Evening Zalas Hedger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY CTAUS H. E. CURTIR, Passinger, Chartes H. Ludington, Vice President ; John C. Martin, Theory End Treasure; Philip S. Collins, John B.

REPEORIAL BOARD ;

CTACH H. R. CUATIS, Chairman.

P. M. WHALEV..... Executive Editor JOHN C. MARTIN.... General Business Manager

Published daily at PERLIC Lenum Huilding, Independence Square, Philadelphia. dence Square, Philadelphia. Preas Union Tuilding 170 A. Metropolitan Tower SIT Home Insurances Tuilding 6 Waterloo Pince, Pall Mall, S. W. NEWS BUREAUS The Post Huilding C. The Times Fullding LENGTH CENTRAL. ATLANTIC CI LENDON. 2 Pall Mall East, B W. 32 Rue Louis le Grand

SUBSCRIPTION TERMS

by cartler, Daily ONLY, six cents. By mail, postpaid inde of Philadeiphia, except where foreign postage spatted. Daily ONLY, one month, twenty-five cents, 11 ONLY, one year, three dollars. All mail sub-pliens payable in advance.

Address all communications to Evening Leifger, Independence Square, Philadelphia.			
POSTOFFICE AS SECOND- TTER.			

An old fool is merely a young fool grown up.

In Pursuit of Naval Efficiency

FITHE appointment of Captain W. S. Benson to be Chief of Naval Operations, with the rank of rear admiral, is a happy one. Ho has a record of conspicuous service. He is forward-looking, keenly appreciative of progress, a man who refuses to stand still or to permit dryrot in anything under his direction. At sea and on land he has given evidence of superior abilities. He represents naval efficiency and should put an end to much of the discussion which has upset the naval establishment

At a time when the navy is the object of severe criticism, due to a just or unjust lack of confidence in the Secretary of the Navy, It is of more than ordinary importance that the officer selected to take charge of the establishment should command the confidence and respect of the service. This Captain Benson does to a remarkable degree. In fact, his appointment should do much to mitigate the criticism heretofore directed against the Secretary.

Modernize the Constitution

DROGRESSIVE Pennsylvanians, who are persuaded that the Constitution should be revised and modernized, will follow the deliberations of the constitutional convention now in session in Albany with deep interest. Some of the ablest lawyers in the nation are sitting as delegates there, and they are giving to the subject the serious attention that It deserves. The document which they draw up will merit the careful study of lawmakers every State. It is morally certain that it will not resemble the Oklahoma Constitution in the slightest particular. It is more likely to be as simple and direct as the Federal Constitution, because the best thought on the subject agrees that legislation should be left to the legislators and that the fundamental law should contain little more than a grant of power with proper restrictions for its exercise.

There is no prospect for the immediate revision of the Constitution of this Commonwealth, however much it may need it. But revision must come within a few years. Pub-He discussion in bar associations and political meetings cannot begin too soon, so that when the time for action comes there may be an intelligent and informed public sentiment behind propositions for improvement.

The Accident of Fame

C HUNTINGTON JACOBS, of Los An-geles, owes a debt of gratitude to Professor Kuno Meyer, of Berlin University, for elevating him from the inconspicuity of a Harvard undergraduate into an internabusiness which its competitors thought they ought to have. The company is charged with attempting to monopolize the oil business of the world.

All this has a most familiar sound. But It does not seem to worry the Standard Oil Company in the least. That corporation may be blessed with a skin of indurated fibre unsensitive to such attacks, and the Morgans may be similarly equipped with impervious integument. But the managers of both are aware that it is not yet considered a crime anywhere, save in the United States, to do as much business as possible or to reach out for new business. The war may have changed the popular view in Europe, but it la not likely.

Smash the Pullbacks' Program

IT IS guite true that the whimsical arguments advanced by "Dave" Lane against rapid transit are self-contradictory and absurdly anti-progressive. He thinks that convenience is something to be avoided sedulously. But when he talks about the achievement of rapid transit as "nothing more than stealing," he is thinking, perhaps, of some former franchises which were put through in this city. There is no stealing in this deal, and there will be none, unless through some trickery or other the people are deprived of the improvement they so urgently require.

There were "Dave" Lanes in the good old days, and some of them owned stage lines. on which account they bitterly opposed the introduction of railroads. They are dead, but the country has survived and even prospered. Yet it is interesting to know that there is Toryism left. It takes all kinds of people to make a city, and if there were no obstinate fellows to stand in the way of any and all progress not of financial benefit to themselves the fight would not be half so gripping.

It is well, however, that the people of Philadelphia should understand that their project is in peril. A group of interested men are gathering their cohorts together to defeat the loan. They are small in number. but they hope through the apathy and overconfidence of the public to put one over. They have an idea that they can catch the people asleep. Instead, they have sounded the alarm. Unintentionally they are Paul Reveres shouting a warning to all citizens to be up and doing. Their card of inaccuracies, freely distributed, has convinced citizens that a conspiracy is afoot and warned them to go to the polls in great numbers.

There are not enough "Dave" Lanes in this vicinity to stop rapid transit, which will prove a Juggernaut for the whole lot of them. It is a big thing, a compelling thing, with body and a sweep to it, and all the intellectual Lilliputians hereabouts, combined or uncombined, cannot stop it. At every turn so far they have been checkmated, and now they have the audacity to attempt a coup at the polls. They are in for as fine a trouncing as pullbacks ever got. So, at least, the augurles point.

There is nothing now that can prevent the success of the loan except the people themselves. They can let it go by default and forfeit their privileges. But will they? Not unless they are the dumbest set of sheep that ever gamboled in a slaughter pen; and recent events have given the impression that the dumbness is on the other side. As between do-nothingism of "Dave" Lane, whose pockets are heavy with Union Traction stock, and the constructive program of Di-

ALLIES AT GATEWAY OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Campaign of Anglo-French Land and Naval Forces at Dardanelles Offers Interesting Parallel to Attack on Santiago.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS

FOR Americans there must be more than a suggestion of Shafter's campaign against Santlago in the new allied operations against the Dardanelles. It is true that compared with the later operation our own seems wholly trivial. At least ten times an many men as went to Cuba with the first Santiago expedition are engaged in the Gallipoll operation. Sampson's fleet was paltry compared with the Anglo-French squadrons, led by "Big Lizzle," as the Queen Elizabeth is famillarly named by the Brit-Ish tar.

Yet something of the problem is the same. Before Santiago Sampson wisely, as all observers have concluded, declined to risk his ships in forcing the entrance to Santiago -even after Cervera's fleet had been destroyed. From the outset, once the fleet was discovered, he appealed to the army to clear the way by taking the forts. After a costly experiment with the Farragut method the Anglo-French admirals have followed the Sampson precedent.

In the Cuban operation we began by seizing Guantanamo as a naval base. The allied occupation of Enos, on the other side of the Gulf of Saros, facing the Gallipoli peninsula, is a good parallel. At Siboney and Daiquiri the American troops were landed in open roadsteads on a shore commanded by abrupt hills. The British landing places are not dissimilar, although there is lacking the Juragua Iron Company pler. so useful in 1898, and the miniature indentations on the Gallipoli shore are far less protected than was Siboney.

Fleet and Army in Touch

But here the parallel with 1898 stops. The British, having landed at Kaba-Tepe, are but five miles from their objective and less than a mile from a road leading down to the Dardanelles opposite Nagara. They are thus assured of the support of their warships every foot of the way, while the Americans at San Juan were without such There is lacking, too, the jungle through which Roosevelt led his regiment o the ambush of Las Guasimas,

The dominating height of the Gallipoli peninsula, a rough plateau some 1100 feet high, rises from the water and attains its summit less than four miles from the Britsh landing place and commands the road along which the British must advance. It might be compared to the El Caney position in its relation to the British flank.

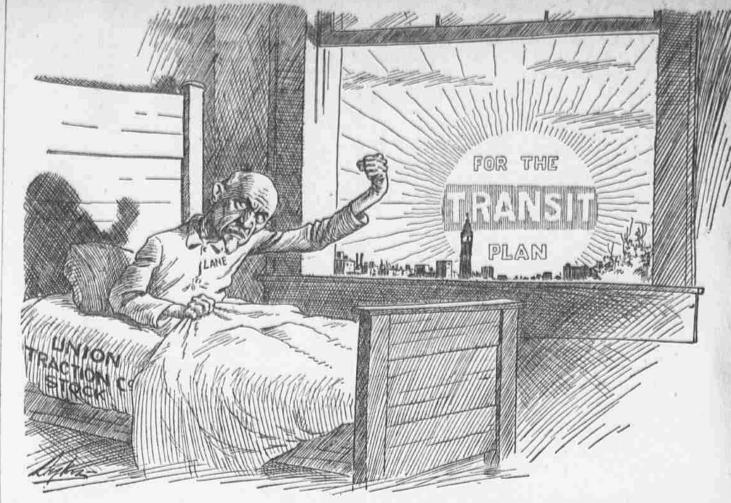
The disadvantage of the Turkish position is found in the fact that the defenses were organized to repulse a fleet coming up the straits. There are therefore no permanent works on the shores of the Gulf of Saros, and the forts lie low along the straits and are commanded by the hills behind them, over which the British must advance if they are to succeed. Thanks to the aeroplane, too, the forts can be bombarded by indirect fire from the Gulf of Saros, as well as directly by the fleet at the entrance of the straits.

Given good weather, then, the British advance will be covered during its entire course by the guns of the fleet, while the Turks will have to rely on field works and field artillery. On the other hand, numbers and position rest with the Turks, whose German officers have probably worked as effectively here as upon the forts.

Land Forces' Mission

The mission of the army is to occupy forts and batteries, once they have been temporarily reduced by the guns of the fleet; prevent the reorganization of these fortifications, which follows the withdrawal of the fleet; destroy the hidden batteries, the mounted on the shores:

"OH, IF I WERE ONLY JOSHUA!"



of any prompt success now. Santiago took several weeks. Sebastopol, which will come to the European mind as Santiago to the American, took months. Only the similar operations of the French before Algiers in 1830 were promptly successful. Yet the political circumstances are such that the Allies are now bound to complete what they have undertaken, cost what it may,

Sofia, Athens, Bucharest and Rome will watch the present operation with greatest attention. Beside it the second battle of Ypres is a minor incident. Upon its issue hangs the fate of Turkey, the decision of Bulgaria and Greece, the final resolve of Italy and Rumania. Allied defeat here would be a moral disaster of almost incalculable magnitude. But allied victory would be hardly less far-reaching in its consequence

Five hundred and six years ago the Turk entered Europe at the precise point where his fate is now being decided. Alexander and Nerxes crossed where the forts of Nagara sweep the throat of the channel. Achilles and Hector fought within range of the French "75s" at Kum Kaleh. In the whole progress of the great war there has been no more dramatic incident.

BE AN AMERICAN

From the Illinois State Journal

Half the world is busy fighting the other half. Hatred and mallee toward one another is brough through Europe as polson spreads hrough the human system-blasting, withering. destroying.

The United States has kept out of trouble so But millions of this country's inhabitants have kinsmen across the sca-fathers, mothers, Elaters, brothers, or more distant relatives. And when one has kinsmen, even distant kins-men, killing or being killed in the trenches, it is hard to control the feelings, to be neutral-to refrain from feeling bitter toward your heigh-bor here whose kinsmen, perhaps, are part of the foes your kinsmen are fighting.

This is the time then to be an American first. Nail Old Glory to the mast and then stand by the flag. You are a citizen of the United States We do not want to meddle in this affair in Eu-rope-except to bring about peace if possible!

Feel sorrow and pain that the petty ill feeling of crowned puppets should cause the slaughter of millions of men-some, perhaps, kinsmen of yours-but when hatred begins to steal into

COLE'S GOOD FIGHT FOR CHICAGO

Six Men, 20 Years Ago, Founded the Municipal Voters' League. Which Has Won a Great Victory Against Corrupt Politics-Their Weapon Was Publicity, That's All.

[By special arrangement with the New York Evening Post.]

ESSONS more than local lie plain upon (Li the face of the record of the Municipal Voters' League of Chicago, which last night celebrated the 20th anniversary of its founding. It is virtually unique in its character, in its fidelity to purpose and in its achievement, which is summed up in the phrase now current in Chicago, "The city has the best Board of Aldermen in twenty years." Look where you will, you will scarcely find another city in which a small group of public-spirited citizens, volunteers all, have done a work of this kind without hope of personal reward or preferment, and at the end of two decades have so much to show for it. The history of the organization is full of hope for American municipal reform.

When the Municipal Voters' League was founded Chicago was in a bad way. Its city government, generally speaking, was in the hands of a gang of politicians of the worst type, and had shuttled between one so-called party organization and another, without obvious reason why plain citizens should care a rap which of them might be in control. Public streets, public utilities, public affairs in general, were the sport of corrupt politicians and the corrupt capitalists who worked hand-in-glove with them. Municipal elections were a farce and public interest in them at a minimum

Physical Violence Threatened

It was in such a situation that a bare half dozen of earnest men, sick of such a plight of their community business, got together for conference, with the result that the league was organized. Under the leadership of a comparatively unknown, not to say obscure, business man, George E. Cole, it went to work upon the job. The city of be enfliciently grateful to

exclusively. It has not wearled in all these years. Whereas most such enterprises flash for a time and then die, out of discouragement and moral fatigue or internal discord, this one has never flagged in its grim and single-hearted devotion to the welfare of the city. Year after year it has done its unpicturesque work of investigation, made its report, and then subsided into the background for another twelvemonth. Its leaders have asked nothing for themselves. So far as we recall, not one man active in the work of the league has ever stood for office or otherwise exhibited the slightest disposition to capitalize for himself the public confidence in the work of the league. Never has a taint of selfishness or ulterior purpose been even seriously alleged.

One thing most significant and hopeful is the change in the standard of the league for the approval of candidates. Whereas in the early days the main stress was laid negatively upon mere personal honesty-candidates must not be thieves-increasingly during succeeding years the test of capacity has been emphasized; Chicago now demands that her Aldermen shall be not only honest but able. For 20 years, unpaid, often unappreclated, indomitable in purpose, inflexible in honesty, disinterested in method and manner, this little group of men has stood on the firing line against corruption, inefficiency and corporate selfishness. It is a noble record, of which Chicago may well be proud, and in which other communities might well find needed stimulus and example.

GANDER AND GOOSE

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-Calling attention to the article written by Miss Ellen Adair in the Saturday edition of the EVENING LEDGER, in which she criticises women for sensitiveness regarding age, and contrasts herewith the willingness of men not only to acknowledge the full number of their years, but, as she assorts, even to add to them. In regard to this last remark, Miss Adair may find callow youths guilty of such recklessness, but rarely men whose locks are tinged with the rime of age or whose hald pates glisten brilliantly with the setting sun. As for her previous as-sertions, Miss Adair should remember that desplite the proverb, what is sauce for the gander is not sauce for the goose. Increasing years are naturally less of a Hugaboo to the masculine gender, because no reproach seems to be attached to them, but women-even their own sex is responsible for much of the hestitancy. felt by them in acknowledging the flight of time, while men are more than pleased to extend the "hail fellow well met-glad hand"to those old enough to be their fathers and To mose one enough to be their fainers and grandfathers. Few omen, too, seem to object very strenue-ously to their thinning "thatch"—or even to the absence of it almost entirely—and, for the matter of that, neither does any one else, but woman holds fast to her "crowning glory" with the tenseties of densits and views with unsake woman hous tast to her crowning globy white the tenacity of despair, and views with unspeak-able regret its fading sheen and falling threads of gold. On the contrary, the bald-headed man waxes his little "cycbrow" mustache with lov-ing care, dons, mayhap, a bright red tie, a sult of the litter cut and blas himsalf out for give waxes his little every musicine with our ing care, dons, mayhap, a bright red tie, a sult of the latest cut, and hies himself out to give the girls a treat-no matter what his age, and thinks no less of himself when, bowing gallantly before some miss of 15, he discloses a bare and birls are and the subscription of the birls are subbefore some mass of a, he discusses a barows shall a shining "poll" to her youthful eyes. But a bald-headed woman—ye gods! Where, for instance, would you find a woman, old or young, who would sit herself down to be lathered and sharpooed ad libitum directly in the gaze of the "madding crowd"? And yet, strange as it has always seemed to me, one are here a news as a hurber show with a currarely or never sees a barber shop with a cur-tain acreening its male occupants from the vul-gar gaze. Apparently blissfully unconscious, they proceed to make themselves comfortable gar gaze. while the tonsorial artists perform upon them all the mysterles of the tollet. Is it indifference or conceit which makes them so willing to display themselves? But no one can de-clare them pleasing objects at such a time. And isn't it true if women did such things the pelles would have to be all of such things the solice would have to be called upon to disperse police would have to be called upon to display the mob of men from before the window? I only give these few instances to show that on the question of age, or any other point, ex-cept intellectually, that to compare the sexes 12 absurd and unfair. A MERE WOMAN. Stoneleigh Court, April 23.

tional issue.

Jacobs wrote a poem on the war in a competition conducted by the Harvard Advocate and won the prize, in the opinion of two members of the faculty, who acted as judges. It was not a great poem, but a workmanlike piece of verse that he produced, and it would have been forgotten if Professor Meyer had not written from Berlin that he could not serve as an exchange professor at an institution which would countenance the publication of such a "damnable poem" in a student periodical.

Now, of course, every one wants to read the poem, and it is being printed where it would never have appeared, and Jacobs has awakened to find himself famous. If ha keeps on writing verse he may merit the distinction which has now come to him accidentally.

In the meantime it may be noted that President Lowell has reminded Professor Meyer that freedom of speech is allowed at Harward, even against the protest of distinguished citizens who wanted to muzzle the pro-German members of the faculty.

Gaillard's Paradoxical Monument

CULEBRA cut, which carries the Panama C Canal through the backbone of the Isthmus, is no longer to be known by the name of the divided range of mountains, but henceforth it is Gaillard cut, named in honor of the engineer who fought and tore a channel through it.

Colonel , Gaillard's monument, therefore, does not lift liself into the air, but bores its way through the hills. Novertheless, it is a fitting memorial to a great achievement and to its achiever, who gave his life to the work.

Anti-Trust Fight Crosses the Water THERE is no rest for the rich. The thorns are no sooner taken from their couch in ens part of the world than they appear in enother part.

When the Supreme Court dissolved the Stundard Oil Company into its constituent corporations, thereby increasing the market value of its shares, the long campaign that had been waged against it here was ended. And when the new banking law was passed by Congress it was announced that the money trust," the head of which was said to be L. Pierpont Morgan's banking house, was destroyed, and the way was opened to the lessery men to get what business they throught they ought to have.

E-as neveral members of the British Parint have begun to question the Govern-

Bit shout the war contracts awarded to in Morgan house, and to charge the Americun bankers with making too much money and with refusing to lot outsiders participate a their dusiness. And an English company, thing to grout by the trade which Gerinto has her because of the blockade, is atfusing the Standard Off Company on the er and that it, or a corporation once affil-

rector Taylor, whose interest is the public's, no citizen should have any difficulty in making a choice.

But remember, Mr. Voter, that your choice will amount to nothing unless it is registered in the ballot hox.

No Peace for a Sultan in Europe

THE Sultan is reported to be suing for a separate peace. He is not likely to get it. Nothing could have pleased Russia more than the entry of the Ottoman Empire into the conflict. Constantinople is a prize worth fighting for; worth, in Russian eyes, all the sacrifices in the Carpathians and the bitter harvest of death in Poland. Either the cause of the Allies or Turkey

in Europe is lost. The Crescent will not continue to fly above the Bosphorus unless the cagle flaps his wings permanently in Antwerp. There is peace for the Sultan only in a surrender of his European territory. Because the saving of that is his prime reason for wanting peace, it seems that he is in an inextricable dilemma. Since there must be a carnival of map-making, by all means let it be thorough.

A thousand corpses to gain a yard seems to be the rule in Europe.

One cannot escape the thought today that there are Dukes in America also.

The jitney is so invigorating it was inevitable that a cocktail should be named after it.

Professor O'Bolger evidently thinks that kindergarten methods are not necessary in a university.

Even if the General Assembly should adjourn on any other day than May 13 it could not escape the hoodoo.

The colleges in Oxford University are following the example of the King by barring the use of alcoholic drinks.

It will be difficult for Barnes to prove that Roosevelt is any different sort of man from what the country has long known him to be.

Perhaps a medical expert would be able to decide whether the epidemic of beri-beri on the German cruiser at Newport News is really what they say it is or just cold feet.

Prof. Ernst Haeckel, who is 80 years old. does not think he will live long enough to recover from his hate of the British, and in this respect he agrees with many younger Germans.

When Barnes said that Governor Hughes was planning to build a machine of his own he proved that he did not know what kind of a man Hughes was. But when he said that the success of Hughest was had for the Barnes machine he proved that he knew used with R. got there first and secured what kind of a man Hughes was not,

methodically complete what the artillery of the fleet has begun.

The occupation of the Gallipoli peninsula, with the capture or reduction of the forts on it, will not remove all Turkish obstacles. There are still the stronger forts on the Asiatic side, but once these are exposed to artillery fire from the Gallipoli shore and from the fleet their evacuation is assured. The French troops landed at Kum Kaleh. the British at Seddul Bahr, that is on the capes at the entrance of the straits, are probably mere garrison parties, intended to assure the safety of the ships in the lower strait from rifle and field artillery fire, That the French will make any considerable advance, that there will be a new conflict on the site of Troy, seems unlikely, for here the Turks have ample room to employ their superior numbers.

On the other hand, the Gallipoll peninsula supplies no such opportunity. It is barely a dozen miles wide at, the broadest point, and at Bulair, where it joins the mainland, hardly three. Across a level plain here, under fire of the fleet, runs the only highway connecting the Turks with their base. The Bulair isthmus is rather like the neck of the bottle-shaped Gallipoli peninsula. Could the Allies occupy it the Turks would have to depend upon ships for supplies, reinforcements and ammunition.

So complete was the first failure of the Allies that there will be little expectation

PLAYING AT WORDS AND WITS

time

OF THE Beggar's Opera Walpole wrote that it made Gay rich and Rich gay. This pun made its first appearance in cold type.

Alexander Pope thought so poorly of puns that he declared the pun extempore to be the only respectable kind. A pun is too trifling and too easy to make, he said, to be worth a place in literature, and when he was asked by one of the company to whom he made the remark to prove his contention he did not hesitate. Responding to the challenge, "Make one on keethauling," he replied:

"That is indeed putting a man under a hardship."

Tom Hood and Theodore Hook were both famous punsters. They once made a wager as to who could make the best pun offhand. Charles Mathews was to be the judge, and the loser was to pay for supper for the trio. The agreement was made as they were walking together along a London street. A signboard advertising beer attracted their attention by its spelling, "Bear Sold Here."

"Oho!" cried Hook. "I suppose that bear is his own bruin!"

"Good !" said Mathews, and, turning to Hood. he added, "You'll have hard work to beat that." "I dare say he'll do it, though," said Hook, for you know, he carries more than two faces under one hood. Don't you, Tom?"

At that moment, turning a snarp corner, they came upon a small, tumbledown house standing .

your heart and the blood-red haze of the battlefield rises before your eyes-Stop and remember that:

You are an American-first, last and all the "TIPPERARY" AND BREATHING

The "theory of natural respiration" ac-counts for the popularity of "It's a Long. Long Way to Tipperary," the marching song of the Britleh army, according to Thomas Hen-derson, an English music teacher, Recently, speaking at University College, Nottingham, Mr. Henderson is reported as follows in The Hospital:

Judging from their works, Handel and Beethoven respired more slowly than Mendelsaohn. Most people breathe about 20 times a minute, and he saw in that reason why, quite apart from the melody, the most popular music was that in which the rhythm was even the accent always came on the beat. The song, "It's a Long, Long Way to Tipperary," was a case in point. It had been asked why it The should be more popular than Elgar's patriotic song, "Land of Hope and Glery." The reason was that "Tipperary" was in agreement with the theory of natural respiration, while Elgar's song was not.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MANNERS

Manners are of more importance than laws. Upon them, in a great measure, the laws de-pend. The law touches us but here and there, and now and then Manners are what yex or southe, corrupt or purify, exalt or debase, barbarize or refine us, by a constant, steady, uniform (negenation like that of the uniform, insensible operation, like that of the air we breathe in. They give their whole form and color to our lives. According to their qual-ity, they aid morals; they supply them or they totally destroy them .- Edmund Burke

in the midst of a wretched little yard of welltrampled grass. A huge board, on which had

been painted "Beware the Dogl" confronted them. Hood looked about cautiously, but saw no

canine guardian of the grassplot. Picking up a fragment of broken brick, he acribbled beneath the warning this query:

"Ware be the Dog?"

Mathews was stumped, and the supper which followed was a Dutch treat.

Hook once bragged that he could make a pun on any subject. "Well, then," said a friend, "make one on

the King." The wit replied:

"The King is no subject."

Douglas Jerrold was another famous punster.

A fellow clubman once challenged him: "Can you make a pun on the signs of the zodiac7"

Jerrold did it.

"By Gemini, I cani" he said.

The author of "Beside the Bannie Brier

Bush" was clover at playing on words. In a company of literary men it came Doctor Watson's turn to show his facility in a rivalry of punning.

"Come, now, Watson," said Hall Caine. "We are all waiting."

"Quite so," flashed back the other, "but please don't be in such a hurryCaina."

never that little, solid fighter, Cole, for the work he did, despite sneers, social ostracism, threats of business ruin, and even of physical violence, and all the other obstacles and menaces that beset him; or to the men who stood behind and beside him during those years when it meant actual personal danger to do so.

To the outside world the result of the recent city election was a victory of the Republicans, a proof of this, that or the other thing about woman suffrage, or what else you please. To those who have known Chlengo during the last 20 years, these things, important enough in their way, are of less real consequence and significance than the fact that the work of the Municipal Voters' League, which went on calmly and steadily through all the uproar, brought again its due reward in "the best City Council in 20 years." Let the Mayor be who or what he may, Chicago is really governed by its Board of Aldermen.

Aldermen's Records Exposed

How was it done? The process was so simple as to be almost laughable; so simple and so casy that it can be duplicated in any other American community-any community that has the right sort of brave and unselfish men to put it into operation. Just publicity-that is all. Each year for 20 years this organization has fearlessly and ruthlessly taken stock of the candidates for the Board of Aldermen, fine-combed the record of each and told the people, without regard to party affiliation or other extraneous considerations, what it discovered. National issues were ignored as if they had not been, The one question was, What sort of Alderman will this man make for your ward and for the city of Chicago? He might be a Prohibitionist, a Socialist, a Democrat, a Republican, white, black or brown; no matterthat was entirely beside the point. Was he a reasonably clean and honest man, likely to devote himself with integrity and intelligence to the business of the city? The facts bearing on this question, so far as they could be learned by diligent inquiry, were set before the people, and the people did the rest. Slowly at first, but with generally accelerating force, with now and then a setback, conditions improved. The people learned to repose great confidence in the reports of the league; the political machines learned to fear and to hate it, and to make their nominations with a wholesome dread of the league's recommendations.

Stimulus for Other Cities

The work has been absolutely a volunteer work, spontaneous in origin and tributary to the interests of no national party, no class or clique, no politico-business interest. It has held strictly to its purpose, refusing all side issues, all collateral temptations. The city of Chicago as a great business enterprise, deserving the best of its citizens and demanding a high degree of capacity and honesty in its aldermanic directorate-to that subject the league devoted its effortest

"IT WAS THE EARLY SPRING" Translated from the Russian of A. K. Toistor.)

It was the early, early spring. The grass was young: above no stream

A sultry air was quivering; Of green the forest did but dream. The shepherd pipes, with tuning soft, Had but begun their tale to tell: The slender fern had not yet doffed Its fleecy coil in woodland dell.

It was the early, early spring, Still fine and thin the birchen shadel I caught the smile that, hovering, At last beneath thins eyelids played!

Thy smile-it said my love had won-That smile thine eyelids strove to vell! O life! O budding wood! O sun! O youth, O hope, that could not fail!

With tears my eyes were glistening, So tender shons thy lovely face: It was the early, early spring, Faint birchen shade all round the place. This was the morning of our day. O joyl O tears! So strangely blant! O life! O wood! O sunny ray! And O the dirch tree's thrilling scent! —Edith M. Thomas, is New York Sun.