

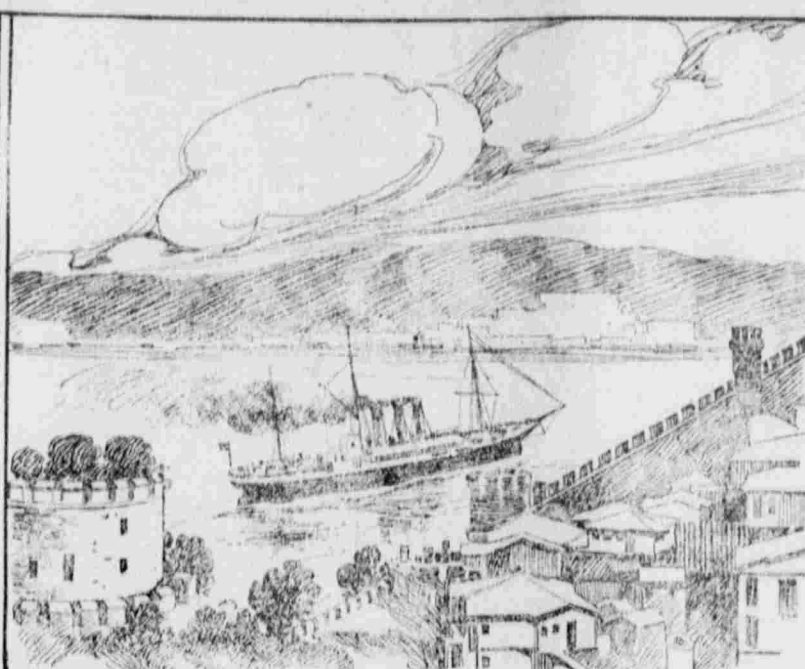
Russia's Dilemma From Action of Her "Volunteer Fleet"

THE recent sensational raids on the ships of neutral powers by the czar's "volunteer fleet" were provocative of more criticism upon Russia's conduct of the present war than any other single feature of the campaign. The step was so unexpected and so radical that justification seemed impossible. Even to the lay mind it was apparent that the situation was complicated. The question which immediately suggested itself was whether or not the authority to hold neutral shipping had been delegated by high official mandate. If not, it was argued, there would be nothing easier than for the Russian government to make a prompt and satisfactory disclaimer of any participation in the affair and to manifest a willingness to bring the perpetrators of the outrage to speedy judgment. If the offending privateer had proved to be a mere officious merchantman, self-instigated to commit depredations on the high seas under the auspices of its country's flag, the St. Petersburg diplomats might have regarded the indignation of the ruffled powers as a capital international joke.

Under ordinary circumstances, according to the regulations governing belligerent nations, a properly commissioned Russian vessel would have the right to search foreign ships on the high seas for contraband cargo. It is high seas, the contention, however, that under the present treaty provisions the passage of the Dardanelles is not open to an armed Muscovite vessel of any description. In spite of Russia's declaration that she had no intention of violating either the law of nations or any treaty agreement in regard to the passage of the Dardanelles, the dilemma with which that nation has been



THE VLADIVOSTOK SQUADRON ON A SEA RAID.



RUSSIAN VOLUNTEER FLEET VESSEL PASSING THROUGH THE BOSPORUS.



RUSSIAN WARSHIP CAPTURING BRITISH STEAMER.

confronted from the first still remains. Succinctly put, the case of the affronted powers seems to be this: If the Petersburg of the volunteer fleet is a warship she should not have passed the Dardanelles; if she is a commercial vessel she cannot commit a belligerent act without making herself liable to a charge of piracy.

The term contraband of war is applied to goods liable to seizure by a belligerent in trade between a neutral and the enemy in time of war. As may

be inferred, frequent international complications arise over the definition of what, in a particular instance, constitutes contraband of war. Of course this has to a certain extent been specified by treaty. It has been done especially by the United States. The frequent changes in methods of warfare render the list a constantly shifting one. Great Britain has adopted a classification of goods absolutely contraband and goods occasionally contraband. Under the latter head are in-

cluded provisions, coal, horses, fittings for steam vessels, etc. In the war of 1812 a Swedish ship loaded with grain intended for the use of the British fleet at Bilbao was adjudged subject to confiscation as contraband of war. In the Crimean war coal came up for discussion. Great Britain claiming that it should be included under occasional contraband.

From this it will easily be seen that in the event of war serious differences may arise between great commercial

nations. That is the history of every war that has occurred in modern times. France in the war of 1859 refused to regard coal as contraband. In the civil war the United States adopted the British view, as did Germany in 1870. Russia follows France, so that there is a conflict of opinion between her and Great Britain on that subject.

Subjects of neutrals may carry contraband to either belligerent, but they must do so at their own risk. If they are overhauled they may expect to be

treated with small consideration for their personal feelings. Neutral merchandise may be made in arms, ammunition and stores in time of war as in time of peace, but either belligerent may capture such goods as are of direct and immediate use in war if he can intercept them in their passage to the enemy while not within neutral jurisdiction.

In order to commit the offense of carrying contraband three things are necessary—(1) goods must have been sent across the frontier to a belligerent by land or sea; (2) the goods must have been intended eventually for a hostile destination; (3) the offense is completed with the deposit of the contraband cargo at the belligerent destination.

One of the most famous and ingenious rulings as to the term contraband of war was made by General Benjamin F. Butler while he was in command at Fortress Monroe. He applied the definition to captured slaves and on that ground refused to deliver them.

On account of the numerous modifications which modern developments have made in warfare the necessity of an international conference has been urged. There is at present no provision for several of the powerful agencies which recent invention has supplied, one of the most interesting being wireless telegraphy. As matters are at present, Japan is not seriously affected by the Malacca incident, but the raids of the Vladivostok fleet have caused great loss to her. Of course any well planned and successfully carried out scheme to disturb the world's commerce must sooner or later react on both belligerents, but the inconvenience is likely to be shared equally.

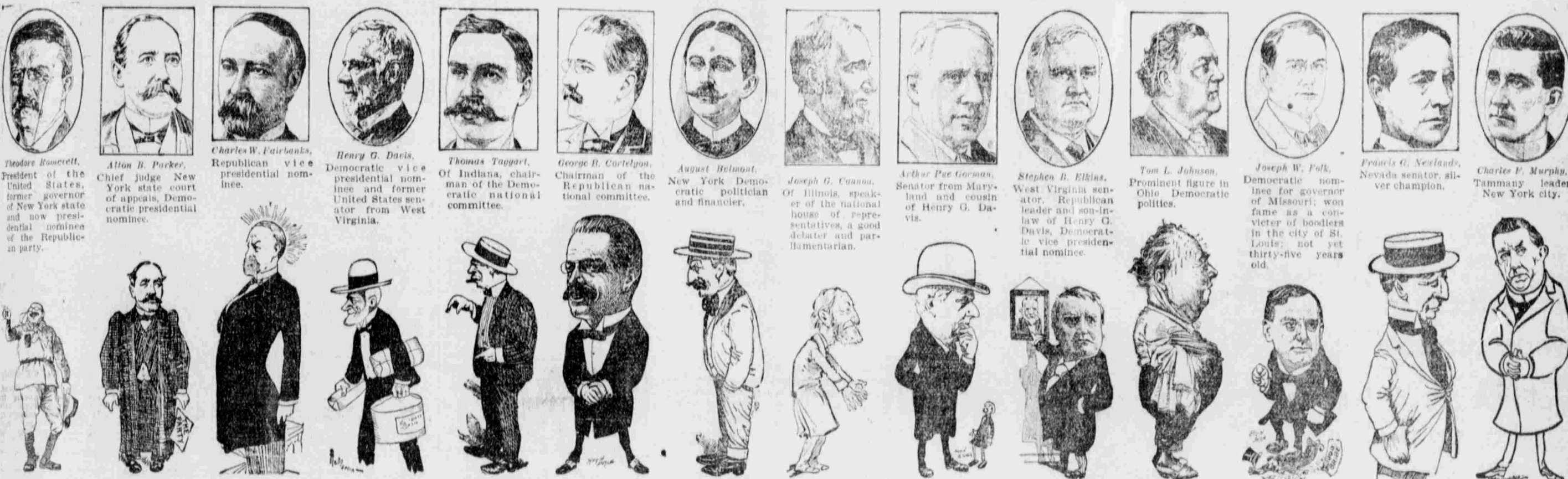
The Dardanelles, or Hellespont, which has been brought into new prominence by the activity of Russia's so-called "volunteer fleet," is in its way the most

historic waterway in the world. It took its name from the ancient Greek city Dardanus, which used to stand on the eastern side. It is a narrow waterway channel separating the southeast Europe from southwest Asia. It unites the sea of Marmora with the Aegean sea. The Dardanelles is strongly fortified on both sides with guns of large caliber. According to the terms of the treaty concluded between the five great powers and Turkey in 1841, it was agreed that no ship of war belonging to any nation except Turkey should pass the Dardanelles without the consent of the latter government, and all merchant ships were required to show their papers to the Ottoman authorities. These provisions were ratified in London in 1871 and at Berlin in 1878. As the only outlet for Russia's Black sea fleet is through the Bosphorus into the sea of Marmora and thence through the Dardanelles and Aegean sea to the Mediterranean, the treaty of 1841 has greatly embarrassed the czar since the war with Japan began.

In 1891, after a long series of diplomatic exchanges, Russia secured the port's consent to the passage of her so-called "volunteer fleet" through the jealously guarded gateway. Prompt and emphatic protest was made by the powers, but the matter has never until recently come up for final adjudication. It is a fact, however, that Russia has never shown a disposition to abandon her stoutly contested right. When the Russo-Japanese hostilities are over it is probable that the matter will come up for settlement, if indeed it can be deferred until then. There is always the possibility that too frequent aggressions and too prompt reprisals may engender a state of feeling which, as the Bard of Avon puts it, "cannot brook delay."

TRUMAN L. ELTON.

Political Celebrities as They Are and as the Cartoonists Picture Them



CARICATURE is a representation, either descriptive or pictorial, in which the peculiarities or characteristics of an individual or class are exaggerated so as to make the object ridiculous. As it is commonly understood nowadays it is applied only to the plastic and graphic arts. The two forms in most common use in this country are moral and political. Moral caricature is directed

against the customs and habits of individuals and society. Political caricature is launched against party corruption and bad government.

To be typical and artistic a caricature must exaggerate real traits so plainly that they cannot fail to be recognized. It must also be conceived in a spirit of unmistakable good nature. If a caricaturist permits his own personal opinions and prejudices to occupy too much of the foreground his effort is likely to be a failure in an artistic sense. Most of all, a caricature must be free from any suspicion of malice on the part of

the artist. For a cartoonist to endow his subject with some mental or moral enormity which he does not possess would be as untrue to art as it would be to ridicule a physical deformity.

It is true enough that the average man may be made sufficiently ridiculous by the employment of perfectly legitimate methods. A slight exaggeration of one's virtues is often quite enough to create an absurdity. This species of caricature was employed by the ecclesiastical lampoonists of the middle ages.

There is no question as to the power

that has been exerted by a skillfully drawn caricature. Political corruption has been made odious, and the plague spots of official depravity have been laid bare. A caricaturist's single happy stroke often points a moral which all the eloquence of a Bossuet might fail to make clear. It is a matter of general credence that the constant and pitiless warfare waged by Thomas Nast and other cartoonists against the venal Tweed ring of New York city was as efficient toward its final overthrow as was any other agency. A solitary caricaturist may be inspired to make a rev-

elation that will precipitate a revolution. At the time of the foundation of the great American republic the political cartoonist's pencil was a powerful propaganda for the cause of freedom. A master caricaturist once told the complete story of the reign of Louis XV. in three small sketches. The first was a picture of the French monarch arrayed in all the trappings of royalty; the second was an exact representation of the rampant costume without a wearer; that was marked "Rex." The last was the emaciated figure of an

old, decrepit rone, almost naked; that was labeled "Louis."

Today nearly every newspaper of importance publishes cartoons, mostly political and usually good natured. A national election is the harvest time for the lampoonist, and it is generally conceded that many thousands of votes are influenced by his pencil.

Caricature is probably as old as man's ability to express himself by the graphic art. It is common on the papyrus and sculptured Assyrian and Greek remains. Although the Greeks were expected to entertain a certain reverence for their

gods, that fact did not restrain them from caricaturing them. The monkish illuminators of the early ages could not resist the temptation to evolve an incidental pencil joke. The first great English caricaturist was Hogarth, who made himself famous by satirizing social vice. Political caricature in England began in the time of Sir Horace Walpole. In 1841 Punch was founded. At present there is almost no spot on the habited globe where caricature in some form is not used. A modern journal which concluded to get along without it would soon discover its mistake.

The Phenomenal Rise of "Blue Eyed Billy" Sheehan

WILLIAM FRANCIS SHEEHAN is known all over the country as the most prominent advocate of the Parker interests at the recent convention at St. Louis. He went to the crowded city with less prestige than accompanied more than one of his fellow delegates, but he returned in possession of all the honors. The now famous "gold telegram" was sent to him, and by that act the new nominee expressed his personal acknowledgment of his obligation to the recipient and his confidence in his future ability to represent his interests.

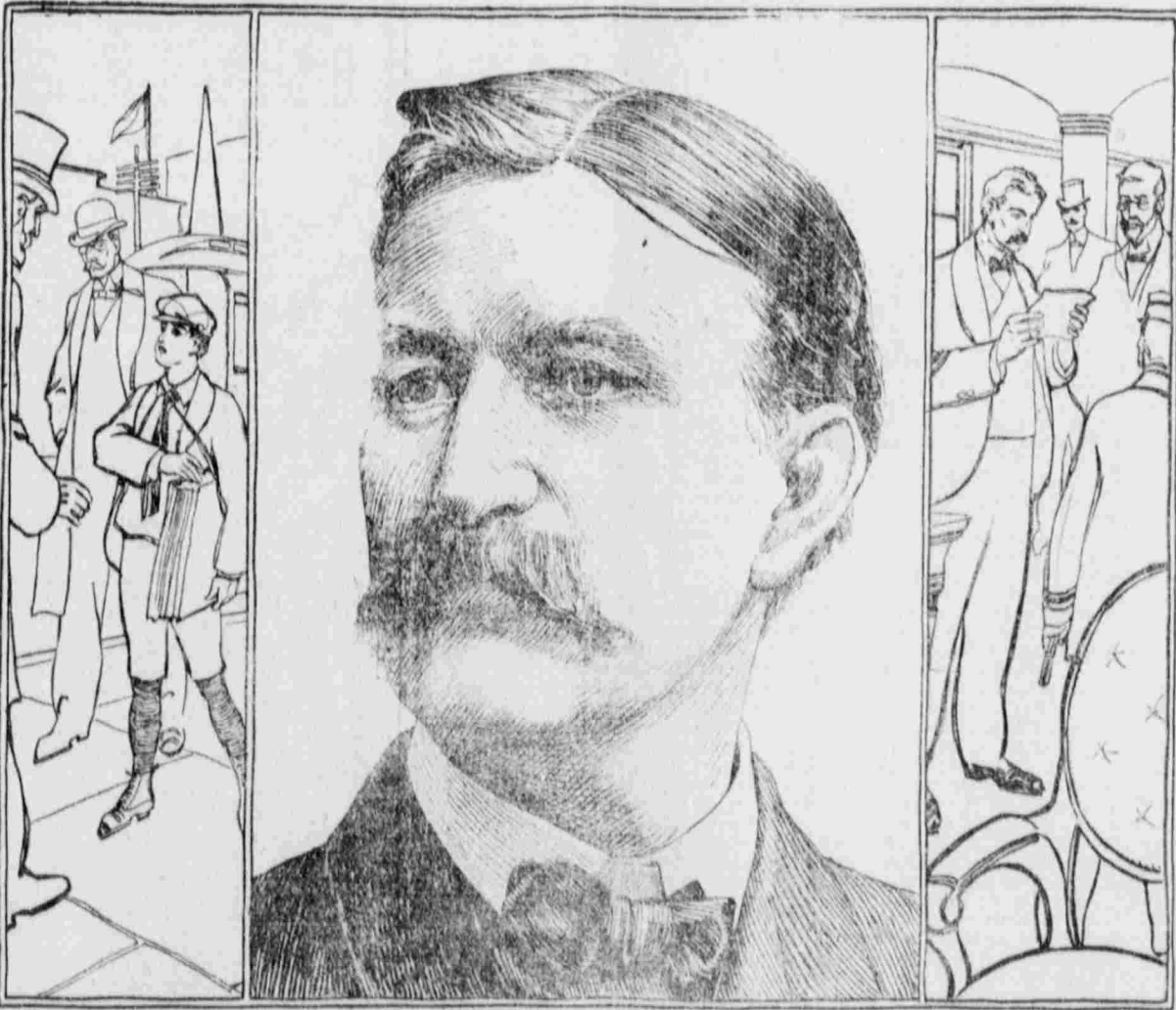
Mr. Sheehan entered upon his work of presidential candidate making many months before other Democratic presidential makers had begun to think of suitable presidential timber. Ever since Judge Parker had been elected chief judge of the New York state court of appeals without any well organized opposition Mr. Sheehan had selected him for president. In 1892 he was determined that his friend should become a candidate for governor. Failing to accomplish that, he bided his time. His faith in Judge Parker's star never waned. It is a matter of common recollection among his friends that "Blue Eyed Billy" could never be induced to look into the merits of any other claimant for presidential honors. He could sometimes be persuaded to take a temporary interest in some local political undertaking, but as soon as he discovered that it was not likely in any way to promote his own great purpose of making Alton B. Parker the Democratic standard bearer he was sure to drop it forthwith.

In political methods Mr. Sheehan is at present of the school founded by Samuel J. Tilden. It is the principle of preparedness in politics as well as in

war. His political models were Mark Hanna and William C. Whitney. Under Whitney's direction he managed the Cleveland campaign in New York, and at its close he delivered the electoral vote for the Democracy. It was immediately after that campaign that Whitney said of him: "Keep your eye on William F. Sheehan. He will be heard from again."

Mr. Sheehan was not at all discouraged by his failure to make his friend governor of the Empire State in 1902. He immediately entered upon a new and even more vigorous Parker crusade. His first concern was to interest the leaders in the party. He succeeded in enlisting the sympathy and co-operation of many of the most prominent Democrats in his own state and then turned his attention to the country at large. It was now that he launched his successful "Empire State legion" scheme. He selected former residents of New York in more than a dozen states. Most of them were young men, bright and of a pronounced business turn, who had never been in politics. He reasoned with them until they became enthusiastic over the idea of taking a hand in the nomination of a candidate from their own state for president, and they were the nucleus of a band of tireless workers for the advancement of Judge Parker. This levying distributed in every direction did not fail to affect the whole political mass. Even distant Alaska sent delegates to St. Louis instructed for Parker. They were doing wonders in Texas long before the Texas delegation in congress was in touch with the movement. This cleverly devised legion was an potent in making Alton B. Parker the Democratic standard bearer he was sure to drop it forthwith.

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STARTING LIFE AS NEWSBOY.

WILLIAM F. SHEEHAN.

THE RECEIPT OF THE PARKER TELEGRAM.

Besides obtaining a working inducement in the delegations, these personal friends were keeping close watch of the movements of the managers of other candidates. Through them Mr. Sheehan was kept informed of the strength of the opposition in all parts of the country. This enabled him to concentrate his effort on any particularly weak spot. He realized that his candidature was in a peculiar position. A less clever man than Mr. Sheehan might have been confused under the circumstances, but he proceeded without delay to adapt them to his own advantage. It was known that Judge Parker was a willing candidate, but he had not yet been heard from. The country was getting impatient to have him speak. It is declared that Mr. Sheehan was the only one of his advisers who insisted upon silence. The wisdom of his insistence is now plainly apparent. No talking candidate could have garnered the strength acquired by that golden silence. The outcome at St. Louis demonstrated that fact.

Mr. Sheehan was born in Buffalo Nov. 6, 1859. As a boy he sold newspapers in the streets of his native city, and he is not at all averse to hearing the fact mentioned. His father was a poor laborer, and the family was dependent on his daily wages. Billy was barefooted, redheaded and freckled. He was also the possessor of a pair of remarkably blue eyes. In his early childhood he acquired the sobriquet of "Blue Eyed Billy," and it has clung to him with singular persistency until the present time. He was also a ferry boy at one time of his career and owned a small boat, with which he used to convey passengers across the narrow Buffalo river. His mother saw to it that he was a tolerably regular attendant at the public school, and he was regarded as a bright boy, with a tendency toward overdevelopment in fun loving propensity. He made so much progress in his

studies that he was sent to St. Joseph's college to be educated for the priesthood. But the young man had no taste for theology, and it was not long before he began to manifest a decided preference for the law. He was admitted to the bar in 1881, and four years later he took his seat in the assembly. He was elected seven times and speedily became a power in Erie county. He acquired the reputation of being an intense partisan and in those early days was ready to advocate with all his force and ability any measure that was designed to secure party supremacy. In 1891 Mr. Sheehan was made speaker of the assembly, and the following year he was elected lieutenant governor on the ticket with Russell P. Flower. He was a member of the Democratic state committee from 1893 to 1898 and was first named for the national committee in 1891.

After the disastrous autumn election of 1893 Mr. Sheehan resolved to resign his party leadership in Erie county and remove to New York city. His term as lieutenant governor expired the following year, and he announced his determination to seek a new field from the speaker's desk in the senate. He said that he had given all his strength and substance for party aggrandizement and that he should be obliged to leave Albany in order to make money enough to pay his debts. He went to New York and opened a law office in partnership with Charles A. Coffin, a professor at Cornell university, who had been legal adviser to Governor Flower.

Mr. Sheehan confesses frankly that he has forsaken his former political methods and has provided himself with an entirely new set. "Frankness, candor and honesty pay," he declares. "As long as I live I shall never again be a factious in politics. It does not count for advantage in the long run."

CHANNING A. BARTOW.

EBB AND FLOW.

France expects to have the best fruit and apple crop in general it has had in several years.

The Imperial Geographical Society of Berlin is about to send a new scientific expedition to the Pamirs to explore the plateau.

A German experimenter, Herr Bernhardt, noting the structure of aluminum, decided to try for putting an edge on the cutting instruments, such

as surgical knives, razors, etc. He found that it acted exactly like a razor hone of the finest quality.

For sixteen centuries the inhabitants of Boziers, in north France, have held the camel sacred, for in 250 A. D. St. Aphrodise, mounted on one of these animals, evangelized the city. In their museum they preserve a curious papier mache effigy of a camel.

Nearly all the salt consumed in Italy

is produced in Sardinia. For this work about 3,000 men are employed, most of whom are convicts. The wages range from 10 pence to 4 shillings a day, of which the convicts receive only half.

By an edict of the minister of agriculture in Hungary the exportation of living game or eggs is prohibited.

Greenland has about 12,000 inhabitants. The largest two villages have only 382 and 333 inhabitants.

In 1903 Minnesota showed an increase in the total number of wage earners of

11.91 per cent over 1902. That of the male adults was 12.67 per cent; that of the female adults 9.36 per cent and of children a decrease from last year's number of 9.58 per cent.

Two boat loads of emancipated Maoris in a painting in the New Zealand display at the St. Louis fair who are just discerning land after almost perishing at sea tell the story of the first arrival of the Maoris in that country.

Dr. Jacques Bertillon, the famous chief of the statistical bureau of Paris, has

written a volume entitled "Alcoholism and the Way to Fight It." Drink, he declares, is likely to prove the ruin of the French race unless something is done to overcome the habit.

Small gardens are getting to be almost as common in Germany as in France. The snails are gathered in July and fed till autumn, when they get their shells. The dealers pay for them at the rate of 20 to 25 cents per hundred, and a hundred makes a meal.

In India the power given off by a mo-

tor is sometimes expressed in elephant equivalents, a twenty-two horse motor being described as a three elephant power vehicle.

Considering their nutritive value, potatoes are about twice as expensive as bread, and milk is even dearer.

The patent office at Washington during 1903 granted 31,699 patents. The net balance to the credit of this office since it was founded in 1836 is \$5,632,549.

Notwithstanding the most careful

search, the causes of a number of transmissible diseases, both human and animal, still remain unknown. Of the human diseases belonging to this group may be mentioned especially scarlet fever, chickenpox, typhus fever and hydrophobia.

A joint stock company with an authorized capital of 2,500,000 lire (\$452,500) has just been organized at Milan, Italy, for the purpose of utilizing the water power of the province of Liguria for an electric plant.