## The Commoner.

taken because of the character of Mr. Stead's speeches and writing with respect to the methods of the British government in South Africa. A writer for the Chicago Tribune says that since Lord Cromer has been in Egypt he has on several occasions adopted similar measures with regard to notable Englishmen who were "making trouble" by their utterances in the land of the Nile. This writer says: "Among the number whom the earl was obliged to exclude from Egypt have been the late Sir William Gregory and Wilfred Blunt, two of the most charming yet wrong headed men that it is possible to conceive. Sir William, although he spent the greater portion of his life in the service of the crown, his last appointment being the governorship of Ceylon, attracted attention while still in office by his enthusiastic advocacy of the confederacy during the civil war in this country, and after his retirement by his ardent championship of the so-called nationalist and revolutionary element in Egypt. Indeed, he was largely responsible for the insurrection of 1882, which culminated in the bombardment of Alexandria, since his openly avowed sympathy with Arabi and his fellow rebels caused them as well as the other natives to believe that in their movement against the khedive they had the approval and utmost support of the British government. It was quite impossible to convince them of the fact that Sir William was merely a retired official, and consequently when a few years later he endeavored to return to Egypt Lord Cromer felt compelled to bar him from the country."

O THE man of Jewish faith applying at the state department for a passport entitling him to visit Russia, the following stereotyped statement is made: "The laws of Russia exclude from Russian territory, except by special permission, all people of Jewish faith, and while this government has been endeavoring for some years past to secure a relaxation of this enactment, it is only proper to warn those within the category to which they refer that it has not yet been able to secure from the Russian government a promise of uniform treatment for all American travelers in Russia without regard to their religious faith or place of birth." Referring to this statement the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune says: "The applicant may have been of the Jewish faith, born in Russia and naturalized in the United States. He may be of American birth, descended from French citizens or English subjects, holding the ancient Jewish faith, or he may be a Jew, descended from an American of the Jewish faith, living in one of the thirteen colonies and taking part in the war for American independence, as many of the Jewish faith did-but the answer is and must be the same. Persons of the Jewish faith, no matter where born, nor of what nationality descended, are barred from entering the dominions of the czar, not regarding whether their object in seeking to visit Russia be commercial, scientific or humane. The laws of Russia need amending and so do the sympathies extended to her in the present conflict."

THE career of Daniel J. Sully, the cotton speculator, terminated March 18. On that day Mr. Sully's firm issued a statement acknowledging inability to meet its engagements and its suspension was therefore announced. The extent of the failure is not yet known, although it is said that the sum amounts to several millions. Mr. Sully began speculative operations in New York in September, 1902. Several months ago he purchased a seat on the stock exchange, paying therefor \$68,000. Ine New York World says that Mr. Sully's wealth has been variously estimated during the past year at from three to ten million dollars; that the capital of the firm is \$500,000 and that no greater rating than this has been asked by Mr. Sully from the commercial agency.

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THE effects of Sully's speculative operations in cotton have been far-reaching. Referring to his adventures, the New York World says: "There is scarcely a civilized human being who has escaped paying tribute because of his extraordinary manipulation of the market. He has caused scores of thousands of persons to be thrown out of work, has stopped the building of mills, has curtailed the production of every kind of manufactures into which cotton or cotton seed oil enters. Some have benefited. First, the southern cotton planters, and all who on them depend, and, second, a comparatively small group of New England cotton goods manufacturers, who went in with Sully on his first deal in cotton and secured their supplies at low figures. Many northern mills were helped through Sully's operations in the crop of 1902-03, because they had bought actual cotton. When the rise came they sold cotton at an advance and declared dividends on idle spindles. One large mill in Lowell, Mass., early in the fall of 1903, before the arrival of the new crop, sent two trainloads of cotton south and made a fortune. They figured on lower prices for the new crop. There is where they missed it. The mills were obliged to curtail production. Many of them shut down altogether. In New England last summer 60,000 cotton operatives, whose wages averaged \$7.50 each a week, were thrown out of work for one month, They lost \$1,800,000 in wages. There has been as much more lost in wages since then."

DECENTLY, cable dispatches announce that Admiral Dewey and other members of the general board of the navy, being on their West Indian cruise, had avoided a landing at Santo Domingo on account of the fighting around the city. The Washington correspondent for the New York World says that the real reason for the failure to visit Santo Domingo was not given. According to this correspondent, what the members of the general board of the navy were afraid of was "another Booker T. Washington incident." The World correspondent explains: "When the Mayflower dropped anchor at Santo Domingo and William F. Powell, the American minister, came aboard, Admiral Dewey and the other naval officers discovered, greatly to their surprise, that he was a negro. If they had gone ashore they would have been obliged to call on Mr. Powell and be entertained at dinner by him and they balked at the idea. They even criticised Mr. Loomis because he had not told them that Mr. Powell was a negro so that they might have some excuse ready when he came on board."

IS further stated on this same authority that while the members of the board were trying to find a way out of the dilemma it was ascertained that a skirmish was going on between government troops and insurgents four or five miles from the city. That furnished an excuse. Admiral Dewey announced that he could not think of permitting any of his officers to go on shore and expose themselves to the danger of being hit by stray bullets. He told Mr. Loomis he could go ashore if he cared to, but Mr. Loomis concluded that he would be safer on the ship. Instead of staying several days at Santo Domingo, as had been intended, the Mayflower hurried away before the distant firing could be stopped. There was no opportunity to study conditions at the capital, so the Mayflower touched at San Pedro Macoris, Sanchez, Samana, Puerto Plata and other Santo Dominican ports to allow Mr. Loomis to look into

T IS estimated that the service pension order issued recently by Pension Commissioner Ware will add to the list entitled to pensions at least 321,000 veterans. The Washington correspondent for the New York Herald says that under the terms of this order, those who profit by it must be more than sixty-two years of age; that by the lowest scale provided for by the order-\$6 per month -this would amount to \$23,112,000 to be added to the annual list of pension appropriations. The Herald correspondent adds: "This, according to the estimates, is the lowest figure, for the order provides that after the veterans become sixty-five years old they shall receive \$8 a month, after sixty-eight \$10 and after seventy \$12. Thus this sum must be increased by millions before it can be told accurately just how much the latest order will cost the government. It is easy to see that a 'service pension by a stroke of the pen' means a great deal more expense to the government than has yet been estimated by any member of the administration who has been making excuses for the order."

THE question-of the legality of this latest pension order has been seriously discussed by members of congress, but the Herald's correspondent says that no one has yet been found who is willing to say that the order is actually in violation of law. In response to a request that he estimate the increase which a service pension bill of \$12 per month would call for, Commissioner Ware sent a letter to Senator McCumber in which he said: "Thus 87,984 pensioners would receive an increase of \$72 per year, or a total of \$6,334,848; 141,203 would receive an increase of \$48 per year, or a total of \$6,774,744, and 53,744 would receive an increase of \$24 per year, or a total of \$1,289,-856. In addition to the above the bill would give title to about 90,000 survivors of the civil war who are now pensioned under the general law at rates less than \$12 per month. The average pen-

sion now paid to them is about \$7.80 per month. They would therefore be entitled to receive an increase of \$4.20 per month, or about \$50 per year, a total of \$4,500,000. Another class that would take under the provisions of the bill is the 'unknown army' of civil war survivors. Their number on July 1, 1904, will not be less than 175,000. and none of them has as yet been pensioned. How many of these survivors would apply under the provisions of the bill cannot be determined in advance of its passage, but if 150,000 should apply the amount required to pay them at the rate of \$144 each would be \$21,600,000 a year. The grand total of beneficiaries under this bill would be over 500,000, and the amount required to pay them at the rate specified would exceed \$40,000,000 per year over and above the present appropriation." Mr. Ware further submitted a list of 871,000 known surviving soldiers of the civil war, of whom 615,-000 are more than sixty-two years old and must come under the terms of this special order. Mr. Ware says that of this number 191,000 are not on the pension rolls at all and would therefore become beneficiaries under the new order.

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WRITER in The Greenbag describes a session of the United States supreme court in this way: "As the hands of the clock point to 12 the crier of the supreme court of the United States raps with his gavel, the murmur of conversation ceases and attorneys, court officials and visitors rise while the crier slowly announces: "The honorable the chief justice and the associate justices of the supreme court of the United States.' Robed in black silk gowns, they walk with slow and dignified steps toward the bench, and as the chief justice appears at the entrance at the rear they slowly proceed to their seats. As they do, the crier cries, "Oyez! oyez! All persons having business before the honorable the chief justice and the associate justices of the supreme court of the United States are admonished to draw near and give their attention, for the court is now sitting. God save the government of the United States and this honorable court.' It is an imposing and inspiring spectacle, the mere witnessing of which increases the red corpuscles of one's patriotism. No man entering that domelike court room may wear his overcoat. No member of its bar may appear before it in a coat of any color other than black. Such is the dignity and impressiveness of that tribunal that men to whom embarrassment has long been a stranger evidence the renewal of their acquaintance with it by a stammering speech, a quickened breath, a nervous manner, when addressing the court."

REMARKABLE case was recently brought to the attention of the police anthorities in the city of Omaha. The story is told by the Omaha World-Herald in this way. "To get drunk without drinking may be economical, but it does not keep one out of jail. Such at least is the experience of Miss Nora Clem, a young woman of Thirteenth and Chicago streets. She contends that she is the victim of a strange affliction. She tells the court that both her father and mother were addicted to the liquor habit, and that from her earliest girlhood she staggered in her walk as though she had been drinking. White going down the street Thursday afternoon she was reeling from one side of the walk to the other, and her speech was maudlin. For all that, her statement about having drunk no intoxicant was substantiated by the family with whom she lives. The family of B. A. Robinson, who came here over a month ago from South Dakota, says that at times the affliction of Miss Clem is much worse than at other times. There are periods when, if permitted to do so, she will sleep for twenty-four hours at a time. After waking up she will complain of her mouth and throat being very dry and will drink a glass of water. Then for some time she will walk steadier than usual. In other words, she seems to have a normal mind. She reads a great deal, and can carry on an intelligent conversation. However, there are intermittent periods when her speech thickens so that she can scarcely talk at all. Sometimes, too, she will be seized with an unreasonable gaity and sing as though she were out upon a wild carouse. For her difficulty she has been treated by a number of doctors, none of whom seem to be able to comprehend her case or to help her. After her examination in police court Miss Clem was discharged."

The platform must be democratic, and the candidates must be men who may be depended upon to enforce the platform if they are elected. The people have wearied of straddling, evasion and desertion.