

FRENCH POLITENESS.

Charles A. Dana, the Nestor of American journalism, like other great men, has his peculiarities; but in his case they seem more emphatic and pronounced than in that of most others, amounting in some instances to apparently irreconcilable conditions. He is, for example, an ardent Democrat, while at the same time opposed to tariff reform or any phase of freer trade; he supported Mr. Cleveland as a candidate and opposed him bitterly as an individual; he showed, before the late election, by figures and precedents, how impossible it was for the party to win without New York state, characterizing the northwestern campaign as so much love's labor lost, and so on. "Mr. Dana is now in Europe on a well-earned vacation, and made Paris one of his points of inspection; he was received by *Le Gaulois* in the following among other words: "Monsieur C. A. Dana est l'un des amis les plus fideles de Monsieur Cleveland le nouveau president des Etats Unis." A literal translation of this is—"Mr. C. A. Dana is one of the most faithful friends of Mr. Cleveland, the new President of the United States." As an exhibition of French politeness in making a man addicted to contradictions feel as much at home as possible, those words can best be appreciated by those who know how the Gotham journalist feels and what he has so freely said regarding Mr. Cleveland both in and out of office.

IRRIGATION CONGRESS.

Governor Thomas, as chairman of the executive committee of the National Irrigation Congress, today received a communication from Mr. C. D. Willard, secretary to the board of directors of the Los Angeles (Cal.) chamber of commerce, making application for the holding of the next Congress, in September, 1893, in that city. The letter states that this request is made not only on behalf of the citizens of Los Angeles but the people of all southern California, who were ready to unite in making suitable provision for the reception and entertainment of delegates. If the congress were to be held in Los Angeles the chamber of commerce guarantees a suitable hall for the meetings, the expenditure of a considerable sum for advertising, and to promote its interests in accordance with any line of suggestions which the committee might lay down. The communication goes on to adduce what are stated to be a number of weighty reasons why Southern California should be selected for the holding of the next congress. Among these it is the extreme southwestern field of irrigation enterprises in this country, and that visitors to America from foreign lands who attend the World's Fair, if they should attend a congress in Southern California, would be compelled to take in all of the irrigation districts of their country in journeying thence. In Southern California might be seen some of the most famous work of irrigation engineering to be found anywhere in the Union. There, too, the delegates might become familiar with the actual workings of a law designed to benefit the irrigation interests of the state by allowing the

bonding of territory for the construction of irrigation works, viz., the Wright law, under which \$16,000,000 worth of bonds had been issued, a new form of security which was attracting much attention among Eastern investors.

DEATH OF J. L. ROBINSON.

The death of Joseph Lee Robinson occurred in Uintah, Weber county, at 2 a. m., January 1st, 1893, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. A. B. Bybee, after an illness of only two hours, and at the advanced age of 81 years.

The deceased's death was unexpected, as he had a rugged constitution and was apparently in good health. He was unusually cheerful the evening before but about 12 o'clock he was taken with a severe pain in his stomach and suffered considerably up to the time of his death.

He came to Utah in 1848, one year after the pioneers, and located in Farmington in the spring of 1849, and was appointed Bishop of Farmington, in which capacity he served until 1851, when he was called to assist in the settling of Iron county.

When appointed Bishop there were so few inhabitants in Davis county that he was instructed to preside over all the settlers of the county north of Cherry creek south of Centerville.

He was universally known and respected by all classes, and leaves a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn his death. The funeral services will be held in the Farmington meeting house tomorrow (Wednesday) at 11 a. m.

SUGGESTIONS WORTH NOTING.

Your explanation of the meaning of the sentence referred to in discussing the smoke question is perfectly clear, although to the proprietor of a boiler plant it might seem to have somewhat of a Pickwickian character.

Your position, however, in relation to gaseous fuel is well taken and it is probably the only solution of the problem which will reach every case either large or small which contributes its quantum to the whole body of smoke which seems so objectionable to the parties complaining. The smoke from small plants does not seem to cause so much dissatisfaction as does the smoke from plants of a large capacity, but my experience and observation lead me to the conclusion that the amount of smoke from ten furnaces burning one ton each in a day is quite as capable of contaminating the atmosphere as the smoke from one furnace burning ten tons a day.

Gas producers as a means of converting coal into gas for fuel, as distinguished from the ordinary gas works where the gas is primarily intended for light, were first introduced in 1842 but it was not till Siemens brought out his regenerative furnace some sixteen years later that they were used to any great extent. They are used now, however, in all iron works, not on account of preventing smoke, as that is a matter of indifference, but as a means of economy of fuel and also of more ready control of the heating and melting capacity of the furnaces.

In using producers in connection with

steam boilers a great saving of fuel has been effected, it having been found that boilers in full steam did two-thirds more evaporative duty by gas firing than by hard firing; and with 5½ per cent more evaporative efficiency from the coal used. In other trials as much as 9.85 per cent has been obtained in favor of gas firing.

Gas producers are somewhat costly in the first installation, but last a long time with but little repairs. They require much less labor, as one man can take care of and fire with coal for 1000 horse power with as little labor as he can now for 300 horse power. They will use almost any kind of fuel including dry refuse of almost any kind, with absolutely no waste of the combustible portions. In fact, fuel for the producer is a good deal like a certain Englishman's definition of beer; he said that none of it was bad, but some kinds were very much better than others. The wear of a boiler using gas fuel is very much less than with coal, and the brick work setting lasts much longer.

Where gas engines are used they have been supplied with this gas at a cost of one and one-half pounds of nut coal per horse power per hour.

The producers can be built here as there are no special difficulties in their construction, and as this city is arranged there is a good opening for a plant in the center of each block from which all furnaces of every kind on the block could be supplied with but little alteration in their present arrangements.

Mr. Thwaite is a gentleman of large experience in iron works, machinery and furnaces, and I am not prepared to say that his suggestion is not perfectly practicable; but at first sight it looks to me as if it would be preferable to burn the coal near the pits to generate electric power which could be transmitted to London at even a less cost than gas could be. I am not sure but that something of the kind would be our best solution of the difficulty, that is, erect a large plant near Coalville or other suitable locality to generate electric power and deliver it to this city for power, light and heating purposes.

Independent of the superior cleanliness and the less amount of labor required it is simply a question of relative cost. That is, compare the amount paid for the transportation of one or one hundred tons of coal to the furnaces in this city, and the cost, including everything, of transmitting the power over the wires that one or one hundred tons of coal would produce.

It has been asserted, but with how much truth I do not pretend to say, that Cleveland, Chicago, and other cities on the lakes have a milder climate than they once had and that persons troubled with pulmonary symptoms have been able to reside therein with less discomfort than formerly, from the fact that the particles of carbon inhaled, form an oleaginous coating on the membranes and so prevent the irritating effects of the cold raw air.

Finally, don't forget in the smoke discussion that where there is smoke there is fire and consequently business, and not kill the business in the endeavors to prevent the smoke.

WM. J. SILVER, M. E.