

does for a saw and woodpile—he doesn't disturb them except it be by accident.

### THE YACHTS.

One swallow does not make a summer, and one victory does not make a champion; nevertheless, the ease with which Defender on Saturday walked away from Valkyrie III in the first of the international yacht races for the America cup, will be generally taken as evidence that Lord Dunraven is again doomed to thorough disappointment. The light wind and the weather conditions throughout were regarded as especially favorable to the Englishman; yet he was beaten by the enormous distance of eight minutes. If such was his fate under circumstances clearly friendly to him, what can he expect in a thirty-mile breeze where the American is admitted to be the fleetest boat afloat?

In the interest of good sport, a great many Yankees were willing that the visitor should win on Saturday—the remaining races of the series would have been much more interesting. Besides it was felt that Dunraven's pluck entitled him to something more than continuous defeat. This generosity, however, has nowhere gone to the length of hoping the challenger might win the cup and carry it off; for everyone knows how great is the advantage possessed by the holder of the trophy, and consequently how remote the hope if England won it back, that America could again capture it.

But there is still uncertainty enough about the contest to give it great interest on both sides of the Atlantic. There is always the chance of accidents or blunders. The rivals meet again tomorrow and sail over a different course with probably a stiffer breeze to whirl them along. Salt-water enthusiasts are wishing for them "a wet sheet and a flowing sea and a wind that follows fast;" and now that the series is commenced, the sooner both Brother Jonathan and Johnny Bull are put out of their agony the better for all concerned.

### A SMOKE NUISANCE.

An occurrence yesterday, Sunday, on one of the street cars running to Liberty Park should be brought to the attention of the management of the company with a view, if possible, of leading to the adoption of some rules for the protection of the traveling public against a nuisance that is but too common.

It was just after the services in the Tabernacle. The car was crowded to its utmost capacity. On the front platform were ten persons exclusive of the motorman. The door was open and just inside were several ladies, some standing, some sitting. On East Temple street a young "gentleman" entered the front platform, those already there considerably making room for him. No sooner had he been comfortably established in the exceedingly thronged quarters before he lit a cigar. Clouds of smoke were blown directly in the faces of those

behind him and by the draught they were further carried into the car, annoying persons not fond of the peculiar aroma of the weed. The polite remonstrance of a gentleman in behalf of himself and fellow passengers, had no other effect than to cause still denser vapors from the burning tobacco and a facial expression of the smoker, in which sarcasm, defiance and stolidity were blended. The nuisance was continued until Liberty park was reached.

It needs no argument to prove that people who patronize the street railroads are entitled to protection from occurrences of this kind. That there are grown up persons thoughtless enough not to reflect on what they are doing, when they blow tobacco smoke into the nostrils of fellow-men, compelling these to inhale it after it has been expelled from the mouths of the smokers, is a sad reflection on the good manners of the latter. Suppose they themselves were subjected to an experiment and were forcibly made to drink water, ejected from the mouth of somebody! The cases are not materially different. Pure air is as essential to human life as good water, and nobody should have a right in public places to befoul either.

Ordinarily, when the cars are not crowded, inside passengers can protect themselves from the tobacco perfumes of the front platform, but when, as often is the case on Sunday afternoons, this is impossible, the conductors should be empowered to stop the nuisance. It would be no hardship to the devotees of the weed to have to suspend their operation for a few minutes while on the car, but it would certainly be a relief to many passengers who object to inhaling poison while on their way to or from the house of worship. The management of the Salt Lake City Street Car company is an excellent one and we believe that by directing the gentlemen's attention to the case referred to, which is but one in many, some desirable change of conditions will be effected.

### THE CUBAN REBELLION.

The latest advices from Cuba indicate that the patriots have gained decided advantages in their struggle for independence. According to a report circulated in Havana, Puerto Principe has surrendered and is now in the hands of the insurgents, while Santiago de Cuba is completely surrounded. With the uncertainty characteristic of Cuban war news, it is not possible to form an estimate of the reliability of these reports, but the fact that Spain is constantly reinforcing her troops on the island justifies the inference that the insurgents have met with far greater success than is officially acknowledged by those who edit the press dispatches on behalf of the government.

Puerto Principe is an inland town in the eastern part of the island, situated about 325 miles from Havana and 45 miles from the port, Las Nuevitae, with which it has railway connection. Santiago de Cuba is a seaport and the chief city of the eastern department. Its harbor is spacious and well defended, and its population is estimated at about 80,000.

The importance to the Cuban cause

of these positions is evident. Should the insurgents succeed in capturing Santiago and holding it, one essential condition of their recognition as belligerents would exist. They would then have a sea port and be able to let their flag wave upon the ocean. In the struggle in 1869 the leaders made several attempts to obtain possession of Cienfuegos, and in their present war their plan seems, from the first, to have been laid with a view of reaching Santiago. With this object accomplished, there can be no technical objection to according them the recognition they are seeking of the governments of the American continent. Besides, in Puerto Principe, if they have actually occupied that place, they possess a basis of operations from which they can threaten Havana.

### TURKISH METHODS.

The methods employed by the Turkish government in the distribution of relief funds for the benefit of the sufferers in the Sassoon massacre is another illustration of the unreliability of the representatives of the sublime Porte. From the first their policy has been one of deception and they sustain their role to the last.

According to Turkish reports, \$10,000 had been raised for the relief of the victims. This sum was then placed at the disposal of a committee for distribution. It now appears that the members of this committee offered small sums to the survivors on condition of their signing a receipt acknowledging the generosity of the sultan and placing the responsibility of their sufferings on the Kurds. When the English contributions arrived, the Turkish officers declared that if the people would not accept Turkish aid on the conditions mentioned, they could have none, and they exerted themselves to prevent the foreign distributions. About \$2,000 of the \$10,000 were given to Armenians, while the members of the government commission charged as high as \$10 a day for their services.

The story further goes on to say that when the English commission arrived on the ground they concluded that one essential was the rebuilding of some of the dismantled houses. The villagers, pressed with harvest work, hesitated until they were assured of the assistance of workmen from Musab; but here again Turkish brutality stepped in, refused to allow the men to come, and insisted that all relief be given through their hands. At last, after most vigorous representations to headquarters, the English agents were allowed to give help under the general supervision of the Turkish official, who at the same time did everything in his power to thwart them. Certain Armenians having raised relief funds, the government informed them that it could be distributed only through the official agent. This of course they will not do, and the money waits, while the people suffer.

From Constantinople assurances have been given repeatedly that the Porte sincerely regrets the occurrences in Armenia and is willing to make amends, and some of the foreign representatives at that capital have echoed the statements of the sultan.