

arts, personified, deified, and placed in ideal and mythological regions. Baudry first made all his drawings with nude figures (these drawings are truly admirable and have all been preserved), in order to have as much truth and harmony as possible in the movements, the attitudes, the groups. He had to treat three immense ceilings, on which he glorified the arts, and to tell in twelve irregular surfaces the whole history of music, and of the art of dancing from Apollo to Salomé. He painted the muses on great panels, and finally on ten medallions placed before the gigantic doors. He made groups of children, representing the instrumental music of all nations.

The cartoons of this gigantic work ought to be preserved in the Louvre. As for the pictures, which excited an immense movement of enthusiasm when they were first shown to the public, they were slowly blackened by the gas till they became almost indistinct. Lately they have been washed with much care, and they have recovered now all their beauty. Electric light has been substituted for gas light, and it is to be hoped that the electric light will do them no harm. Still, many people think that copies ought to be left in place of the original pictures, and that these ought to be transferred to the Louvre, as they are certainly the greatest monument of modern French art.

This immense work of the Opéra occupied eight entire years of the life of Baudry. During all this time he worked merely for glory, and not for money. The journeys, the studies for the paintings of the Opéra, absorbed completely the sum which was given him by the state. Baudry now began to make portraits again, but he always returned with much pleasure to his favorite decorative subjects. Among his works of the latter period we must cite the "Wedding of Psyche," a charming ceiling which was painted for the house of Mr. Vanderbilt in New York, and was exhibited in 1882 at the Orangerie of the Tuileries.

Baudry showed much originality in the ceiling of the great hall of the Court of Cassation, the "Glorification of Law." It is one of the boldest decorative pictures I know, as bold as a Tiepolo, but with a much higher and nobler feeling. The coloration is extraordinary: the red gown of the judge shines wonderfully on the clear blues and greens of the allegorical figures. The composition is extremely fine: there is a child worthy of Raphael. We can pass the same eulogy on the ceiling painted for Chantilly, representing Mercury carrying Psyche to heaven. There is an exquisite idealism in this scene—in the blue sky, the light clouds, the purity of Psyche, the despair of Cupid. It may be called the *chant du cygne*. Alas! Baudry had promised to come to Chantilly to put his name on the ceiling with his own hand, and now his hand is cold. But if his name is not there, his genius is visible in every detail of this masterpiece. Those who visit Chantilly will do well to look, also, on the "Saint Hubert," by Baudry, an extraordinary picture, which has been the subject of much discussion; and the little cupids playing with the emblems of the gods, which were transported by the Duc d'Aumale to Chantilly from the Hôtel Fould.

## Correspondence.

### THE PRESIDENT'S TREATMENT OF MARYLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In Maryland we find it impossible to comprehend civil-service reform as practised in this State by the Administration.

We understand and agree perfectly with the views expressed by the President in his message,

but the practice is incomprehensible. He was elected on the distinct pledge, made by the Democratic party and reiterated by him, that "public office is a public trust," and yet, as far as Maryland is concerned, the Federal patronage has been used to maintain the most corrupt and offensive spoils system that exists in the Union. It is announced in our press that the President has notified the Democratic Senators and members of Congress from this State that they must agree upon the principal Federal appointments, and that he will surrender his Constitutional prerogative of appointment and let them appoint whomever they agree upon. Our senior Senator Gorman has taken open and public ground against the civil-service principles of the President; and his friend, Representative Compton, in a public speech two days ago, declared his hostility to the existing law and his willingness to vote for its repeal. These two gentlemen daily frequent the departments in search of offices for their friends, and get them too. During the recent exciting canvass in this State, Senator Gorman's avowed advocacy of the spoils system, and the distinct understanding that he commanded the Federal patronage to secure his reelection, did in fact secure his reelection. And to-day the whole power of the Federal patronage is as thoroughly used in support of the spoils system as that of New York ever was under Tweed.

There has been for years a body of Democrats here who have kept up a constant protest against the corrupt methods of Machine politics by which the party has been and is controlled. In 1881, while the President was Mayor of Buffalo, and in 1883, when he was Governor of New York, Governor Hamilton, of this State, appealed to the Democratic party against the bosses, to reform the grievous and corrupt practices then prevailing. For instance, in a General Assembly of 111 members, there were 105 employees whose wages exceeded those of the members. Of the sinking fund established by the Constitution, taxes to raise which were regularly collected, over three millions had been squandered, and no substantial part set aside in a sinking fund. The registration lists of the city of Baltimore contained 30,000 spurious names of voters, who had died, removed, or were fictitious or illegal. Governor Hamilton's appeal was backed by a strong body of brave and honest sentiment, but accomplished nothing against the Machine. A new registration was provided, which its sponsors confess is fraudulent, and the ballot-box produces results at command of the bosses. There is no fair election here, and the voice of the people is actually stifled. In the Legislature now in session violent resolutions are introduced denouncing civil-service reform and instructing our representatives to vote for the repeal of the law. They are received with great applause.

With these facts notorious, the Administration appoints Higgins, Thomas, and "lots of the boys." The Civil-Service Association, Governor Hamilton, and a large number of the leading Democrats of the State have besought the assistance of the Administration in favor of good government. They have explained to the President and Cabinet the real question in Maryland, which is between corrupt Machine politics and decent methods, between bad and good government. They are utterly ignored, and every appointment up to this time has been made in the interest of the spoils system. Workers, henchmen, and heelers are alone considered, and the whole morale of a civil-service-reform Administration is exerted against civil-service reform.

No man in Maryland will deny this. The cause of good government is prostrate before the patronage power of the Federal Government. I have been a reform Democrat, with positive

ideas against the spoils system, before the President entered public life. I supported him earnestly in the canvass of 1884. But I cannot understand how he and his Cabinet delegate the appointing power to members of Congress, support the people who are hostile to his ideas, and ignore those who maintain his declared principles.

O. L. D.

BALTIMORE, February 6, 1886.

### THE OHIO IMBROGLIO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your current issue you have something to say about the Ohio legislative imbroglio. Permit me to say that you share the misunderstanding of the facts involved which is common among outside observers, and which is not to be wondered at, as Ohio political affairs are perplexingly complicated.

The Cincinnati election frauds last October were of two kinds—(1) frauds at the polls and in the count, and (2) forgeries in the official returns after they had been signed by the judges. Republicans claim that but for the frauds they would have carried the county (Hamilton) by at least 5,000, and at this date there is little denial by the Democrats that the entire Republican ticket was legally elected by a large majority. But the Republicans go further—they claim that even on the face of the returns (minus the proved and, indeed, admitted forgeries) nine Republican candidates for the House of Representatives and two of the Republican Senatorial candidates were shown to have been elected. The County Clerk, who is a "gang" Democrat, insisted on counting the known forged additions to the returns. In the case of one Democratic candidate for the Senate, the forgers forgot to change the figure 7 into a 9 (as was done for all the other Democratic candidates, by putting a cipher on top of the 7); but the County Clerk was equal to the occasion; and of his own motion added the extra 200 necessary to elect this particular candidate.

Before the returns were certified to the Secretary of State, the Republicans sought by mandamus and injunction to compel the County Clerk to count only the legal returns—that is, to prevent his counting the known and confessed forgeries in the returns, made after they had been signed by the election judges. The Circuit Court decided in favor of the Republicans. A divided decision was given by the Supreme Court, the majority holding, however, that the courts could not interfere with the County Clerk—that he could count what he pleased; but the Court unanimously recognized that there had been forged additions to the returns. Thereupon the County Clerk issued his certificates to all the Democratic candidates, and the Secretary of State (a Republican) admitted those gentlemen on the *prima-facie* evidence of their certificates.

As in other States, each branch of the Legislature is the judge of "the election, return, and qualification of its members." In the House the question was raised that the Democratic delegation from Hamilton County were not entitled to their seats on the face of the returns. An investigation was held, and the Committee on Privileges and Elections reported that, on the face of the returns, nine of the Democrats holding certificates were defeated. Hence the ousting of nine Democrats and the seating of as many Republicans. On the face of the returns the tenth Republican candidate to the House was certainly defeated, but he is now contesting on the ground of fraud at the election.

Now as to the Senate. With the aid of the four holding seats by virtue of certificates from the Clerk of Hamilton County, the Democrats had just a majority. The first business they did, after electing Democratic clerks and sergeants-at-

arms, was to alter the rules from those in use by the last Senate (which was Democratic), so as to practically make the clerk the presiding officer of the Senate, and also to give contestees a right to vote on their own cases, the application of course being to the seats of the four Democrats from Hamilton County, against which contests had been filed. It was the adoption of these extraordinary rules which led to the deadlock. The Constitution of Ohio, in explicit terms, defines the duties of the Lieutenant-Governor. It states that he shall preside over the Senate, order roll-calls, and announce results of votes, etc. The clerk attempted to perform these duties, but the Lieutenant-Governor insisted on his constitutional rights. This was followed by the refusal of the Lieutenant-Governor to permit the four Democrats from Hamilton County to vote upon their own cases in contest, and his authority for so refusing was a statute of long standing, which no one branch of the Legislature could repeal by a mere rule. In addition, the Lieutenant-Governor is sustained by unbroken parliamentary precedent. Finally, a compromise was arrived at by which a committee, composed equally of Democrats and Republicans, will hold an investigation in Cincinnati. Each branch of the Legislature will, therefore, have its own investigation.—Very respectfully,

JAMES BOYLE.

CINCINNATI, O., February 7, 1886.

#### TENNESSEE "DOUBTFUL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: There is a phase in Tennessee politics to which I wish to call the attention of Republicans. I think it will gratify them. This phase is the fact that Tennessee is one of the "doubtful States." The Republican candidate will probably receive the electoral vote of this State in 1888. Democrats here recognize their danger. Their expedient for "saving the party" is characteristic. It is to have Mr. J. M. Keating, editor of the *Appeal*, of this city, appointed Public Printer of the United States. Mr. Keating was an applicant for the position of Postmaster at this point. It was regarded as a foregone conclusion that Senator Harris (who by the courtesy of the Senate had the appointing power, this being his home) would recommend Mr. Keating, who for twenty years has been trying to make a great man of Mr. Harris, and who undoubtedly caused his election to the United States Senate. But Mr. Harris appointed another man, a merchant thoroughly competent, but not at all "identified with the party." This has raised a hubbub among the "workers," who are reported as saying that Mr. Harris may get the merchants of Tennessee to work for the party hereafter. Keating is a "whole-souled, magnetic kind of fellow," who takes a pride in "sticking to his friends" through good and evil report, and who remained in Memphis during the yellow fever of 1877 and 1878. He is exceedingly popular with certain elements of "the party," and they are indignant over his defeat.

Here comes in the Republican opportunity. Tilden's majority over Hayes was about 43,000, Hancock's majority over Garfield was about 23,000, and Cleveland's over Blaine about 9,000. The Democratic candidate for Governor was elected by a still smaller majority. A change of 4,500 votes would give Tennessee to the Republicans. It must also be borne in mind that the total number of Democratic votes cast has been about 135,000, with but little variation since 1876, while the Republicans have grown from 87,000 to 125,000 or thereabouts. This speaks volumes. Now if Keating is not appointed Public Printer, the *Appeal*, which is "the organ of the party," will be very self-contained and have

little to say. This State can only be made Democratic by the severest use of the party lash. If the *Appeal* is silent, the organization of the Democratic party, of which people are tired down here, grows weak at once, and I am certain it will effect a change of more than 4,500 votes.

As to whether Keating will be appointed, I do not know. But I have been reliably informed by one high in the Republican ranks that he will not be. At any rate, if he is appointed, Tennessee is still doubtful.

VORTEX.

MEMPHIS, February 7, 1886.

#### COÖPERATIVE CATALOGUING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The time has come for a change in the manner of cataloguing public libraries; and as I wish to reach the ear of those who direct our public libraries rather than of those who administer them, and of the general public itself, with some suggestions on this subject, I venture to offer what I have to say to the *Nation* rather than to the *Library Journal*, where it would reach few outside of the libraries themselves.

Of the money now expended on the support of libraries a considerable share goes to pay the expense of catalogues, either printed or written. This is as it should be, for no one can doubt that it were better to buy much fewer books and have them well catalogued, than to accumulate no matter how large an incoherent mass with no catalogues or with insufficient ones. But of this cataloguing expense it is not going too far to say that a very large share is wasted in the reduplication of that which ought to be done once for all. Nearly all our considerable libraries are making or keeping up elaborate catalogues which are, to a large extent, repetitions of one another. And as the libraries grow, and the public demands on them become more and more intelligent as well as numerous and pressing, catalogues necessarily become more elaborate and complex, especially in the direction of the bibliography of subjects. It is to the great credit of our American librarians as a body, as well as to the men, like Jewett and Noyes, who have so nobly responded to this need with labors far beyond the due call of their position, that we have such admirable catalogues of so many libraries. But our library system is but passing out of its infancy. The demands of the past are but a shadow of what is to come, and already this system of elaborate cataloguing, repeating itself in scores, even in hundreds, of libraries, is breaking down of its own weight. The only question now is, How can it be replaced with something more elastic, less expensive, and capable of meeting the needs of the twentieth century, when our libraries will be numbered by thousands and the volumes in scores of them by millions?

Coöperation furnishes the clue. For the ten years of its existence the American Library Association has had this as its watchword, and can point with pride to the work already done by its means. The new edition of Poole's 'Index to Periodicals' owes its existence to the labors of fifty librarians, each doing a share, where, under the old plan of cataloguing, each must have done the whole in manuscript, as many were doing before the coöperative scheme was arranged. The quarterly index to periodicals now being issued with the *Library Journal* is another step in the same direction. But these are only first steps, and merely hint at what must follow. The time must soon come when the libraries will no longer undertake to provide subject-catalogues of their own. The author catalogues will necessarily be kept up, as each library must have a list of its books. But in place of the subject-catalogues we shall have printed bibliographies of subjects, issued for the most part periodically, and serving

equally for one library or another. A shelf (or, in the larger libraries, a series of shelves) of these bibliographies, properly arranged, with a handy index to the volumes, will show the reader what titles to look for on a certain subject, and the library's author-catalogue will give a clue to their shelf location if they are to be found in the particular library. In many cases such bibliographies will give an indication as to which of the leading public libraries contain the rarer publications. (This is admirably done in Dr. Bolton's list of scientific periodicals lately issued by the Smithsonian Institution.)

Now the point of what I have to say is, that such a scheme of bibliographies and subject-indexes is unquestionably feasible, while it furnishes the only possible solution of the problem. For its carrying out, all that is needed is that the directors of our public and college libraries should become alive to its immense economy as compared with the present wasteful system, and should be ready to vote money as subscriptions for this kind of work, in sums which will appear very large at first blush, but which will be much less than those now expended on manuscript work or on local printed catalogues, which can thus be superseded, and not only superseded but vastly improved upon. The time has fully come for an agitation of this matter. If the intelligent men who direct our libraries and care for the funds which support them can be led to look into it, it cannot be but that they will be quick to join in some scheme by which the results I have tried to outline can be accomplished. A somewhat captious criticism of present methods is already in vogue, and is certain to be destructive of much possible good work if not met by a readiness on the part of library managers to reform what it is certainly not extravagant language to call an abuse.

May I add yet a line to say that as Chairman of the Coöperation Committee of the American Library Association, I shall be pleased to receive from any quarter suggestions which may assist us in forwarding the proposed reform?—Very truly yours,

WILLIAM I. FLETCHER.

AMHERST COLLEGE LIBRARY, February 13, 1886.

#### TWO DECADES OF YALE AND HARVARD —A RETROSPECT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The year 1886 will witness the choice of a new President for Yale College. Fifteen years ago a change was made in the nominal head of the University, but in the actual policy of its management there has been no corresponding variation. Drs. Woolsey, Bacon, and Porter had at that time the credit of dictating the details of college administration, and their power has been broken by nothing save time and death. The resignation of President Porter makes the fit occasion for an account of their stewardship before it is decided whether the policy which they consistently carried out is to be pursued in future, or pushed aside by the counsels and energy of new blood and fresh ideas.

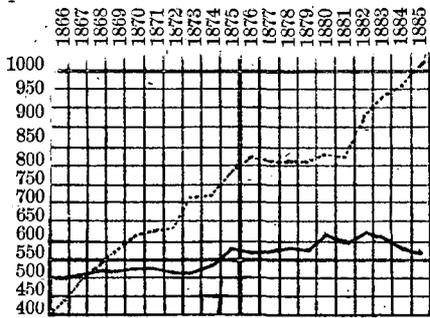
Results are the ultimate criterion by which all policies are judged. In this judgment no sentiment should be cherished save the just ideal of all Yale men, that their college is entitled to the position of the foremost. It is this plain question that many Yale men are asking to-day: How has that position been filled by the College during the administration of President Porter? This period corresponds exactly enough with the span of the present government of Harvard University. It may be of interest to compare the history of fifteen years of Harvard with a decade and a half of Yale. Everybody knows that Harvard's policy has been nothing if not progressive;

Yale's, nothing if not conservative. What are the results?

Let us compare the catalogues of both universities for 1873 with those of the present day. At that time the policy of both new administrations was beginning to influence the whole body of college students, among whom the Seniors became Freshmen almost with the inauguration of their new rulers. The whole number of students in the colleges—excluding the strictly professional schools—was and is as follows:

	1873.	1885.	Increase.
Yale .....	818	856	4.6 per cent.
Harvard .....	803	1,102	44.7 per cent.

It therefore appears that the rate of increase at Harvard during the past twelve years has been no less than ten times the rate at Yale. This significant fact will lead us to examine the figures more in detail. The diagram below shows the fluctuations in the whole number of undergraduate academical students for the twenty years, 1866 to 1885:

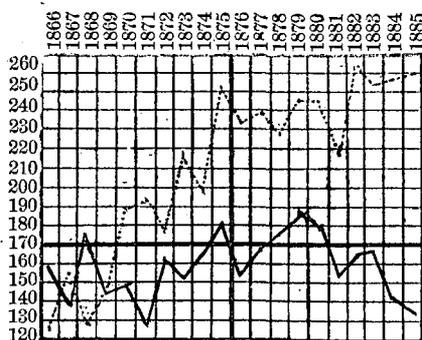


.....Number of students at Harvard (Acad. Dept.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_Yale (Acad. Dept.)

The nearly horizontal line in the lower part of this diagram shows that the increase at Yale is from 500 to 563, or 12½ per cent., while the dotted line of Harvard's progress indicates an increase from 419 to 1,068, or 155 per cent. In other words, the mere gain at Harvard amounts to a greater number of students than Yale has ever had in its Academical Department! If for ten years longer these ratios of increase should remain unchanged, in 1895 Harvard College would be teaching over 1,700 students, while only about one-third of that number would seek the system of our fathers at Yale. Computed at the current rates charged for instruction at the respective colleges, Harvard will derive a revenue of \$256,350 from these 1,708 students, while Yale will get but \$83,580 from her 597, or an annual loss to her exchequer of nearly \$175,000.

The curiosity which leads the Yale man to study the statistics of the Freshman classes of the last twenty years is equally sad in its results, foreboding fewer students in future rather than more:

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE NUMBERS OF THE FRESHMAN CLASSES, 1865-1886.



.....Size of Freshman class, Harvard.  
 \_\_\_\_\_Yale.

As before, the dotted lines represent Harvard's progress, while the heavy line measures Yale's

standstill or decline. The latter's Freshman Class of this year is only 134, or 22 less than entered in 1865; while 258 entered this year at Cambridge, or 133 more than twenty years ago. It is impossible to mistake the import of these figures: more students are evidently being attracted to the Massachusetts university than to the Connecticut college.

Harvard, again, is not without honor in its own country. In twelve years the undergraduate attendance from Massachusetts has increased 27 per cent., or from 475 to 606. Yale, too, shows a small increase—less than 9 per cent.—in the Connecticut contingent. It used to be the old cry that Harvard was a local institution, while Yale was cosmopolitan. In 1873 no less than 62½ per cent. of the students that flocked to Yale, came from the West, the South, and the Middle States. To-day the proportion is about the same. But Harvard fits in the same period increased its proportion of foreigners to New Englanders from 28 to 40 per cent. of the whole number. Of this class there were 215 in 1873, 422 in 1885—an increase of 96 per cent. At Yale the numbers have also increased, from 471 to 504, which is only 7 per cent. So we see that Harvard is getting every year a larger percentage of the best class of students—those who come from long distances in search of culture; and this in spite of Yale's immense influence in *partibus alienorum*, due to the fact that she has educated the great bulk of Eastern-bred men in the West and in the Middle States. Wherever one travels in the West he finds ten Yale men to one Harvard man. In New York the proportion must be two to one, and only a few years since it was much greater. Yet the metropolis, which in 1873 sent 52 men to all the classes in Yale College, and only 45 to Harvard, sends 79 in 1885 to the latter, and but 45 to the former. The Yale men are sending their boys to Harvard!

The resident graduates of a college are an index to the enthusiasm which its work inspires. In 1873 there were 60 of these at Yale; now there are but 42. Harvard in 1873 had 55 post-graduates; in 1885 the number had increased to 72. During this period the pecuniary allurements of post-graduate study had increased at New Haven over 300 per cent.; at Cambridge they had less than doubled.

Great parade has been made of the increase in the teaching staff of Yale College. In 1873 there were 80, now there are 114 instructors—an increase of 42½ per cent. At Harvard they have increased from 100 to 184, which nearly doubles Yale's percentage. Yale claims to have erected in fifteen years buildings costing \$700,000. Harvard, between 1869 and 1881, used \$2,307,305 for the same purpose. It is customary for Yale apologists to put forward many excuses for the college, which allege lack, not only of funds, but of any spirit among alumni that comes forward to ease the pecuniary path of their alma mater. But the graduates have never been asked to give; they are more often treated as interlopers in college affairs than persons whose support or backing is desirable. Yale men who will take the trouble to read Mr. Henry C. Kingsley's contribution to the November number of the *New Englander and Yale Review*, can easily learn the disposition of the "powers that be" toward the body of the alumni.

Such is the shameful history of Yale's decline and Harvard's progress. Was it only to be thus distanced in the short span of fifteen years that Yale, in generous emulation, kept pace for over a century and a half with its richer and older rival?

Yale College needs many things, but first and foremost it needs a new sort of President. He must be a man of commanding executive ability, proficient in pedagogy, a sound economist, un-

hampered by the details of professorial drudgery. Such ability commands high remuneration in the world of enterprise, and not less than ten thousand dollars should be the salary of this office. And I venture to predict that for such a man, with such a policy as such a description implies, the alumni of New York and vicinity could easily be persuaded to guarantee such a sum for a term of years. Are there not at least two hundred Yale men in New York whose pleasure it would be to spare fifty dollars apiece every year for the rehabilitation of their university?

EDWARD D. PAGE.

February 1, 1886.

MR. WILLIAM RENDLE ON JOHN HARVARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your English contemporary, the *Athenaeum*, in its issue for January 16, contains an article by my countryman, Mr. Rendle, in reference to his investigations concerning John Harvard. In it are these words:

"Dr. George E. Ellis, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston. I have suggested a recognition of the discoveries about Harvard recently made."

I assume this to mean the "discoveries" made by Mr. Rendle (who cannot be aware, I think, that his correspondent holds the distinguished office of President of the Society which he names), and also that the recognition which Dr. Ellis has suggested is of Mr. Rendle's own labors. This assumption is the more probable because the only other gentleman who is at all likely to be thought of in this sense has received a mark of recognition from Harvard University, to say nothing of recognition of another character. It will be perceived at once that I here speak of Mr. Waters, and as he is an American, I desire to say that I approach this matter without being conscious of any undue leaning to the side of my own countryman. The suggestion of the worthy President of the oldest literary society of New England touches a point of great interest, which it is due to him, to the gentleman immediately concerned, and to the literary world, should be treated in a judicial spirit. This is the spirit in which I proceed to lay before you, as briefly as may be, what Mr. Rendle had made public previous to July 8, 1885, first observing that both he and Mr. Waters are entire strangers to me.

Mr. Rendle's earliest paper appeared in the *Genealogist* for April, 1884, and his second in the same magazine for July of the same year. Of their contents it is sufficient to say that the first did not prevent the authorities of Emmanuel College perpetuating an error on one point concerning John Harvard, and using the language of vague uncertainty on another; nor did it enable a distinguished professor of Harvard to do more than lament, on a great occasion, that we were ignorant of the parentage, the birthplace, and the date of birth of the founder of his University. Dr. G. E. Ellis himself, with both papers combined, could only repeat, in words of identical meaning, the regret of his friend, Prof. Norton.

The only other article written by Mr. Rendle within the time I have mentioned was a letter which assumed a two-fold form: first, which I designate as A, with the date April 7, 1885, it appeared in the *South London Press* of April 11, 1885; and secondly, which I describe as B, under date April 11, 1885, it was published in the *Athenaeum* of April 18, 1885.

In A we read:

"I think I have got the clue."

In B, written only four days later, and not containing one fresh fact:

"The clue, or rather the result of the clue, is before me."

In A, printed in italics, and also in B, with a verbal alteration:

*"John, son of Robert, and, I suppose, brother of this Thomas, baptized November 29, 1607, I believe to be the founder."*

This is all, and the question now arises, What does it amount to? The articles in the *Genealogist* are "merely as a gathering of material, with suggestions," and as for the letter, "here, and in my notes open to inspection, are clues enough, I should hope, to help us to settle this question once for all—that is, if this does not settle it." These are Mr. Rendle's own words, and I presume not to alter one of them. They show—and they are his last words—that he felt the question was still open, and as to his belief, why, ever since July, 1882, those who had any belief at all on the subject believed that the founder was the son of Robert and had a brother Thomas. What was wanted was proof, and this is just what Mr. Rendle does not give. In his communication published January 13, to which I have already referred, is a sentence of which I give the beginning and the end:

"My proof . . . is . . . and this belief of mine is . . ."

So that, strange as it may seem, he does not, or will not, perceive the vast difference between his own individual belief, which others may share or not, and actual proof which enforces belief by all reasonable creatures.

It will be seen that in dealing with the recognition of what Mr. Rendle has done, I confine myself to what he had made public previous to July 8, 1885. On that day (see his letter in the *Athenæum* of July 11, 1885) he received a copy of Mr. Waters's paper, in which the parentage and birth of John Harvard, as well as various other facts respecting him, are not only stated, but are proved by evidence which is not less conclusive than it is abundant, and in both these respects it leaves nothing to be desired. What Mr. Rendle had done up to the publication of Mr. Waters's paper is accurately characterized in his own words, which have been quoted, and how far anything of the kind is worthy of a special mark of recognition, is a point which I will not discuss. What he has done since is beside the question, unless, indeed, those to whom Dr. Ellis made his suggestion are prepared to treat the very delicate ground of offering recognition to a man for that which he kept in his desk until after the leading facts had been published to the world by another. Now that there is a solid foundation upon which to build, I feel sure there are not wanting those who will gladly contribute materials until an edifice shall be raised not unworthy of the name and fame of John Harvard. If the result of the voyage of Columbus had merely been to enable him to express his belief that he had sailed to within ten leagues of the New World, he would never have received the honors due to the man who discovered the continent of America.

ANGLUS.

#### THE MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN POLICE SYSTEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your last issue you incidentally give a gentle thrust at those "respectable" citizens of Boston who were instrumental in securing the enactment of a law providing for the establishment of a Metropolitan Board of Police for the city of Boston. Without attempting to assume a general defence of the system, which in its practical working has thus far certainly had a tendency to improve the public morals of this community, will you allow me to suggest that the adoption of the measure was by no means so wide a departure from the theory of "home rule" as is commonly supposed? With one exception, the

control of what is now known as the Police Department has never been wholly in the hands of the local authorities in Massachusetts, until about the middle of the present century. In an article published in the Boston *Daily Herald* for December 28, 1885, the writer had occasion to collect the authorities on this point. It is there shown that Boston did not secure the appointment of its own "watch" by its Selectmen as town officers until 1766, while the other towns did not obtain this privilege until 1836. Prior to these changes in the law, justices of the peace, formerly officers of some dignity and importance, shared with the Selectmen in the duty of regulating the police force.

From the nature of the functions which they are called upon to perform, the powers of police commissioners must always be largely judicial. While the Mayor and Aldermen are concerned with the welfare and prosperity of a municipality in its corporate or business capacity, and in matters which affect its own citizens, the Board of Police, especially in a large city like Boston, forming a great part of the population of the State, must to a certain extent consult the interests of non-residents. Hence it was very proper that the power of appointing Commissioners, being in keeping with certain provisions of the law which have prevailed in this commonwealth through every change in its form of government down to the present day, should be placed in the hands of the Governor. While I regret exceedingly the tendency toward centralization in the management of local affairs which is developing so rapidly in this country, it does not seem to me that any great impetus has been given to that movement by the present method of appointing the Police Commissioners for the city of Boston.

A. B. E.

Boston, February 12, 1886.

#### MEANING OF THE WORD "BANTER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In the review of the Philological Society's new dictionary, which appeared in your last issue, the writer makes the statement that the use of the word "banter" in the sense of "challenge" would be as strange to the great majority of people in this country as to Englishmen.

For aught I know this may be true, as I cannot tell how strange such use would appear to Englishmen; but I do not believe such use of the word entirely unknown in very many portions of the United States. Is it not too much for any individual to say of at least the colloquial use of any word that it is unknown to the majority of the people of this country? In southern Ohio, "banter" and "dare" are almost universally used synonymously, while the word "challenge" would be almost unknown among the common people there. I feel confident that this use of the word banter is quite common throughout all the Southwestern States, including probably portions of New York and Pennsylvania, while the other use is probably universal in New England and in the States peopled mainly from New England.—Yours very respectfully,

DAVID UTTER.

CHICAGO, ILL., February 10, 1886.

#### INTERNATIONAL PARCELS POST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: As another contribution to the "International Parcels Post" question, I would state that I have just received from my correspondents in Frankfort a book the cost of which at second-hand was twenty-four marks (six dollars about). One mark (twenty-five cents) was the express charge from Frankfort to Hamburg. To this was added \$3.90, made up as follows: Freight and charges from Hamburg to destination, \$2.65;

New York Custom-house expenses, forwarding, and commission, \$1.25—\$3.90: so that the cost of getting the book here was more than two-thirds of the price of the book.

It should be added that there was no duty to pay, as the book was printed more than twenty years ago. Had duty been charged, it could have amounted, under our present admirable system of taxing brains, to \$1.50, and the cost of getting the notary's certificate and seal for the privilege of signing a certain oath would have been, in this State, \$1.50 more—so that the total expenses would have much exceeded the cost of the book itself.

How long must last this paternal treatment of its poor teachers by "the best government the world ever saw"?—Respectfully,

JAMES M. GARNETT.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, VA., February 13, 1886.

#### A COPYRIGHT SUGGESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It seems some compromise must be accepted if we are to have international copyright. I beg leave to offer a suggestion. Let domestic manufacture be insisted upon as a condition precedent to the payment of percentages to foreign authors; let a limit of compensation be agreed upon below which such percentages must not fall; then permit foreign editions to come in under, if the protectionists please, a rack-duty, so to speak. I venture to think such a plan were a solution of the difficulty. Marketable articles would be copyrighted here; the booksellers would compete for that; a tax on foreign books would avoid what I believe is Mr. H. C. Lea's great fear, the reasonable preference which he foresees American writers are like to bestow on English (who knows but Chinese or Hungarian?) type-setters and binders; and our pirates might be made welcome to unsalable matter of all kinds. Nor, in case of a new author succeeding with a first book, would it be difficult to argue that copyright should have an *ex-post-facto* effect. As things stand, it is a pity that all the imagination should be found with the authors, and all the ratiocination (to say nothing of the money) with the booksellers.

In regard to authors' profits, the question would be perhaps involved, owing to the firmness with which publishers would probably insist on having their honor accepted as accountant-general. I think it must strike every one familiar with the legal theory of partnership, that the simple and fair method of distributing profits between the man with the idea and the man with the printing-press is to apply a sliding scale. That one should receive \$50 and the other \$500 on the sale of any given book, is not unjust; but the difference between \$500 and \$5,000, unless the profits accrue very slowly, is another matter.

I am, sir, etc.,

T. W.

PHILADELPHIA, February 14, 1886.

#### Notes.

MRS. FRANCES BROOKS, the translator of 'Heidi,' will shortly issue, through Cupples, Upham & Co., Boston, a brochure entitled 'A Year's Sonnets.' The edition will consist of but 200 copies. The same publishers will bring out immediately a new edition, freshly annotated, of 'Light on the Path,' a work having the official endorsement of the Theosophical Society.

A new edition, largely rewritten, of Mr. George P. Upton's 'Woman in Music,' is in the press of Jansen, McClurg & Co., Chicago.

M. Paul Bert's excellent 'First Year of Scientific Knowledge,' which we noticed a fortnight ago, is to be adapted for American use by G. A. Went-