

month or two of exposure too early in the season will generally suffice to cut it down as completely and leave as few remnants of it as if it had never had any promise at all.

Yet the papers for weeks and months past have been giving us in great detail the plans and peregrinations of various aspirants for the presidential nomination nearly a twelvemonth hence. Nearer home we have been burdened day after day with the names and pedigrees of candidates for local office. And not more surely does each day see a reduction in the favorable chances of many of these far-away candidates, than have the hopes of several of the Utah aspirants been irrevocably blighted, while others have the same obnoxious prospect close ahead of them. History has a habit—sometimes profitable and sometimes cruel—of repeating itself in politics as in other things.

There is little in a boom of any kind to keep it for any great length of time at the top notch of popularity. Those of the political variety may be well likened to a horse race. The animal that starts out from the flag with all his speed, every muscle strained to the utmost, at most simply "makes the pace" for the others. They are able, if wisely ridden, to profit by his blunders. Where it is "heavy going" they can be eased up and get their wind a little, while he flounders along, bravely but hopelessly, against the lost lead which their reserved freshness is certain to capture. It need hardly be mentioned that the winner is not the one that keeps ahead the greater part of the distance—if beaten by so much as a nose at the finish he as surely loses the first prize as if he had trailed all the way. Here, however, the smile will have to cease; for whereas the second and even the third horse in a race usually get some reward for their gallant struggle—the money, at least, which it cost them to get into the contest—in politics the second and third candidates when the ballots come to be counted up get nothing.

BACON-SHAKESPEARE.

There are indications of a general revival of interest in the Bacon-Shakespeare problem. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. recently published a book upon the subject. The *Nation* states that a translation, by Henry Brett, of a German work by a Leipzig author will be published early in October; while the *Indianapolis News* has a long interview with Judge Stoenberg of that city, who is writing a book bearing upon the topic.

In Chicago, the Sargent Publishing company, a new firm in the Monadnock Block, will publish the last of September "Francis Bacon and his Shakespeare," by Tneron S. E. Dixon, a patent lawyer, who was one of the counsel in the Bell Telephone cases in the Supreme court. It is said the new book will hardly "make a sensation," as it contains no "cipher" business or anything of that order, but simply presents, in a critical exposition, the data (almost wholly new) whose consideration has convinced him of Bacon's authorship of the plays. The hypothesis is also given a crucial test in a novel and striking in-

terpretation of the play of Julius Cæsar, under the illumination afforded by Bacon's acknowledged writings. A book written upon these lines will possibly prove of greater service to students of the plays than if it were more sensational in its character.

UTAH'S CREDIT—AND LOSS.

A special from Washington concerning recent issues of patents, mentions another invention of a magazine gun by that prince of experts in firearms, Jno. M. Browning of Ogden. Those who know the gentleman and are interested in the newest things in guns, will readily agree that it is a very dull and stupid year when he does not knock out a scheme of rapid firing or ease of manipulation that beats anything of the kind on record. It is not too much to say that the proud prominence occupied by the Winchester company among manufacturers of firearms is due in no small degree to the prompt avidity with which they have availed themselves of his skill and made themselves the possessors by purchase of his patents. It is a standing joke with the officials of that company that whenever they see Browning step off the train at New Haven and bend his steps toward their office, it means that they must take out their check-book and write at his dictation; he always has something to offer that is good, and of course the better it is, the more reason that they must buy it, to keep any one else from getting it and to keep themselves at the head of their profession. At the same time it must also be said that they have been generous patrons. He has rarely made them an offer in vain, and they have been willing always to pay a good price for whatever he had that they wanted. Just how many thousands of dollars has been transferred from their bank account to his, none but they, he and a few of his intimate friends know. We violate no confidence, however, in saying the sum is a handsome one and it cannot be represented by less than six figures; this, too, notwithstanding the fact that he is still a young man and has hardly got started at the business in which he has proved himself so eminent.

With our gratification at these various successes of a gifted son of Utah, we have, however, one regret. That is, that such talent as his should have to carry its products elsewhere to find a market. His skill could just as well add fame and wealth to a Utah firearms manufacturing company as to a company in Connecticut, and there are certainly capitalists enough in this Territory who have confidence in his abilities, to combine in a corporation strong enough—if he did not feel to attempt it on his own hook—to supply at least the whole of western America with their wares. The difficulty as we have heard it is that most of the material would have to be imported; and this brings us at once to the moral of the whole story. With mountains of coal and iron—either of which in itself and certainly both in combination—is a more precious gift than a gold or silver mine—it is a shame that our workers

in iron and steel cannot find employment at home and that our thousands of metal utensils of every day use have to be imported from abroad. How long shall this anomalous and suicidal policy be allowed to continue? An answer to the question is of more importance to our future wealth and greatness than ten thousand agitating speeches on free silver or the ratio of its coinage to that of gold.

EX-CONSUL WALLER'S CASE.

Several days ago the announcement was made that negotiations in the Waller case were progressing favorably, and as a proof of this it was given out that the French government had graciously consented to permit the United States representative to visit the prisoner. But the promised copy of the testimony taken at the trial of the unfortunate citizen of this country had not yet been produced, and meanwhile he is languishing in a French dungeon with every prospect of remaining there for an indefinite period. As to the official documents of the trial doubts are expressed whether they can be produced. The accusation, conviction, sentence and transportation to France were events that followed one another with remarkable swiftness. Should our government further press its demands for full information, it is not incalculable, in view of the hurry with which the case was dispatched, that the French officials might find themselves in an unpleasant predicament and have to furnish an "official" record made to order and *post festum* as it were. It is difficult to account for the delay in producing the record, if it really exists.

It appears that nearly everybody on this side of the Atlantic considers that Mr. Waller is the victim of a great injustice and that his only "crime" is that he, being an American citizen, had dealings with the Malagassy government without French authorization. But that is no violation of international law, as the French claims to supremacy over the island, as far as its internal affairs are concerned, have never been recognized by the other powers. Ambassador Eustis now should demand the release of Mr. Waller until the facts can be thoroughly investigated. Our representatives abroad have higher functions to perform than to deliver Fourth of July orations, and one of them is to see that Americans receive the protection citizens of a great power are entitled to abroad.

THE WHITE-WINGED CONTEST.

The two yachts which are to compete in the blue-ribbon event of its class, the international contest for the America cup, are now undergoing their final scraping and touching-up preparatory to the first race, which takes place outside of Sandy Hook, New York harbor, on Saturday the 7th inst. Those who have watched the actions of the two racers during their trial performances and are conversant with the various points of excellence and superiority possessed by each, may have a firm