The Sun.

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The Railroads and the People.

Those who have so glibly discussed measures to reduce the revenue and revise the practice of the railroads will find that truth lies at the bottom of the well by reading the article entitled "The Farmer, the Manufacturer and the Railroad" in the November number of the *North American Review*. Upon premises obtained from the publications and from the officers of the United States Government Mr. LOGAN G. MCPHERSON demonstrates that the railroads pay a higher average salary than either the farm or the factory, and that they obtain a greater pecuniary return for each dollar of expenditure than either the farm or the factory, but that notwithstanding this the net return to the railroads for each dollar of capital is less than one-half of the net return to the farmers and less than one-third of the net return to the manufacturers.

The farmers during the last ten years have waxed and prospered; the owners of the mills and mines have piled up manifold profits, and the nation has rejoiced exceedingly thereat. The railroads, no less an important factor in the industry and the commerce of the country, have had to struggle to keep abreast of the mounting traffic, in the face of public obloquy engendered and fomented by politicians. There are indications that the people in whom ABRAHAM LINCOLN placed his trust are opening their eyes to the performance of the railroads and their needs. That part of the people which can be fooled only part of the time will find enlightenment in Mr. MCPHERSON'S article. That part of the people which can be fooled all the time could do worse than to read it. They will not find it brimming with humor nor replete with platitudinous reference to any great moral issue, but a clear and cold presentation of facts as they are. Mr. MCPHERSON has performed a public service in making it.

The New Agreement Between Austria and Hungary.

Bills giving effect to the agreement recently concluded between the Austrian and Hungarian Governments for the settlement of the mutual relations of the two countries have been laid before the Diet at Budapest and the Reichsrath at Vienna. Being the outcome of a compromise, the agreement is entirely satisfactory to neither half of the dual monarchy, but it is expected to be ratified in the end by both parliaments, although there is much grumbling in Hungary at the increase of the country's contribution to the joint expenditures for military, naval and diplomatic purposes.

The text of the agreement is now before us and we observe that for the old Ausgleich, which expired in 1897, is substituted a veritable treaty, Hungary's claim to constitute for most purposes an independent political entity being thus recognized. The treaty provides for a common customs arrangement, which will remain operative until 1917, up to which date commercial treaties concluded with foreign Powers must be signed by representatives of both halves of the Hapsburg realm. Excise duties which hitherto have been common to both States will henceforth be left to each of them to determine and levy for itself. The convention also authorizes the construction of a railway to Dalmatia which will connect that province directly with Austria and contribute to the economic development of that part of the dual monarchy. Provision is made too for the appointment of a court of arbitration, with four Austrian and four Hungarian members, who are to elect a ninth member as chairman.

The most important feature of the new scheme, and the one most likely to commend it to the Cisleithan Reichsrath, which hitherto has complained that Hungary has borne too small a share of the joint fiscal burden, is the increase of the Hungarian contribution from 34.4 to 36.4 per cent. This change has been the subject of negotiation for more than a year, and although the justice of it has been demonstrated even to so fervid a patriot as Mr. FRANCIS KOSSUTH it is denounced in Magyar newspapers. We add that a homogeneous currency is provided for the whole of the dual State, but that the question whether the charter of a joint State bank shall be renewed has had to be left for separate discussion. The institution is unpopular in Budapest, although obviously a joint State bank means a community of commercial standards between the two peoples and a great simplification of business and much saving of time.

Assuming that the bills carrying the treaty into effect will be passed, of which there now seems to be no doubt, we may say that Austria-Hungary has obtained for ten years a respite from the dread of disintegration. Since 1897, when the last Ausgleich expired and had to be replaced temporarily by makeshifts authorized by the Emperor-King, there has not been a year when the twin kingdoms have not seemed to be drawing further and further apart, till at last the breach threatened to be irreparable. Only by the personal influence of FRANCIS JOSEPH were the conflicting interests of Austria and Hungary at last accommodated; and in view of the sovereign's advanced age his harmonizing services can hardly be hoped for ten years hence, when the present agreement will have to be renewed.

Now that Austria and Hungary have once more been linked together for a while, public attention will be fastened so far as those countries are concerned on the working of universal suffrage in the Cisleithan kingdom, where this year for the first time it has been applied to the elections for the popular branch of the Reichsrath. The promise of Count ANDRASSY, Hungarian Minister of the Interior, to introduce a bill embodying the same principle in the Table of Deputies at Budapest has not yet been fulfilled, and the measure is awaited with much anxiety by the Magyars lest it shake their control of the Chamber, and by non-Magyars lest it fail to give them real equality at the ballot box. The Croats on their part have nothing to dread, for under a fundamental organic law they must always have forty members of the Table of Deputies, who are elected by the Diet of Croatia and take part only in matters that affect their province. As regards all subjects, indeed, except the army, trade and finance, Croatia is independent of the Legislature at Budapest. It is a curious feature of the Hungarian Table of Deputies that it consists practically of two assemblies, a smaller one which attends to all matters that relate to Hungary in the narrow sense of the name, and another formed by the addition of members from Croatia, which deals with subjects that concern the whole kingdom. This was the precedent for the "in and out" Parliament which Mr. GLADSTONE made the basis of his last home' rule bill, though that part of the measure was rejected by the House of Commons.

Higher Education of the Police.

M. LÉPINE, the veteran chief of police in Paris, has high ideals for the force under his command. Thinking that the guardians of law and order should be intelligently informed about that which they are guarding, he has started classes for his men in the rudiments of law. Since it is evident that the police could often be more useful in emergencies where bodily injuries have been inflicted and must also be better fitted to detect the presence of crime and estimate suspicious circumstances if they possessed some medical knowledge, M. LÉPINE is having them initiated into the elements of medicine. Experience having shown that courts are not seldom led astray by the unconscious inaccuracy of police statements of fact, M. LÉPINE is instructing his rank and file in the reporter's art. Now it has occurred to this enlightening chief that in so cosmopolitan a city as Paris policemen with a command of foreign languages would be particularly serviceable. Accordingly he has been sending sixty of his men for the last three months to a school of languages to study English, Spanish and German.

These stern pupils are said to be making excellent progress, and it is expected that by January 1 they will be ready to undertake the beats near the great railroad stations and in other quarters where foreigners are numerous, with a full line of tongues.

No doubt many a less cultivated tourist will be glad to be able to continue abroad his domestic habit of "asking a policeman." The imaginative storekeepers who lure foreign custom with a mendacious announcement of "English spoken here" will have to be careful henceforward. The officer on duty outside may step in to examine them, and the time honored excuse "He is out just now" will not long avail them. It is obvious that all sorts of benefits will accrue from M. LÉPINE'S considerate provision, as yet unapproached by any other city and confirmatory of the claim of Paris to be the front of civilization and the pink of politeness. It would be ungenerous to look this gift horse in the mouth were it not that the close attention M. LÉPINE is devoting to the intellectuals of his men coincides with constant complaints of their practical efficiency as mere ordinary policemen. Paris is at present loud with remonstrances against the unbridled audacity of the "Apaches" or criminal hooligans, who are said to be making its thoroughfares perilous after dark, and even before. In short, M. LÉPINE appears to be perplexed by the riddle which is vexing our college presidents—how to make equable provision for body and mind at one and the same time. If he errs it is in a different direction from some of our presidents.

The Bloomfield Letters.

If Mr. CHARLES A. BLOOMFIELD of Metuchen can prove the receipt of the letters from Governor STOKES of New Jersey in relation to the Amboy bridge affair which were given out yesterday, Governor STOKES will suffer in reputation; and he would not be able to escape responsibility if Judge FORT, the Republican candidate for Governor, should be defeated.

While Mr. BLOOMFIELD is responsible for an eleventh hour sensation he is not responsible for its occurrence so late in the campaign. As long ago as August 19 he charged in a public speech in Newark that he had received from Governor STOKES two letters in which the Governor said that he signed Senate bill 262 of 1906, which legalized the acts of the Middlesex county Board of Freeholders in connection with the building of the Amboy bridge, by the advice and with the approval of Judge FORT, then sitting in the State Supreme Court.

Mr. BLOOMFIELD and other citizens of Middlesex had appealed to Governor STOKES not to sign the bill, "as it would tend to encourage crime in public officials and rob the people of Middlesex county of tens of thousands of dollars, because it legalized every act of the Board of Freeholders and every payment made by that body to the contractors of the Amboy bridge." More than two months after Mr. BLOOMFIELD had put Governor STOKES in the position of throwing the blame for the Amboy bridge legislation in part upon Judge FORT, the Republican candidate for Governor, on October 29 and at Perth Amboy, designed to notice the implied reflection upon his fitness to succeed Governor STOKES. Judge FORT denied that he had seen Senate bill 262 while it was pending in the Legislature, or that he was consulted about it at the time, or that he saw or spoke to Governor STOKES in relation to it, or that he ever requested him directly or indirectly to approve it. Judge FORT also said:

"I never saw the bill or knew that it had been approved until it was brought to my attention on an application which was made to me on the 18th day of June, 1906, to vacate a rule which I had granted on the 22d day of August, 1905, which rule contained a stay with relation to the payment of moneys due upon the Amboy bridge."

In support of his categorical denial Judge FORT read a letter from Governor STOKES in which he said: "I have absolutely no remembrance of your asking me to sign the bill in question or advising Mr. BLOOMFIELD that I had signed it at your request."

Nevertheless, Mr. BLOOMFIELD has produced two letters purporting to have been written from the "Executive Department, State of New Jersey," and to have been signed by E. C. STOKES, in one of which the writer says "Judge FORT thinks this bill should be signed," and in the other:

"I signed Senate bill No. 262 after consultation with Judge FORT and the Attorney-General, and after consultation with your attorney, Mr. WILLARD VOORHEES. He was frank enough to say that he did not see how I could do otherwise after the opinion of the Attorney-General."

The incident is bound to cause a stir in the State among the independent voters and excite the partisans. Judge FORT'S friends will contend that he is vindicated by the letter from Governor STOKES read at the Perth Amboy meeting. The best that can be urged in behalf of Governor STOKES is that he has a poor memory, unless he should be able to prove that he never wrote the troublesome letters to CHARLES A. BLOOMFIELD. There will of course be finical people who will say that if Governor STOKES'S memory is defective as to one thing it may be bad as to another thing, and they will insist upon asking what motive the Governor could have had in June, 1906, and again in January, 1907, for dragging in the name of Judge FORT.

The New Steeplechase Course.

Steeplechases and flat races have not gone hand and hand together very amicably in this country, and the best races "between the flags" have often been at the hunt club meetings. For a period the jumping races were cut out of the cards by the racing associations about New York; and since their restoration the National Hunt and Steeplechase Association has cooperated with the Jockey Club in their management. No races are more thrilling or have a more enthusiastic following. In no other races are gentlemen riders so fond of participating. Yet in spite of complaints against the steeplechase courses at the regular tracks there has been lack of support of separate 'cross-country tracks.

At Cedarhurst in the '80s the well conducted meetings failed to pay, and the new course at Queens opened by the United Hunts Racing Association has not drawn a crowd or even large fields of horses. There is no danger of the doors being closed here, however, for the venture has been projected without thought of dividends; and whenever a profit shall accrue from the gate it is to be put into the purses and into further improvements.

This is the third meeting of the United Hunts, but the first in its permanent home. The broad stretch of undulating turf and the arrangement of the jumps are far superior to anything of the sort ever seen in this country, yet only a beginning has been made in the ambitious plans. In two days of steeplechases and hurdle races not a horse or rider has been injured, a tribute to the fact that proper jumps compel careful jockeyship. The reverse is so often the case where the jumps are so easy that the riders take risks by rushing them that maybe at Queens the good sport is caviare to the multitude. The public, it would seem, needs to be educated to true steeplechasing.

"The Bishops' law will not be repealed unless it is over my veto," says Mr. FORT to the voters of New Jersey. A bold pledge: the Bishops' law is in about as much danger of being repealed as is the liquor tax law in this State.

Army officers whose duties do not take them away from their desks are not to be retired even if they cannot stand the strain of severe horseback rides. An unexpected concession to common sense.

In view of the large immigration to the prairie farm lands of the Canadian Northwest the Topographical Surveys Branch of the Dominion is very busy surveying the township boundaries and subdividing the townships into sections so that homeseekers may select their lands without fear of boundary disputes later.

About fifty survey parties are constantly in the field throughout the summer and autumn months, and are completely subdividing some two hundred towns on an average during the working season of each year. They are also collecting information of the greatest value to intending settlers, and this feature of the work is especially noteworthy because few governments have undertaken in the pioneer days similar investigations on so large a scale.

The man who is interested in these Western lands goes to the publications of the Topographical Surveys Branch of the Interior Department, where he finds each surveyed township described in its important features. He learns the lay of the land, whether it be all open prairie, cut up by valleys or partly timbered. The quality of the soil, the amount and varieties of timber, if any; the water resources, the prospects of hay from natural grasses, the climatic conditions and all other information that may direct the settler to the kind of land he wants are concisely set forth.

Many of the townships or parts of them are designated as unfavorable for farming, and their further examination is certain to be deferred until all the more promising lands are taken up. A great deal of the land recently surveyed has sufficient timber for local requirements, ample water supply and game in plenty, including moose, deer, caribou and bear. The most practically valuable contribution to the economic geography of this part of the world is certainly the detailed information relating to each small unit of land, which the Survey is printing as fast as its surveys and studies are completed.

A hoodoo ship is the theme of Mr. JOSEPH CONRAD'S latest story. She is inherently bad and always getting out of hand under the most competent seamanship. She cannot come into port but she refuses to obey her helm and runs amuck among the shipping. Her death roll swells with every voyage. There is no doubt that she is a hopelessly immoral ship. The Parseval dirigible balloon seems to be like her. Major PARSEVAL assembled several hundred engineers to see his balloon ascend and sail about in the air at Berlin Thursday. But the balloon developed a perverseness that upset his plans. Something went wrong with the sparker and the motor would not work. She was sent in disgrace to the workshop and on the way almost escaped from the soldiers who were leading her from the field. It is highly important that dirigible airships shall be moral and beyond reproach. A balloon with a devil in her would be a more dangerous engine of war to her navigators than to the enemy.

The decision of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts holding that the use of voting machines is unlawful because the framers of the Constitution did not intend to countenance any method of voting which would depend upon the infallibility of mechanism comes in the nick of time to accelerate the movement in New Jersey to banish the voting machine because many voters have no faith in it and the expense of adopting it is a burden on the taxpayer.

NEWS FROM GEORGIA.

Mr. Roosevelt a State Rights Man and Not a Politician.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I am glad to see that a good many of the leading Republicans are in favor of Roosevelt for another term. They are evidently finding out that the masses of the people want him again, regardless of the third term. When we quietly listen to the people we hear them say: Roosevelt has made us one of the best Presidents we have ever had; as such we should not allow the third term to cut any figure in his election for another term.

Roosevelt is in favor of a "fair and square deal" for everybody; he is also in favor of everybody having a show to develop all the good qualities he may have, but no show to develop the evil spirit within; he is in favor of enforcing the laws, regardless of wealth or poverty; he is in favor of good citizenship, which requires a strict enforcement of the laws; he is in favor of preserving the purity of the races, which is one of the most important things that we have to deal with at present. Roosevelt is in favor of State rights, as well as national rights, and above all things he is in favor of peace, which is worth more than all else.

Roosevelt is looked upon at present as one of the greatest peacemakers now living; while that is true, he is advocating the enlargement of our navy, which he thinks will be the means of preserving peace between our nation and other nations.

Roosevelt has done a good deal toward restoring perfect peace and harmony between the North and South. If the South would give up the negro we would soon have perfect peace and harmony between the two sections permanently established.

In the next national conventions of the Republicans and Democrats to nominate a man for the Presidency I think it would be wise for both parties to nominate Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt is a good Republican and an equally good Democrat if Republicanism or Democracy means a government by the people and for the people. He has certainly tried to serve the people instead of party, and I see no reason why the masses of the people should not want him again, particularly when we take into consideration his ability and industry. He is not only an able man, but one of the hardest working men in this country. His industry since he has been President has been directed in the way of finding out as much as possible of governmental affairs.

We can say one other thing for Roosevelt: he is not a party politician. Unfortunately, we have too many men in office who think more of party than they do of the interests of the people. If a man runs for office now he must be a Republican or a Democrat, no matter how small the office may be. While it may be necessary to have two parties, we should look more to the man than party when we put him in office. S. J. COBB.

THOMASVILLE, GA., October 28.

P. S.—While Roosevelt is a great peacemaker, he is in favor of war if necessary to protect the rights of one nation against another, just as he is in favor of enforcing the law to protect the rights of one man against another.

He is at present making a great effort to enforce the law against the dishonest use of money that is going on in some of our trusts and combines. While he is doing that he is not opposed to the rich man using all the money he may have in a legitimate, honest way. He is in favor of all, both rich and poor, having a fair square deal, which means much for the people. As such why shouldn't the masses of the people want him again? Let's quit party politics and make our elections a matter of business. Elect men to office just like we would hire men to do anything else. As we do that we will improve our public state of affairs.

INDIAN FOOTBALL TEAM.

Why It Should Not Be Judged by College Standards.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The editorial in THE SUN of October 29 exploiting the prowess of the Indian football team which represents the Government school at Carlisle seems to convey a gentle hint to the young pigskin athletes of Princeton and Harvard that their turn may come to lower their colors to Captain Lubo and his braves. That would be no reproach to the palefaces.

Football is the specialty at Carlisle, and the players are not restricted by the eligibility rules that govern at Princeton and Cambridge. Some of the Indians are veterans and were recruited for Carlisle at the Haskell school in Nebraska. Moreover, they were hardened by an outdoor life on the reservations before they entered Haskell. I believe that physically the students at Carlisle are far superior to the general run of the undergraduates at either Princeton or Harvard. As between an Indian player who goes on the field weighing 185 pounds and a paleface guard or tackle tipping the scales at 210, there is likely to be an advantage in activity if not in strength in favor of the Cheyenne or the Chippewa, and under the new football rules agility counts more than brawn. I venture to say also that the Indian suffers less from the casualties of the game than the white man, and recovers his form faster. In the last ditch, when threatened by defeat, the Indian does not show as much bulldog grit as the white player, but when the Indian is carrying everything before him the white man needs all his steadiness and fortitude to turn the tide of victory.

I do not know that professionalism may be charged against the Carlisle team, although there is sometimes a hint of it. But it is a fact that the Indians take the road like a professional baseball team, being allowed great latitude by the Carlisle authorities. No particular time is set for their return to the academic shades. The Western schedule, for instance, requires a period of absence from the class room which would not be permitted at Princeton or Harvard. While they are away the Indians have nothing to think of but football, and they resemble an exhibition team of athletes more than college players. If not uniformly triumphant, they seldom meet with defeat. They are easily amenable to discipline, and the confidence they acquire is formidable in itself. When they go on the field they usually have the sympathy of the general public, because the noble red man is a picturesque figure and the square deal has missed him. At the same time there is nothing romantic about the forces that organize and mould the Carlisle football team. It is a practical proposition and a fine advertisement for the Government school.

NEW YORK, November 1. DEERFOOT.

George Eliot's Church.

From the London Standard.

At a cost of £500 the three bells in Chilvers Coton Parish Church tower are being recast and three others added. As a child "George Eliot" (Mary Ann Evans), the famous novelist, attended Chilvers Coton Church with her parents, and long afterward she drew vivid word pictures of the ancient building and its incumbents. "Mr. Gilfil" and "Amos Barton" were the vicar and curate respectively of Chilvers Coton, the "Shepperton" of "Scenes of Clerical Life."

Savings Institutions.

Stella—Does she put her money in a stocking?
Bella—No, on her bask.

NO BUSINESS PANIC.

But Credit Has Been Shaken by Intemperate Talk in a High Quarter.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is unfortunate for the truth of history that not one of the men who understand the recent financial scare and its causes has been bold enough to tell how it happened.

Financial and business panics always arise from natural causes, but these causes may be imaginary as well as real. So delicate is the fabric of confidence on which banking and financiering rest that an imaginary cause is as potent for evil as a real one.

At the present time the business interests of the country are in a healthy condition. Crops have been abundant and prices are good, so that the farmers were never as well off as they are now. In manufacturing our inventors have led the world, and we have an advantage that overbalances the handicap of an unreasonably high tariff. Our factories are therefore running at full time and our exports of goods are large. There is no evidence of a business panic, and there will be none if our business men get even half a chance.

Taken as a whole, banking institutions were never in better shape. Mismanagement of funds has grown less with the perfection of the banking system. While some banks have loaned more to favorite or influential borrowers than was consistent with the best interest of other borrowers, not a case has been disclosed where the interest of depositors was jeopardized. No bank is in a position to pay in full every depositor if he should walk up and demand his money, but it ought to be understood that banks cannot be so conducted as to satisfy all demands at once. No such demand will ever be made on a bank when the public mind is normal. Then what has been the cause of this abnormal and baseless disturbance? Primarily the interviews and speeches of President Roosevelt. His incessant talk has wrought up the public mind to such a fever of excitement that the average man began to think that the whole business world was in a rotten condition. So when the Heinze trouble arose the shallow and thoughtless rushed to the banks to get their money. Half a dozen criminal prosecutions quietly conducted would have done much to improve the business situation. It most certainly was not necessary to slander the whole community.

Not only have our banks and financial institutions been ably and honestly managed, but the same can be truthfully said, speaking generally, of our railroads and the great industrial institutions. We have in this country to-day the highest standard of commercial ethics that any country in the world can boast, and our standard is higher to-day than ever. We expel a man from the United States Senate for an act that would not be criticised in a member of the British House of Lords. One-fifth of the members of the House of Commons are serving on boards and using their connection with the Government to their personal and financial advantage. The President is a historian and knows these things, and he knows how much sounder our financial institutions are to-day than at any time in the past. If he must chatter, for heaven's sake let him talk about the things that will help the public interest.

Money is safer in a bank than in any other place of deposit. People who draw their cash and take it home will suffer a percentage of loss much greater than ever comes to those who leave it on deposit. Losses by theft, by fire and by carelessness amount to more than a hundred dollars for each dollar lost in a bank. That is about the record for the last thirty years.

Whenever you hear a group of men discussing the situation, the burden of their song is commercial dishonesty. They have taken the President's word for it, and they actually believe that they live in the most corrupt age of the most corrupt country in the world, instead of in the best age of the best country on earth.

All this comes from having at the head of the nation a man who plays politics for popularity, and so far has shown himself the shrewdest politician of the age, but at the same time less of a patriot than any man who has ever been honored by election to the high office of President. L. A. L.

NEW YORK, November 1.

THE CREDIT SAVERS.

Among Them Are Men Whom Mr. Roosevelt Has Assailed as Malefactors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The admirers of President Roosevelt, and especially those who indorse his aggressive policy against such corporations as have seemingly offended his standard of business morality, are now referring to the late financial crisis as a justification of "My Policies."

The acute disturbance in financial affairs in our city was, without doubt, precipitated by the highly speculative transactions of Morse, Barney, Heinze and Thomas, through the aid of those banks and trust companies in which they had controlling interest.

I very much doubt whether President Roosevelt had any of these men in mind when he referred to "malefactors of great wealth." On the contrary, his hostility has been directed against owners of "swollen fortunes," all of whom in the past ten days have most earnestly striven to restore that confidence and credit which had been so savagely assailed by ill considered Executive action and by spectacular speechmaking on every occasion when appeal might be made to the unthinking multitude.

Had the present conservators of general credit been as mercenary and unprincipled as they have so often been represented, surely their sordid ambitions would have been greatly promoted by allowing the holders of corporate securities to find the best market they could without banking assistance.

W. H. GRANBERY.

NEW YORK, November 1.

State Control of Railroads.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* When in the name of State rights the Governors of Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina form an alliance offensive and defensive, and adopt ways and means for State control of railroads, have we here the nucleus of a new Southern Confederacy? If three States find it necessary to consider mutual interests, why not forty-six States? Let's have two Congresses, one voluntarily convened on the call of State Governors and Attorney-Generals and the other compulsorily assembled under the Federal Constitution. There can't be too many bosses for the iniquitous corporations.

NEW YORK, November 1. H. D. E.

Royal Etiquette in Burmese School.

From the Church Family Paper.

The Rev. Dr. Marks, who for many years was at the head of the Native College at Rangoon, in giving an account of his forty-three years experiences in Burma, says regarding the school that he opened under the sanction of the King:

"Shortly after the school was opened the King said: 'Will you teach some of my sons?' I said: 'Certainly.' He said: 'What ages do you like them at?' I said: 'From 12 to 14.' He said to one of his assistants: 'Bring all my sons between 12 and 14 to me.' Nine princes came in. Four came to school the next day, each riding on an elephant and with two gold umbrellas; each, also, was escorted by forty soldiers. Afterward the whole nine came. So there were nine princes, nine elephants, eighteen golden umbrellas and 360 soldiers. Unlike Mary's lamb, the elephants stayed outside, but when the princes came into the school room all the other boys threw themselves flat down with their faces to the ground—it was forbidden for any one to stand or sit in the presence of princes. I found this state of things very inconvenient, and I put the matter to the princes. They talked the situation over and at length they said to the boys, 'You fellows can get up. You need not be frightened.' After that we had very little difficulty on the score of etiquette. The King took the greatest interest in the education of his sons, and they were among the most diligent and affectionate pupils I ever had."

Straight Railway Track.

From the London Times.

In spite of the apparently mathematical straight lines which many of the Western railways appear to follow on the map, it has been stated that the record in this respect will be beaten by the new national transcontinental railway, otherwise known as the Grand Trunk Pacific, seventy miles of which will be constructed without a curve. Five years ago, however, a length of seventy-one miles of perfectly straight railway track was constructed on the extension of the Rhodesia Railways from Bulawayo in the direction of the Victoria Falls. So far, therefore, as the length of straight line is concerned, the record is held by the portion of the Rhodesia Railways above referred to.

FOR RESTRAINT OF TRADE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The railways should be glad that the sixth section of the Sherman Anti-Trust law, to protect trade and commerce against "unlawful" restraints and monopolies, does not confiscate the engines and cars used in transporting from one State to another articles made or sold under corporation agreements violating the Sherman law. That enactment does, by its sixth section, forfeit to the United States any property, in the course of interstate or foreign transportation, owned by any forbidden combination, "in restraint of trade." It would have been unjust and cruel, no doubt, to forfeit locomotives and cars of the carrier of the infected goods. The cars might contain innocent articles and the carrier might not know that any of the transported articles were infected.

On the other hand, the Sherman law forfeits all articles made under agreements restraining trade in any way, even if that restraint be reasonable and legal under the common law and even if those making the articles did not intend to restrain trade. It is enough to forfeit the articles if restraint of trade, reasonable or unreasonable, is the necessary effect of the agreement to produce.

It has come to be a very risky business to enter into a corporation or other agreement to manufacture anything in New Jersey and try to send the article out of the State. There is the peril of a criminal indictment, fine and imprisonment, and confiscation of the property in addition. One who produces and then sends his production to market in another State literally puts his liberty and property at the mercy of the powers at Washington. A queer freedom of trade it is!

MANUFACTURER.

PATERSON, N. J., November 1.

THE DIVINING ROD.

No Mysterious Virtues Hidden in the Dowser's Wand.

From the Scientific American.

In experiments with a divining rod as used for discovering underground supplies of water one of the geologists of the United States Geological Survey found that at points it turned downward independently of his will, but more complete tests showed that the down turning resulted from slight and—until watched for—unconscious changes in the inclination of his body, the effects of which were communicated through the arms and wrists to the rod. No movement of the rod from causes outside the body could be detected, and it soon became obvious that the view held by other men of science is correct—that the operation of the "divining rod" is generally due to unconscious movements of the body or of the muscles of the hand. The experiments made show that these movements happen most frequently at places where the operator's experience has led him to believe that water may be found.

The uselessness of the divining rod is indicated by the facts that the rod may be worked at will by the operator, that he fails to detect strong currents of water running in tunnels and other channels that afford no surface indications of water, and that his locations in limestone regions where water flows in well defined channels are rarely more successful than those dependent on mere guesses. In fact its operators are successful only in regions in which ground water occurs in a definite sheet in porous material, or in more or less clayey deposits, such as the pebbly clay or till, in which, although a few failures occur, wells would get water anywhere.

Ground water occurs under certain definite conditions, and as in humid regions a stream may be predicted wherever a valley is known, so one familiar with rocks and ground water conditions may predict places where ground water can be found. No appliance, either electrical or mechanical, has yet been successfully used for detecting water in places where plain common sense or mere guessing would not have shown its presence just as well. The only advantage of employing a "water witch," as the operator of the divining rod is sometimes called, is that skilled services are obtained, most men so employed being keener and better observers of the occurrence and movements of ground water than the average person.

Styrian Arsenic Eaters.

From the Washington Herald.

"Eating of arsenic is common in Styria," said Alois E. Steinzierl of Vienna, Austria, a manufacturer of chemicals and drugs. "The Styrians say that arsenic makes one plump and comely, and gives one strength for great exertions, such as running or mountain climbing. Styria, which is in Austria, gives the world vast quantities of arsenic. The manufacture of this drug is, indeed, the main Styrian industry. They who make arsenic eat it, as a rule, for they say that only the arsenic eater can withstand the arsenic fumes. These makers and eaters of the drug are comely. They have a clear color and look much younger than they are.

"The foreman in a certain factory told me that in his boyhood, when he first came to that plant, he was advised to begin to eat arsenic, lest his health suffer from the fumes. He did begin, and his first two or three small doses gave him a sharp pain, like a burn, in the stomach, and this pain was followed by tremendous hunger and a violent, disagreeable excitement. But as his doses increased in frequency and size their effect became pleasant. There was no longer pain or excitement. On the contrary, there was a ravenous appetite and a mood of joyous activity wherein the youth could do three men's work.

"This chap, by the time he got to be 20, was taking four grains of arsenic a day. He looked at 30, with his clear pink and white color, no more than 23. He was as robust as a blacksmith. But he said he would die at 45 or so, that being the age at which all the Styrian arsenic eaters die."

Nelson's Signalman.

From the London Chronicle.

It was in the winter of 1846 that Nelson's signalman—the man who hoisted the famous "England expects," &c.—was discovered by one who had served as surgeon on board the Tonnant at Trafalgar. The signalman, John Roome, was selling watercress and red herrings in Blackfriars. He had deserted from the navy after the battle, and this had disqualified him for a pension, but representations were made to Capt. Pasco, signal Lieutenant on the Victory at Trafalgar, who used his influence on the old man's behalf. Capt. Pasco was at first unsuccessful; he was informed by the authorities that there were many more deserving candidates for Greenwich. Shortly afterward, however, room was found at Greenwich Hospital for old John. Had he lived in our time he would probably have received a princely salary for repeating the signal nightly at music halls.

"Old" Peabody Banquet Hall.

From the Boston Advertiser.

A famous and historic landmark in Salem is soon to disappear. With the remodelling of the old Peabody house on Essex street the beautiful old banqueting hall built by the owner, Colonel Francis Peabody, in 1870 for the purpose of tendering a banquet to Prince Arthur, representative of Queen Victoria at the funeral of George Peabody that year, will disappear.

The room was finished in the style of the stalls of the Knights of the Bath in Westminster Abbey, being probably one of the finest pieces of architecture in this country. The light in the room is obtained by opening panel doors in the walls, which lead to long windows not easily discovered by the stranger. The effect is that of a chapel, and a central chandelier adds to the subdued effect of this unique light from without.

The woodwork is carved English oak, and the furnishings are rich and heavy.

Cause and Effect.

Knicker—Tightness of money has produced silence in Washington.

Bocker—It doesn't work that way with my wife.

Ballad of the Eternal Schemer.

From the Denver Republican.

A type that will never become extinct
Is found in all places, far or near;
Lapel and finger are always linked—
And when one dies another is here;
What if the pessimistic jeer?
Never is he to be denied;
Always that voice is in your ear—
The man with a scheme is at your side.

You flee in vain to some quiet vale
And think at last you have found sweet peace;
But your name is called and you soon turn pale,
And you know you have failed to secure release;
Soft as eiderdown, smooth as grease,
That voice goes on and your fond hopes slide;
Never on earth will you know surcease—
The man with a scheme is at your side.

In the city's whirl, 'mid the dust and roar,
You seek escape in the human throng,
But again those hated accents soar,
And you hear the lilt of a well known song:
"It's a ground floor chance—it can't last long—
There's millions in it—go with the tide!"
In Paris, Seattle or far Hongkong,
The man with a scheme is at your side!

NEW BOOKS.

Mr. Crawford's Most Recent.

Mr. F. Marion Crawford's story of "Arethusa" (The Macmillan Company) begins in an interesting manner. Constantinople is far away, and so is the year 1376, but the romancer steps across the distance readily and with assurance. It is noticeable that he uses for his story the language of this day, rejecting utterly that mysterious and machine style so generally thought by authors dealing romantically with a remote period to be suitably archaic. The dialogue, structurally and in the detail of its material, is practically such as might be uttered familiarly in Fifth avenue or in the parlors of Hempstead, L. I. This eases and, in our opinion, recommends the tale. It makes the reader feel very much alive and at home, even though it be 1376, and his ears catch of necessity now and then the alien cadences of the waters of the Golden Horn.

Constantinople in the first chapter is fluently and happily pictured. It reels off the panoramist's spindle like a vital creature spurred. The curiosity of the reader will be excited by the letter from the Venetian merchant directing the purchase for 350 ducats of a slave girl with slender ankles and sound teeth. The visit of the purchaser's agent to the house of the slave dealer is interestingly described. The slave dealer's wife, a giant negress with crimson hair, is a figure to surprise the reader. The starvation scene in the beggars' quarter is, for sundry reasons, not so effective as it might be, but the reader will be satisfied that the girl Zoë was lovely and he will be sorry that she should have had to sell herself to the slave dealer. But after the sale of Zoë we do not think that the reader will have any fear that she is going to be unhappy. On the night of the sale she had an excellent supper of birds and sweetmeats and wine.

The romancer's humor, which he exercises frequently, finds particular expression at this point. It was desirable to keep Zoë in a pleasant frame of mind, he says, "in order that she might produce an agreeable impression on the expected purchaser." The dealer who had bought her knew this very well. Indeed he "had once missed a very good bargain because the merchandise had burst into tears at the wrong moment." There are some passages that remind us of Mr. Gunter's stories, but not so definitely that we should wish to charge the author of this tale with deliberate imitation. We do not think that the reader will care much about the difficulty between the weak but amiable Emperor John and the entirely wicked Emperor Andronicus or about the strife between Venice and Genoa to get the upper hand in political and mercantile affairs at Constantinople. Mr. Crawford is at no great pains to make these matters interesting, and it is likely that the reader will follow his example and dismiss them with slight concern. But he will be eager to get at the bottom of the mystery involved in the curiously potent expressions, "By the four toes and the five toes" and "Over the water both salt and fresh"; and though he does not care two straws for the Emperor John he will follow Caro Zeno eagerly when that hero goes up the Amena tower by means of a knotted rope to deliver that monarch from imprisonment.

It is at this point that the action of the story has its chief expression. Zeno had great potential powers, but really he did not do much besides going up the tower. When he was shut up in the dry cistern all he did was to wait until his friends let him out, and it was Zoë who invented the plot by which the wicked Andronicus was finally overthrown. The torture of Zoë by the employment of the horrible borer beetle was shocking; happily it was interrupted in good time. Tocktamish, the Tatar warrior, was thoroughly vigorous and terrifying when he went drunk to the banquet and belabored the guests and rifled the strong box. The last part of the story seemed to us perfunctory and slurred. For that reason we preferred the first part. Arethusa was the name that Zoë bestowed upon herself when she became a slave. Her real name was not even Zoë. It was Bianca.

A Few Wonders for the Young.

When the wonder age is quite reestablished and we are all going about with saucer eyes reciting William Blake's poems, Mr. Peter Newell should be engaged to furnish the illustrations. The eyes that Mr. Newell draws will be remembered—rings with dots in them, works of rare unsophistication, simple but full of wonder and wonderful. Sixteen of Mr. Newell's pictures distinguish the handsomely manufactured book "Favorite Fairy Tales" (Harper and Brothers). Snow-white and Rose-red in the frontispiece here have these primitive eyes, and so has the dwarf whose beard has been caught in the cleft log. The children and the dwarf have snub noses, and Rose-red adds to the wonder effect by holding her finger in her mouth. So shall we all look, doubtless, when we go about with discharged and sincere minds saying "Tiger, tiger, burning bright." In the next picture the giant Cormoran, Jack the Giant Killer's first victim, has perfectly round eyes, likewise a round nose, a round mouth, a round foot like an elephant's, and two round medallions with globular designs on them on his bulging Cornish chest.

Of course it was fairly necessary to give to Cormoran a fierce and menacing look. The desired expression has been secured by making the eyes small and depositing the dots at the lowest point in the perimeter. The eyes of Cinderella and her envious sisters are not remark