in Russia, the 1,000,000 Polish Jews, the 1,000,000 Austrian Jews, the 500,000 Roumanian Jews (not to speak of the 300,000 or 400,000 German and French Jews)—would you have them all come here, and by intermarriage with the Christian population finally melt away, and, from a distinct body among the peoples of the earth, become an anonymous, a neutral element of the American nation? Does not such a solution seem by far more improbable than the final centralization in Palestine of that immense majority of Jews which is persecuted in Europe? They can hardly intermarry with their persecutors, and in fact are restrained from doing so, that is to say, from marrying Christians, in almost all the countries in which their rights are unprotected and their lives sacrificed. Here in America the Jews progress and prosper, and will soon be wholly identified with the general population of this country. But six millions of Jews are being persecuted to-day in Europe, and Zionism offers the most rational plan for their salvation and their regeneration. JUDAICUS.

NEW YORK, June 12.

DIPLOMATIC CURIOSITIES.

Remarks by Statesmen That Are Hard to Reconcile with Events.

Early in 1895, more than a year before Marchand was sent to seize the Upper Nile for France, a report of France's intentions was widely published. The subject came up on March 25 in the House of Commons, and Sir E. Grey, for the Foreign Office, while scouting the idea that France had any intention to attempt to seize the Upper Nile, concluded his remarks with this note of warning:

The French Government knows perfectly well that such an act would be of an unfriendly character and that it would be regarded as such by Great Britain.

Six days later, on April 1, Lord Kimberley called on Baron de Courcel in Paris and asked him, in behalf of the British Government, if the expedition of Col. Liotard, which we now know coöperated with Marchand in the advance to the Nile, had entered the basin of the Nile. The Baron replied that nothing had been heard from Liotard, and he could not see, for his part, how the French Government could give any assurances with regard to matters of which it knew little or nothing.

Four days later, on April 5, M. Hanotaux declared in the French Senate that if Frenchmen wished to pursue investigations on the Upper Nile he had no doubt they would consider it their right and privilege to do so. "No one," he said, "can pretend that he has any right to interfere with men who are undertaking to explore a new country."

We know now that at this very time the plans for the Marchand expedition were maturing in Paris, and a few months later it started on the journey that had no pause till Fashoda was reached.

On Sept. 20, last year, M. Delcassé, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, wrote to the French Ambassador in London:

In fact, Capt. Marchand is an officer of the naval infantry who was charged with the duty of enlisting native troops to replace those whose terms of service had expired, and also to cooperate with M. Liotard, the Government Commissioner, in the occupation and defence of the regions which the French Congo Convention assigned to France.

A day earlier, on Sept. 19, Marchand wrote to Gen. Sir H. H. Kitchener:

I think I should inform you that, by the order of my Government, I have occupied the Bahr el Ghazal as far as Meshra er Rek and to the confluence with the Bahr el Djebel, also the country of the Shilluks on the left bank of the White Nile as far as Fashoda.

M. Delcassé said to Sir Edmund J. Monson, the British Ambassador to France, last fall: "There is no Marchand mission." The medal presented to Major Marchand by the French Government upon his arrival in Paris bears the inscription: "The Marchand Mission; from the Atlantic to the Red Sea; 1896 to 1899."

How to Learn to Read the Greek Testament.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Permit me to supplement your answer to the question of "Ignorant" as to the possibility of his acquiring "by self culture a knowledge of Greek so as to be able to read the New Testament in the original," by suggesting that, as a first step, he procure a little book published at a small price by Bagster & Sons, entitled, "A Practical Guide to the Greek Testament; Designed for Those Who Have No Knowledge of the Greek Language, but Who Desire to Read the New Testament in the Original." I can personally confirm the statement made in the preface of this book, that, "after the careful study of this little work, it is confidently anticipated that the learner will, with the aid of a lexicon, be enabled to read with ease the whole of the Greek Testament." G. G. FAUGHT.

PHILADELPHIA, June 11.

No Birds.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Yesterday I took an excursion into that lovely region of Westchester county lying between Unionport, Bay Chester and the Sound, visiting Pelham Park on my way.

During a three hours' ramble through lane, meadow and woodland on that "perfect day in June" I saw not a sign, heard not a sound of bird life, save for a brace of crows flapping their raucous flight over a marsh. There was not even an English sparrow to be met with. Not a whistle, chirp or cheep from grove, bush or field.

They say that Italian pot-hunters are responsible for this, and that they snare and net the very sparrows. Whatever be the cause, in one of the most beautiful and secluded of our suburban retreats the wild bird is no more. F. C. R.

BROOKLYN, June 12.

Judge Norton Not of the Supreme Court.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In my letter published in THE SUN of June 9, but written on May 29, the day following Mr. Carol Norton's lecture to a meeting of Christian Scientists in the Metropolitan Opera House, County Judge Norton of Allegany was erroneously spoken of as "Mr. Justice Norton," and it was said to be regrettable that a member of the Supreme Court, who might have to pass upon the rights and liabilities of Christian Scientists as such, should preside at one of their meetings. Judge Norton is not a member of that court.

NEW YORK, June 12. W. A. PURRINGTON.

The Howl of "Algerism."

From the Nineteenth Century Magazine.

Like most men who have seen the Yankees at war real war—I am heartily ashamed of the wretched outcries and childish complaints which disgraced our history last year. That hideous chorus of execration of the Secretary of War, conducted by hysterical women, meddlesome preachers, fanatical reformers and trumpery politicians, and spread broadcast through the vicious machinery of yellow journalism, will long remain a memory of sorrow and of shame. No army in any age or country was ever half as tenderly cared for. Every veteran of the civil war of thirty-eight years ago knows this to be true. The nation may well blush for the abhorrent episode.

A Bridge Wanted from Mr. Carnegie.

From the Richmond County Democrat.

Have you heard of the expenditure, or of the proposed expenditure, of any Carnegie cash on Staten Island? We have not. Now, Andrew Carnegie could spend some part of his ample fortune in making Staten Islanders more readily in touch with the people of the other boroughs by building a bridge from the borough of Richmond to the borough of Manhattan. Mr. Carnegie thinks that "to die rich is to die disgraced." Well, he will not die disgraced if he builds that bridge.

New York Deficient as to Its Flower Market.

From the Florists' Exchange.

Our first city, which leads the world in almost every other industry, and which is only second to London in the florist's, is being constantly held up as a byword and reproach, not altogether unjustly, when it comes to the matter of a flower market.

HAVANA'S GRIM FORTS.

The Cabanas and the Morro and Their Reminders of Spanish Rule.

HAVANA, June 3.—"We'll go to Morro tomorrow," said my friend, the Professor, one sunny afternoon.

"All right," I replied. "I'm your man." And to Morro we went.

Armed with passes from headquarters, early on the following morning we presented ourselves at the boat landing, near the foot of O'Reilly street, and embarked in one of those tidy little blue-painted yawls which almost monopolize the profitable passenger traffic of Havana harbor, in utter defiance of modern transportation methods, and the solitary steam ferry to Regla across the bay. A Spanish revival of Coleridge's Ancient Mariner set the scrap of dirty canvas which did duty for a sail, and a brisk breeze carried us swiftly to the foot of the incline, which zigzags its way up the steep and rocky hillside to the rambling fortress of Cabañas. In something less than a half hour the Professor, an experienced traveller who resented imposition, had settled with the boatman, and we had started up the ascent.

Arrived at the top, we halted a moment until our papers were examined and pronounced O. K. by a perspiring sentry wearing a sleeveless blue shirt wide open at the throat, whose ardent patriotism was rapidly melting away in the intense heat. Then we turned to the right down a cool passage between high masonry walls for about twenty yards; turned again and walked a long half circle to the left, and emerged into a cobble-paved and wonderfully irregular inclosure, with a postern gate at one end, where the fierce light and heat reflected from the walls and pavements almost blinded us. According to report this was formerly the execution ground of the castle. At one end is a wide marking on the walls at about the height of a man's breast from the ground, and extending laterally for fifty feet or more. It is said to have been caused by the volleys of bullets fired at condemned prisoners in the all too common executions of pre-American days.

Leaving this spot, we passed through the gateway into a long and gloomy archway from which we came into an open, paved space. Then, descending a steep flight of stone steps, we turned to the right down another covered passageway, climbed some steps, turned to the left and went straight forward, then turned to the right twice and came back again, ascended more steps, and then went down an incline to the right and along another covered way; went to the right, to the left, to the right again, climbed more steps, and finally found ourselves gazing over the walls of the battlements on the harbor side, surveying the sail-dotted water below and the yellow city beyond. Then my companion wiped his heated brow and hazarded the opinion that Cabañas had been modelled, and badly modelled at that, on the plan of the Maze at Hampton Court, in which, following the example of Jerome K. Jerome, he had once lost himself.

Placed at random along this wall and pointing in all directions were a number of old bronze cannon. They were roughly carved with the royal arms of Spain and a legend ending with "Ferdinand VI." These innocuous old barkers frowned upon the city even as they did in days two centuries ago; but the significance of their frowning had forever departed in the light of modern science, and their obsoleteness was complete. Ammunition for this old-time ordnance was lying about in huge and rusty piles, over which gray lizards as large as kittens scampered away at our approach. Just in front of the main barracks some Cuban laborers were cleaning out a system of huge vaults. Sunk in the masonry and solid rock, these formerly served as reservoirs in which to store the rain water that, falling on innumerable roofs, ran in devious ways. The one cheerful spot we saw in the whole fort was a snow-white cottage, evidently the officers' quarters, pleasantly overlooking the harbor and surrounded by gardens, whose brilliant flower plots were bordered by rows of rusty round shot. With this single exception, the whole place looked lonely and forlorn.

Next we started to find our way to a white road which ran in plain sight from under the walls to the Morro, a quarter of a mile distant. After half an hour of wandering over sun-baked roofs and through damp passages and echoing courtyards, we came to a part of the stone wilderness inhabited by a company of infantry. Half the men were asleep in their quarters. The other half, in an improvised open-air carpenter shop, were making curios for the great American public, stopping occasionally to allow a Lieutenant of Volunteers to group them for photographs intended for the same open-handed market. Being ashamed to confess our inability to thread the intricacies of the place, we halted only to fill out a grouping at the desire of the Lieutenant, and then resumed our search. An hour later, when we again came to the same point, we had hopelessly lost our scruples and our way, and pathetically solicited the assistance of a guide. One stopped putting the finishing touches to a "battle-dented" Collins machete, and brought us safely forth halfway on the road to Morro. He had but just left us when we came to where the road divided, one going upward to the right, the other down and to the left.

"Which way?" asked my friend.

"Since reading 'A Gentleman of France,'" I replied, "I have always on such occasions as this taken the right-hand turning," and this we did. Had M. de Marsac made the mistake he would undoubtedly have sprung across the dry moat to which my choice presently brought us, and, clinging to the chains of the drawbridge, which was securely drawn up on the further side, would have battered an entrance through the solid rock with his trusty sword. But we lacked both sword and inclination; so we returned, and skirting the ditch, came presently to the castle seaward side, where we were well repaid for our mishap. Here the moat ended on a rocky foreshore, and the Morro's old gray walls rose eighty feet sheer from the blue waters plashing and murmuring far below in deep, sandy pools and over jagged masses of volcanic rock. Behind a newly erected earthwork to the right of the moat were two monster Krupp guns, and in the distance similar constructions could be seen dotting the foreshore, each with its group of magazines, barracks, &c.

After a time we retraced our steps to the lower road, and at the main entrance to the castle found a sentry asleep in the shade of his sentry box. We debated the advisability of disturbing his slumbers. I held that we should let well enough alone and go our way, but my right-minded companion settled the matter by gently shaking the man into wakefulness. For reward, the soldier had no sooner opened his eyes than he demanded our passes, and then:

"Yez'll have ter go back," said he, "to Cabanas an' have these things countersigned by an officer."

I felt bitterly disappointed, and thought sadly of our lost opportunity. The professor was angry.

"What?" he demanded. "Must we go back over that road to beg of some incompetent the performance of his duty?"

"That ain't the worst of it," replied the sentry. "Yez'll have to wait an hour or so to do that, because the officers are all at dinner."

Before he had time to reply the measured step of the relief was heard approaching, and in a few moments it came into sight around a bend in the road. A most welcome commissioned officer marched by the side of the party, and presently the prospective "incompetent" had most obligingly signed the papers and we were allowed to enter the castle.

Nothing could possibly be more dismal and uninteresting than its interior. It was solitary save for the presence of a few weather observers, who lined up for a snapshot by the professor, and its defenses were represented by a harmless lot of stubby smoothbores. We visited the tiny chapel, bare now of ornament and covered with dust and dirt, in a vault whose wonderful acoustic properties must certainly have been a boon to the sinful souls who confessed therein, as one recital of any penance was sure to be clearly echoed about sixteen times. In another room quantities of shot and shell of various types were stored. I was looking over a heap of percussion fuses in one corner of this place when the Professor called me, and I went over to where he stood scanning a roughly scrawled sign pasted on one shell of a large pile which were already fitted with fuses and in front of which was a large open box. I read the sign: "Hands off! To touch means sudden death," and glanced idly at the contents of the box, on the edge of which the Professor rested a hand holding a lighted cigar with the red ash protecting on the inside. It was half full of loose black powder! I instantly realized that should one red-hot flake fall from that cigar end, the cigar and its owner, and its owner's companion, would be rendered unfit for further smoking. So I stepped gingerly back and called the Professor. When he had safely walked a couple of steps, bringing his precious cigar with him, I grabbed him by the arm and ran him outside and told him where he was at.

"Why," he began, "the idiots! To leave such dangerous stuff lying exposed where ——"

"Where any other idiot may come along and ignite it," I finished for him; and he was silent.

Then we engaged in a vain search for a passage which is said to run under the harbor, from the castle to the Governor-General's palace in the city. We found only one likely looking entrance, and it was closed with an iron-barred gate. By this time the sun had set, and the place looked dark and gloomy with the approach of night. We made our way outside and down to the landing place and were safely ferried across to the Punta, where we stepped ashore as the first cool night breezes rustled over the darkening bay.

THE ABBEY OF GETHSEMANE.

Life's Routine with the Silent Monks of the Trappist Order.

LOUISVILLE, June 9.—The fiftieth anniversary of the Trappist Abbey of Gethsemane has just been celebrated. Fifty-one years ago two monks from the Abbey of Melleray, in France, came to Kentucky to secure property for a monastery. A tract of 1,000 acres was purchased from the Sisters of Loretto, in Nelson county, and the monastery was established by a company of forty-eight monks in a few log huts. In 1849 Father Eutrapius, who founded the colony, had it raised to an abbey and was made an abbot. By dint of unceasing exertion he built up the abbey to its present proportions. In 1860 he resigned and Father Benedict took his place. No woman's feet have ever trodden its precincts.

An avenue of splendid English elms leads from the entrance to the porter's lodge. Beyond is the courtyard, beautified by smooth walks and flower beds and having in the centre a statue of the Virgin, her heel upon the head of a serpent. On the surrounding trellis is carved "Dulcis Virgo Maria Salve." Rough, unpainted and forbidding, the monastery walls rise three stories in height, bare of ornament save for a statue of St. Joseph, the patron saint. "S. Joseph Patrone Noster Dilectissime Ora Pro Nobis" is the inscription which surrounds it. Once inside, the visitor finds himself in the refectory, a long, low room. Bare rafters and long, narrow tables, set with wooden beakers, coarse china and the plainest of cutlery, are features of the room. Next comes the chapter room with a raised platform at one end. On it are three seats for the abbot and the prior and the sub-prior on his right and left. At the other end are confessionals where morning and night the monks seek absolution. On the benches which line the walls the monks take their places at the beginning of the day while the invitator reads from the rules of St. Benedict. Penance is assigned to each who confesses a fault; one of the most grievous faults is the sin of speaking. Pictures of saints and martyrs adorn the wall of this room and it is here that the orders of the day are posted.

A cheerless place is the dormitory, containing a double row of stalls, in each of which is a bunk with little bedding. Across the hall is the monks' library. On its shelves the collections of half a century rest. Not the least interesting of the manuscripts is one containing a complete history of the Trappist order.

A high wall surrounds the last resting place of the monks who pass out of this world. All the graves are alike. A black cross stands at the head of each mound. As one grave is dug the outline of the next is made, a constant reminder of the end that is to come.

After passing through the cloisters the chapel is reached. The altar has a bas-relief of Da Vinci's "Last Supper" and figures of the two Marys kneeling at the foot of the cross. Religious symbols in wood are inlaid in the chancel floor. Stalls for the religious and for the lay brothers are placed near. Over these is a gallery for the strangers who may visit the abbey. Here it is that the daily devotions are begun at 2 o'clock each morning. The ringing of a bell at that hour breaks the stillness, and the white figures gather for matins. The silence is again broken, this time by the abbot. "Deus in meum adjutorium intende," he chants.

"Deus adjuvendum me festina," comes the reply from all the assembled brothers.

At 5:30 o'clock Prime is celebrated by the entire community, closing with the Angelus. Private devotions are held at 6:30 and after breakfast, which is eaten at 7. After the confessions in the chapel, lasting until 9 o'clock, the monks work in the field or the garden until 11:30. At noon the Angelus calls them to prayer. At 1:30 o'clock the visit to the blessed sacrament is made and at 2 o'clock dinner is served. Fish, flesh, fowl, butter and eggs are forbidden, and during Lent even milk is interdicted. But wine, beer or cider, the most famous in all Kentucky, may be drunk. Vespers at 5 and the celebrated "Salve Regina" at 6 close the day. The "Salve Regina" is led by a blind monk, once a celebrated foreign musician.

Such without variance is the life the Gethsemane Trappists have led for fifty years. During all this time only three abbots have been there, Father Eutrapius, Father Benedict and Father Obrecht.

The life at the abbey has several times formed the basis of romances, the most prominent of which is James Lane Allen's "White Cowl."

NAVAL BATTLE ON A RIVER.

How the Federal and Confederate Fleets Met Before Memphis in 1862.

From the Memphis Scimitar.

Just thirty-seven years ago yesterday this city heard the boom of cannon and the shriek of shell and many Memphians saw that which was never seen before nor since, a naval battle right at the foot of our bluff.

It was on the 6th day of June, in the year 1862, that a Confederate fleet of seven shell-like steamboats under Commodore Montgomery engaged in battle the Federal fleet of sixteen mortar boats, four rams and four armorclads under Commodore Davis. The fight was a vicious one and the Confederate fleet was almost entirely demolished.

The Federal fleet was composed of the armorclads Benton, Louisville, Carondelet and Cairo, the rams Queen of the West, Monarch, Lancaster and Switzerland, ten mortar boats and a number of tugs and transports. Commodore Davis was in command and Commodore Ellett had charge of the rams.

The Confederate fleet was composed of the steamers Gen. Beauregard, Gen. Sterling Price, Gen. Bragg, Gen. Thompson, Gen. Lovell, Sumter and Little Rebel. Bales of cotton piled on the decks of the steamers furnished protection to the gunners. The entire fleet could muster only fourteen guns, while the Federals had eighty-four.

On the evening of June 5 the Federal fleet was sighted above Memphis. It tied up at Hopefield for the night. On the morning of the 6th Commodore Montgomery signalled to the shells under his command to move up the river and engage the enemy, and with stout hearts the crews and officers stood ready for the fray, while the populace watched them from the bluffs.

The Federals, noting the approach of the enemy, steamed down the river to meet them, and soon the battle was on, beginning at the bend just above the city.

Owing to the narrowness of the river at the point where the battle took place most of the fighting was done by ramming. The first boat to be sunk was the Confederate steamer Gen. Lovell, which was leading the battle line. The Federal ram Queen of the West bore down on her with great force, crushing through and sinking her. The Confederate steamer Beauregard rammed at the Queen of the West but missed her and crashed into the Confederate Gen. Price and sunk her. The battle lasted until the Confederates' boats had all been sunk or disabled.

The facts of the matter are simply these: After the naval battle, a skiff in charge of Lieut. Ellett came to the city under a flag of truce. Ellett had a Union flag tightly wrapped around a staff, and consulting with the Mayor, he went to the Post Office accompanied by some policemen and hoisted the flag. When he came out on the roof of the building to hoist the flag, a Northern born man, but a Southern sympathizer, George H. Crook by name, fired a pistol shot at him. After the flag was run up, a number of Memphians started up to the roof to tear it down, but the policemen who had accompanied Ellett stood on the trap door which opened on the roof, and those who would have torn down the flag were thwarted. This is the story of the greatest naval battle ever fought on Western waters. Nowadays things would be different should a battle occur on the river.

Depressing Effect of the Dismal Swamp.

From the Norfolk, Va., Dispatch.

Norfolk is near the Dismal Swamp. Anybody can perceive that from the prolonged and sullen sadness which has settled on several citizens of this community. The preternatural and eternal gloom which affects their lives and adds the pessimism of the hopeless to their views of State and national affairs shows how near the Dismal Swamp is, and what a pervading influence of depression its vicinity entails. Nothing can be done about it. The Dismal Swamp cannot be drained. The frequent propositions to use its water and to clear it of timber have not succeeded. They have not matured even into franchises which could be watered and sold. The canal may succeed. Commerce may drive away much of the gloomy silence and dissipate the heavy air, but till commerce takes effect the Dismal Swamp must remain, and we must bear with those who are lugubrious or lachrymose because of it. They will die. They may die sooner indeed because they are so sad, because everything is so bad that the Dismal Swamp is really a cheerful place compared with their impressions of what the world will be when they die and everything goes to pot.

Telegraphy by Steel Rail.

From the Paris, Ky., News.

The windstorm last Thursday afternoon blew a large tree across the L. and N. track two miles north of Paris and blocked the track for about an hour. The tree also broke down the telegraph wires for two hundred yards. Chief Train Despatcher H. H. Hancock went out on a freight to the scene to see about the accident and took the Paris end of the wire and sent a message to the Paris office by merely tapping on the steel rails with the broken wire. The message came very faintly, but it was correctly taken by Despatcher Bower, who was on duty. This is the first message of the kind that has ever come under the notice of A. C. Adair, who has been telegraphing for twenty years, and Despatcher Hancock, who has been a despatcher for fifteen years.