Try.

There's a victory yonder awaiting the chap
Who greets with a laugh every downing mishap.
Who loses the game with a glint in his eye,
Who fights as he loses and dies full of try.

Who tackles the ladder with vim and with bounce,
And laughs when he lands at the foot with a jounce;
Who tightens his belt and with never a sigh
Keeps falling and falling with heart full of try.

He isn't defeated who dies in the fight,
If he had but lived he'd have finished all right.
It was fate stilled his laugh, and endeavor put by,
While his jaw was firm set and his heart full of try.

And I know that up yonder when he has cashed in
The loser will head many fellows who win;
For we're judged when we win to our homes in the sky
Not by our success, but the strength of our try.

—Houston Post.

A LETTER FROM HOME

"Don't write to my mother. She's had so much trouble already. Don't write to her. I shall be better soon.

This had been her cry from the very first hour of her illness. But two weeks had gone by, and, although the best medical advice had been called in, there was no perceptible improvement in her condition. Mrs. Dalrymple began to grow uneasy. She way-laid the family physician, one morning, as he came downstairs.

"I want you to tell me about Miss Ballard, doctor," she said. "Do you find her any better, this morning?"

The physician shook his head.

"I see no improvement, alas!" he said. "Her case seems beyond the reach of medical skill."

"Why, doctor, you alarm me," cried the lady. "I had no idea it was as bad as that. Poor dear little girl."

Major Lennox, Mrs. Dalrymple's brother, was sitting in the hall, engaged in the arrangement of some fishing-tackle; but he dropped his hooks and lines and listened with intense interest, while the conversation went on.

"Surely, doctor," continued the lady, "you don't think there's danger?"

"It is hard to tell Mrs. Dalrymple. But I don't like these low fevers, that stand at one point so long, as this does. Tell me something about the young person."

"Come in here and sit down, doctor, and I'll tell you everything. She's been with us just two months; 'Charlie's governess,' we call her," nodding toward her brother. "I'll tell you why. I advertised for a nursery-governess, and, immediately after, was called away to the wedding of a friend. On my return to my great surprise I found Flossie and Ted settled down at their books, and Miss Ballard acting as governess. Charlie had engaged her without waiting to consult me. He couldn't help it, he said, she looked so young and friendless; and he was in a terrible flurry for fear she might not suit us. But she did. We found her a perfect treasure—the sweetest, most obliging little soul; and the children just adore her."

"Yes, yes; I dare say," interrupted the doctor, the least bit impatiently. "But about the girl herself? Has she had any trouble?"

"She is very reticent, poor thing. But Mr. Dalrymple knows something about her."

"Ah?" said the doctor, interrogatively.

"Yes. Her father was sent out to Canton, sometime ago, by the firm of Briggs and Bonifant, and perished on his homeward voyage, when the steamer Halifax was burned. His family was left unprovided for, and the daughter was forced to do what she could."

"Yes," said the physician. "I understand now. She's homesick, poor thing. You should have sent for her mother a week ago."

"I wanted to, doctor. But 'don't write to mother; I shall be better soon, has been her cry from the first."

"Well I'm afraid you'll have to write, in spite of her."

"I'll write this very day, if you think best," said Mrs. Dalrymple.

The physician went his way, and the kindhearted lady, greatly distressed at what she had heard, went in search of her husband, to ask his advice.

In the meantime, in her hushed and darkened chamber, the young governess lay, her slender hands clasped, her eyes closed, her pretty golden hair falling about her pale face. Her past life all seemed to come back to her. that her father was on his way home; The happy day when the news came he had aready sailed, and would soon be with them once more. Her mother's grateful joy; little Janey's delight; and her own happiness. The glad, busy days of preparation, when their beautiful home was made ready to receive and welcome their loved one; the joyful hope and expectation; and then, in the very midst of their smiling and happiness, that awful, awful news. The Halifax had been burned at sea, and all on board had perished!

Everything had seemed like night after that. There had been no more brightness or sunshine; no more hope, no gladness, no comfort. A mortgage had swept away their beautiful home; and her mother, left poor and broken-hearted, had gone, with little Janie and herself, to live in two comfortless rooms; and even then they had found it impossible to make both ends meet. Such work as they could do was scarce, and paid for but poorly; and, through the dreary stormy nights, the widow and her children—accustomed, in days gone by, to affluence and even luxury—were insufficiently clad, and even scantily fed.

Rosalie could not stand this. So, when the spring opened, she went out as nursery-governess, leaving her mother and little Janie alone in their comfortless lodgings.

"I'll earn enough, mamma dear, to put us a little ahead, and then I'll come back to you," she had said, at parting.

But, before her first quarter was over, she had fallen ill.

The days and nights were very tedious, as she lay there in that darkened room; and her head and heart both ached with a cruel, ceaseless pain. Oh, for a sight of her mother's dear, loving face—for just one touch of her tender hand!

The poor girl's very soul went out in weary longing. But she would not yield.

"No, no; they shall not write to her," she said. "Dear mother has trouble enough. I shall be better soon."

She knew, poor child, that her mother's resources all told were not sufficient to pay the expenses of the journey yet she was too proud to tell her employers so.

"I shall be better soon," she had said, from day to day.

But this last morning found her weaker than ever, and the pain in both heart and head so cruel.

"What if I should die, and never see mamma and Janie again?" she thought,

The mere suggestion brought the tears to her eyes, in a hot, blinding rush. But there was a tap at the door, and she winked them away.

The housemaid entered with a letter.

"Please, miss, a letter," she said

"Oh, a letter from home!" cried the invalid, recognising the handwriting of the address.

She put forth her weak, trembling hand, as she spoke, and took the precious missive. She pressed it to her lips. If she could not have mother herself, this was the next best thing She tore open the envelope with quivering fingers.

"Oh, Rosie," the letter began "how shall I tell you, darling? God has been good to us, my dear. He has changed the night of our sorrow into the morning of gladness and rejoicing."

The letter fluttered from Rosalie's trembling hand. She could read no more.

"Oh, thank Heaven," she cried, "my father lives! My father lives!"

With the cry on her lips, she fainted away; and, when Mrs. Dalrymple came running up, followed by her anxious brother, the letter was on the carpet, and the nursery-governess lay white and still, as if dead.

"A letter from home, madam," began the housemaid.

"And it has killed her," cried the lady.

But she was wrong. It was the letter from home, and the blessed news it brought, that saved Rosalie's life.

In a little while she recovered consciousness, to find that it was not all a dream, but a blessed reality. Her father had escaped from the burning steamer, and was safe at home with her mother. More than that. He was possessed of means sufficient to buy back their beautiful home.

"What's up?" demanded the doctor, when he entered his patient's room the next morning. "You look like another person."

"I'm happy, doctor; that's all," answered Rosalie, simply.

"And happiness is better than medicine, my dear," he replied. "You'll be on your feet in a week."

And so she was. At the end of the next week, Mr. Ballard came for her, and she went home, leaving Flossie and Ted inconsolable.

Major Lennox, in the meantime, had been called to join his command, while his governess was yet in the early stages of convalescence. The hardest trial of his life, perhaps, was being obliged to leave her without bidding her goodbye. There was no help for it, however.

He put a little cluster of sweet white violets and purple heliotrope in his sister's hand, and said:

"Give these to my little governess, and say good-bye for me."

He had been ordered on frontier service and two years elapsed before he returned. But he had not been under his sister's roof an hour, before he asked concerning his governess.

"Oh, yes, indeed; we hear from her every now and then," answered Mrs. Dalrymple, brightly. "She came down to see the children once. But there's no need of her being a nursery-governess now, you know. Mr. Ballard is a partner with Briggs and Bonifant, and bids fair to become a millionaire."

"Where do they live?" inquired the impatient soldier.

"Oh, they've got their old home back; a lovely place, down at White Plains."

The very next morning, bright and early, down to White Plains went Major Lennox.

"I'm afraid you have quite forgotten me, Miss Ballard," he began, when Rosalie entered the handsome parlor, where he sat waiting.

"Oh, no, indeed I haven't," she cried, her eyes brightening and a lovely color blooming in her cheeks. "My friends were not so numerous, in my adversity, that I should forget a single one."

The major took her hand.

"I'm a plain man, as all soldiers are," he said. "Let me tell you at once, Miss Ballard, that I fell in love with you the first time we ever met. But I was suddenly called away. I know, of course, that you care nothing for me now. But—but do you think you can learn? Knowing that I have loved you more and more every day and hour since we parted, don't you think you can, in time, give me something in return?

He stood, the brave soldier, trembling before her. She looked up at him, her eyes brimming.

"You befriended me when I came to you in my trouble," she said, softly. "I have never forgotten that; and—and——"

Her voice broke and faltered. She took from her bosom a little perfumed silk sachet.

"Do you remember these?" she said, opening it and exhibiting a cluster of pressed flowers; white violets and purple heliotrope.

For a moment he was puzzled. Then his eyes suddenly lit up.

"Can they be my poor flowers?" he cried.

"I have kept them ever since that morning," she replied.

The next day, Mrs. Dalrymple, entering the nursery said:

"Flossie, Ted; come here my darlings. You never could guess what I have to tell you. It is such a wonderful news! Listen now, my dears. Uncle Charlie is going to marry his governess, and make her your aunt. What do you think of that?"—Good Literature.

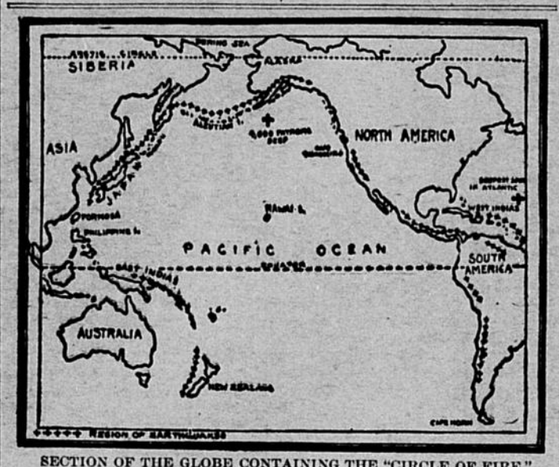
Indiana's steam roads, in 1905, carried 535,516,126 passengers.

EARTHQUAKE CENTRES on the AMERICAN CONTINENT

Danger spots on the Pacific Coast as surely charted as ocean reefs.

Destructive earthquakes are so infrequent that it is not generally appreciated that seismic shocks are really of almost daily occurrence. Hardly a day passes without an earthquake occurring somewhere in the world. Most of these, fortunately, are mere quivers of the earth crust, and would pass unnoticed had not science invented the seismograph, a most delicate instrument, which records these feeble shocks.

The American Continent furnishes almost one-half of the recognized earthquake centers of the world. Excepting for the Caribbean region, these centers where seismic disturbances are frequent and expected lie along the Pacific coast. Earthquake shocks have been felt at various points along the Atlantic seaboard of the United States, but, excepting the devastating earthquake at San Francisco and at Charleston, these have been of slight importance.



SECTION OF THE GLOBE CONTAINING THE "CIRCLE OF FIRE."

Authentic Data Needed.

Before the student of earthquakes can say a certain district is likely to be free from seismic tremors a great deal more authentic data must be acquired. As it is, all that can be said of any section of the country is that it has or has not been frequently shaken. The cause of the Charleston earthquake, for instance, has not yet been determined, but it is true that in recent years the origin of many earthquakes has been discovered. Many others, however, cannot be accounted for with certainty.

Seismology, like meteorology, is not yet far enough advanced to announce any invariable laws. It had been the opinion that serious earthquakes never occurred on low lands which had a gentle gradient into the sea. The destruction of Charleston, while not nullifying this principle, at least showed that it was not to be considered as invariable. On the other hand, there are mountainous districts in which earthquakes are of great rarity and in which devastating shocks are unknown in historic times.

Scientific Study Recent.

While earthquakes have been noted for the last 3,000 years, they have been made the subject of scientific study for only a comparatively recent time. Many circumstances are responsible for this delay in attempting to collect and collate data in a systematic manner. One of the chief causes was the absence of an instrument to record the movements and duration of the seismic tremors. The invention of the seismograph has made possible the important progress of late years. If records every earthquake, no matter in what part of the world it is central, for every earthquake is felt all over the surface of the earth, but when it is thousands of miles distant the waves are not perceptible excepting to the delicately balanced instrument designed to respond to the most feeble pulsation.

Another valuable contribution to the science has been the tables of the distribution of seismicity prepared by De Montessus de Ballore. In these tables the observations have been brought down to the year 1897 in those districts in which seismic occurrences have been most frequent and best observed. They include all earthquakes recorded in historic times, and list a total of 131,292 quakes and 10,499 epicentres, or points of origin. The records, naturally, are incomplete, but sufficient data are given to show that earthquakes are of great frequency, and that practically they occur in every part of the world. The tables also show markedly that certain parts of the world are especially liable to be shaken, while in others seismicity is rare or at least infrequent.

Great Circle of Fire.

The so-called "great circle of fire" around the Pacific Ocean is found to produce the largest number of recorded earthquakes. In Central California alone there were observed between 1860 and 1897 no fewer than 1,096 earthquakes at 113 epicenters. Owari, Japan, is much more frequently shaken, 3,356 shocks being recorded at 48 epicentres, or an average frequency of 24.74. The mean average of frequency at Tokio, however, is 92.25, the highest average in the world. It should be remembered that these are seismologic observations, made of those shocks which were perceptible to the human senses without the aid of instruments.

The study of the geographical distribution of earthquake centers brings out some significant facts, but at the same time it fails to account satisfactorily for some phenomena observed. As has been remarked, earthquakes are divisible into two classes, volcanic and tectonic, according to their causes. It is not always possible, however, to declare with confidence to which of these classes a particular quake should be assigned.

One of the significant facts whenever the question of class arises is the situation of the epicenter with respect to an active or recently extinct volcano. Close proximity to a volcano raises a presumption that the quake is of volcanic origin. Tectonic quakes also have certain characteristics which, though not always exclusively exhibited by them, are much more common with them than with volcanic quakes, and vice versa.

There is in Japan a remarkable absence of any tendency of earthquakes to associate themselves with volcanoes. Most Japanese earthquakes originate at sea, and their vibrations on land indicate that they have traveled a considerable distance, and that the disturbance which originated them must have involved a much higher aggregate of energy than is exerted even in the most forcible volcanic quakes.

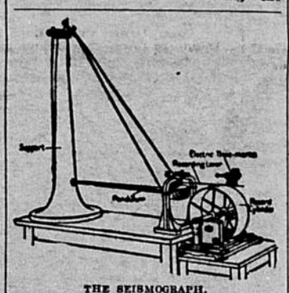
Around the supposed "fiery great circle," which surrounds the Pacific from Cape Horn to Bering Sea, thence down the eastern archipelago to Asia to the Dutch East Indies, are a considerable number of districts of high seismicity, separated by wide intervals of low seismicity. They are situated upon the most pronounced slopes leading from land to sea-bottom. Between Japan and Luzon, in each of which there is a fairly high seismicity, there is no evidence of any exceptional degree of earthquake frequency.

According to the catalogue of recorded quakes in California from 1769 to 1896, made by Prof. E. S. Holden, ten earthquakes of high intensity were felt in the State during the nineteenth century. From 1850 to 1886, 254 quakes in San Francisco are recorded.

California Indications.

Of the California quakes, Major Dutton says they, as a class, suggest a tectonic origin. "High intensities are not common," he declares. "The higher intensities are felt over considerable areas, which suggest great depth of focus. The seismographic traces show considerable length of period and well-marked separation between the short preliminary tremors and longer waves, which is indicative of considerable distance traveled by the vibrations between the centrum and the recording station. The deep foci, the long periods, the absence of small tremors, the considerable areas over which light vibrations are felt are indicative of tectonic rather than volcanic origin.

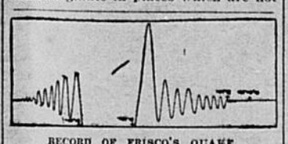
"Proceeding southward along the Pacific coast no marked development of seismic activity appears until we reach southern Mexico, in the State of Colima. Accasional reports are made of quakes in the civinity of the great volcano Colima, and the City of Mexico has been visited by a few shocks of moderate intensity, and by occasional light tremors. But the developments of seismic action are not great. In the State of Oaxaca, however, there is a sudden and great decrease of seismicity. It occurs in a long and rather narrow belt, extending parallel to the coast, reaching into Guatemala and through the entire length of the Central American States in the Isthmus of Panama."



THE SEISMOGRAPH.

The Central American and South Mexican seismic regions indicate a volcanic origin. These regions are famous for their volcanoes, which are more numerous and closely adjacent than anywhere else in the world. Throughout the 1,500 miles of volcanic coast line earthquakes have always been abundant and often highly destructive. In 772 quakes of which records have been made, it was found that their epicenters occurred in close proximity to the volcanoes, and never more than four or five miles from them. It is a remarkable fact that none of the notable quakes observed in this district suggests a tectonic origin.

Following the coast line into South America, two seismic regions are encountered at Panama, both of them at a great distance. One is in Venezuela, far to the eastward; the other in Ecuador, far to the southward. "Our knowledge of earthquakes in the Andes," continues Major Dutton, "is usually too insufficient in detail to enable us to form a very definite opinion as to their nature and class. Some of them originate in places which are not far distant from volcanoes, but whether near enough to create the presumption that they are really associated with them is not always known. On the other hand, many Andean quakes display the tectonic character so clearly that their origin is equally free from doubt."



RECORD OF FRISCO'S QUAKE.

The diagram shows how the seismograph in Washington recorded the San Francisco earthquake. At one point, it will be noticed, the recording stylus left the tape entirely.

Both classes, however, are abundant. From a point about 250 miles north of Callao to beyond Valdivia, in Chile, the South American coast has been subject to earthquakes of the greatest energy. Sometimes they have originated upon the sea-bottom. In these cases great sea waves have rolled in upon the coast with disastrous effect.

Australia is little disturbed by earthquakes, but its neighbor, New Zealand, has been visited by 800 in forty-three years. The Dutch East Indies are, as is well known, a region of both volcanoes and earthquakes.

Along the Andean System.

To refer to the Western Hemisphere again, it has been recognized by various geologists that the Windward and Leeward Islands of the West Indies are part of the continuation of a spur of the Andes. The seismic belt which begins in Venezuela continues along the reefs and basins into these islands. The descent of the Andean system is rapid to the coast of La Guayra, and thence to the depths of the Caribbean. Throughout the Windward and Leeward Islands the frequency of quakes is high, but the intensity is seldom great. About forty miles north of the Island of St. Thomas is the deepest abyss in the Atlantic. San Domingo, Jamaica, the eastern part of Cuba and Porto Rico are frequently shaken, and their seismicity may be put, according to the authority quoted, into relation with the fact that the sea-bottom in the vicinity of those islands is one of the most rugged and highly diversified in its profiles of any part of the earth.

UNPOPULAR TWOPENCE FINE.

Agitation in Vienna Against Penalty for Coming Home Late.

Tired of paying twopence to get into or come out of their own houses after 10 o'clock at night, many good citizens of Vienna have been agitating for an extension of "closing time," at least until 11 o'clock, says the Pall Mall Gazette. This custom of "Sperrstunde" (closing time), with its accompanying "Sperrgeld" (entrance money), is one peculiar to Vienna. It obtains in no other capital or big city on the continent, although they resemble the Austrian capital in that their residences are practically all flat houses. But in all these cities the tenants are provided with house keys. Only in Vienna must those who are out after 10 o'clock ring up the porter and pay twopence before they can get to their own apartments. Similarly, too, anybody wanting to leave the house between that time and 6 o'clock the next morning, be he visitor or tenant, must pay the same toll, which is the perquisite of the porter.

And not only is the house door locked, but all lights in halls and staircases are put out precisely at 10 o'clock and the late home-comer must grope his way upstairs with the aid of a wax taper stuck in a bit of cardboard, which drops grease spots impartially on clothing and stairs.

It is this locking-up time which gives Vienna streets at night the aspect of country lanes, which strikes every foreign visitor. In no other European capital are the streets so dull and empty long before midnight.

While, however, thousands of people complain of the nuisance and the extortion involved by this ridiculous custom, it is upheld strongly by the landlords and city authorities—by the landlords because the "Sperrgeld" enables them to get house porters for little more than lodging quarters, and by the authorities because the locking up of the houses affords immense protection against burglaries and night crimes generally and a consequent saving in police duties. In fact, it is almost solely upon the ground of the public safety that the government has now again refused to permit any abandonment of this peculiar custom or even any extension of the hour of locking up. "Sperrstunde" and "Sperrgeld" originated in the troublous times of 1848, when the government used the house porters very much as the Russian police still use the "dvornik," for the purpose of spying upon the occupants of their houses. Those times have long since passed, but with true Austrian conservatism "Sperrstunde" and "Sperrgeld" remain, and promise to do so for some time to come.

NEW ZEALAND'S TURN NEXT.

World's Fair to Be Held in the Antipodes the Coming November.

The next great world's fair is to be given by the colony of New Zealand, in the South Pacific Islands of that name, the romantic home of the ancient Maoris, which numbers among its attractions for the tourist many relics of that ancient people, with their descendants still living according to their old-time customs. The wonderful scenery of the picturesque island, with its burning geysers, its forests and mountains filled with game for the sportsman, add an attraction to the site of the fair which will tempt many a visitor from far-off lands to make the trip to New Zealand during the progress of the exposition.

The fair is to be held in Hagley Park, Christchurch, Canterbury, beginning in November next and continuing to some date in April, 1907. This is the summer season in New Zealand, the time of year when her natural attractions are at their best. All nations of the world have been invited to exhibit at the fair. The object of the exhibition is educational, the colonists desiring to show to the world the resources and possibilities of the colony as one of the world's food-producing factors; to demonstrate its vast mineral resources and to draw attention to picturesque and unrivaled scenery, its thermal wonders and the exceptional opportunities offered to sportsmen. A further object is to bring to the notice of the more industrial nations of the world the great field offered by New Zealand as an outlet for enterprise and for the use and consumption of all manner of up-to-date appliances and manufactures.

The imports of New Zealand in 1905, at least three-fourths of which are manufactured goods, amounted in value to $66,000,000. Of course, Great Britain, the home country, furnished the great bulk of this trade. The commonwealth of Australasia was next in the list and following came the United States, which furnished goods to the value of $8,000,000. When it is considered that this great expenditure for foreign supplies is made for the use of a colony with a population of but 850,000 persons it can be readily seen what a rare opportunity is offered for exploiting New Zealand with up-to-date manufactures. Exporters of every land on the face of the globe will be deeply interested in investigating the trade possibilities of the country, and it is confidently anticipated that the fair will be a success financially as well as in bringing to the attention of the world the advantages possessed by the island as a trade center for the industrial world.

ACTRESS HALF A CENTURY.

Ellen Terry is still the idol of the British play-going public, which recently celebrated her fiftieth artistic anniversary with a huge banquet to her. The great actress' first appearance on the stage took place on April 28, 1856, when she played the little Mamillius in "The Winter's Tale" at the Princess Theater, London. She was then 8 years old. The fact that she is now a grandmother has not affected her popularity, nor her remarkable vivacity nor her popular title of "Miss."

ELLEN TERRY.

Observation.

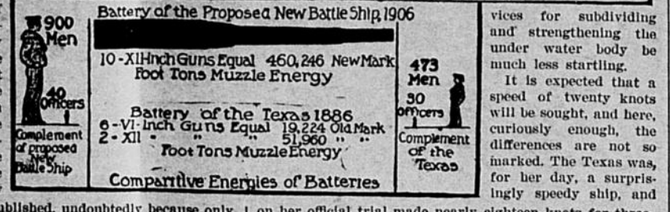
To behold is not necessarily to observe, and the power of comparing and combining is only to be obtained by education. It is much to be regretted that habits of exact observation are not cultivated in our schools. To this deficiency may be traced much of the fallacious reasoning and the false philosophy which prevail.—W. Humboldt.

Speaking of hard tasks, how would you like to be a widower and have to break the news to the children when they are to have a new mother?

Hoax—How do I look in this dress suit? Joax—Fine; why don't you buy one?—Philadelphia Record.

TWENTY YEARS' DEVELOPMENT IN BATTLESHIPS.

Diagram Showing Development in U.S. Battle Ships During the Last 20 Years



The development of battleship designing during a period of twenty years is shown in the graphic comparisons set down above between the Texas, authorized in August, 1886, and the great vessel just recommended by the House naval committees. The specific data of the new design have not been published, undoubtedly because only a few essentials have been settled, but the sketches illustrate with considerable accuracy the comparative size and gun power of the types selected for comparison.

The displacement of the two vessels are 6,315 tons and 19,500 tons. That is a difference of 13,000 tons, an amount greater than twice the tonnage of the earlier type. The respective batteries are two 11-inch and six 6-inch guns on the Texas, and ten much improved 12-inch guns on the projected vessel. This means that the main muzzle energy of the latter's battery will be at least six and one-half times greater. Nor will the protective power afforded by modern armor and by the new structural devices for subdividing and strengthening the under water body be much less startling.

It is expected that a speed of twenty knots will be sought, and here, curiously enough, the differences are not so marked. The Texas was, for her day, a surprisingly speedy ship, and on her official trial made nearly eighteen knots for three and three-quarter hours. But the large variation in coal storage space must give the new ship a much increased radius of action and release her from too close dependence on fixed bases. The crews will, when each vessel is fully manned, roughly aggregate thirty-three officers and five hundred men in the smaller and forty-five officers and a thousand men in the larger.

It is said by naval officers that the differences in displacement do not, after all, measure the real superiority of the later vessel, as with her greater speed, enormously heavy battery and splendid armor protection, she could overcome five ships of the Texas class.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

Point at Issue in the Rate Controversy.

The controversy over rate legislation in the Senate hinges entirely on the constitutional question whether Congress has power to pass a law conferring upon the Interstate Commerce Commission the right to fix the rates for interstate transportation, and at the same time to deny to the courts the right of issuing temporary injunctions against the enforcement of such rates. Senators Bailey, La Follette, Carmack and others, support the affirmative, and Senators Foraker, Knox, Lodge, Aldrich and others, the negative side of this question. The Bailey amendment to the Hepburn bill expresses the views of the "limited revisionists," and the Foraker bill those of the "broad revisionists." The acceptance of the Bailey amendment and the rejection of the "broad court review" have the same basis; which is, that the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution fixes the limit, beyond which Congress cannot go in fixing rates, at the point where the rates established by the Commission would amount to "taking private property for public use without just compensation;" and that if inferior courts had jurisdiction to set aside such rates temporarily by forbidding their enforcement prior to the final hearing and determination of the case, by means of preliminary injunctions, the railroads would abuse the right of litigation, and the public would suffer from their extortions; whereas, if the inferior courts were denied the right to issue such injunctions, the people would be protected, and the railroads would still enjoy all the rights to which they are entitled under the Constitution. That they would then insist upon the speediest possible disposition of the case; whereas, if they could sue out injunctions before inferior courts, they would place every conceivable obstacle in the way of a final decision, and defy the law under the shelter of an injunction procured from some judge who had been appointed to office through the influence of "railroad Senators."

The Bailey amendment is necessary so far as it would tend to prevent an abuse of judicial power by inferior courts in the manner indicated; the original Hepburn bill having failed to incorporate such a precautionary measure. Under the original bill, the "broad court review" would probably prevail, and the railroads might use the machinery of the courts to harass the shippers and evade the law. The Hepburn bill, with the Bailey amendment added, would be, in fact as well as in name, a remedial law; but without such amendment, it would be almost sure to prove abortive.

The Right of Confiscation.

The Chicago Chronicle, commenting on the utterances of President Roosevelt and Secretary Taft in relation to the curtailing of inheritances by confiscating all above a certain amount of a decedent's property, says: "The right of taxation for that purpose is recognized by the authorities on law and the rights of men." It also quotes from Mr. Taft's recent speech at Yale, known as the "Parlor Socialist Speech," the proposition, that "neither at common law nor under the Constitution (meaning the Constitution of the United States) is the right of descent of property or the devising of it an inalienable right. It depends wholly upon the legislature."

But both the Chronicle and Secretary Taft are mistaken, so far as their remarks relate to Federal taxation. An inheritance tax would certainly be a direct tax, and if it were imposed by Congress would necessarily be apportioned among the several States according to population. The Federal Constitution, in two clauses, forbids a direct tax under any other condition. The common law is modified by the constitutional provisions. It has no force here, so far as taxation is concerned. The legislatures of the States might confiscate private property, but Congress could not. It might levy a graduated income tax (as indirect tax) framed so as to be uniform throughout the United States. Indeed, it has often done that very thing. The income tax clauses of the Wilson bill were declared void, not because the law laid an income tax per se, but because the tax laid by that bill fell on the proceeds of land and constituted a direct tax not apportioned as the Constitution required. A tax on all incomes except those arising from land would be perfectly constitutional and feasible. But an inheritance tax laid by Congress would, from the fact that it would be a direct tax, constitute a violation of the Federal Constitution, since it would not be possible to apportion it among the States in proportion to population.

Again, the right to acquire an estate by inheritance is an inalienable right, no less than the right to acquire it by purchase. It is included among the rights of property; and no honest lawyer or statesman will deny that life, liberty, and property are equally protected by the English law and by our own constitution. A "parlor Socialist" is far less dangerous and far more honest than a Cabinet cornfield lawyer or even a White House confiscator. If overgrown fortunes are to be distributed in this country, as they will be, the work must be done according to the principles advocated by Jefferson, and not according to the vain, hysterical propositions of Taft and Roosevelt. Those overgrown fortunes have grown up under the shelter of protectionism in opposition to the Democracy. Trusts and combines built up by the protective tariff laws and special privileges enacted by the Republicans have made them possible. When the Democrats regain the government they will be distributed without any violation of natural right, by restoring equality of opportunity to all the people.

A Triumvirate of Hocus Pocus.

In an article plainly inspired at the War Department and written by "Dickinson," we find the following estimate of the powers, glories, and lasting qualities of the three men who dispute with the giant life insurance companies the title of the "Big Three":

"Mr. Roosevelt will be only fifty years old when his present term expires. Mr. Taft will be only fifty-two; and Mr. Root will be sixty-four. They will be the masters of the Republican party even after a new generation of voters—the one that is now coming on with its imagination inflamed by the glories of Roosevelt—has taken the place of the present one. While in absolute sympathy personally, they represent intellectual variants that converge at a common point, and they will do more than any other group of men alive to hold the fighting line of their party intact."

In plain English, these three men have conspired to hold the reins of government for another generation, at least. In order to remain "masters of the Republican party," as they are at present, and to perpetuate "the glories of Roosevelt," and the whole brood of strenuosities and acrobats, political and physical, Mr. Taft is to be the next President, because he "is not in sympathy with many of the economic reforms that are being fought by his chief, notably railroad rate legislation and the inheritance tax." Mr. Roosevelt himself might encounter trouble in raising money from the trusts and in securing votes from the people on account of these proposed reforms, if he were the candidate; but Mr. Taft would satisfy all men and all trusts. Taft is, therefore, to be the candidate in 1908; and Roosevelt is to be Secretary of State, and from that perch is to see that his policies are carried out by Taft and Root until 1916, when he is again to re-enter the White House for eight years more. He will then be only sixty-six, and Taft, who will be only sixty-eight, will succeed him, and remain in office for eight years more. By that time the new generation "inflamed by the glories of Roosevelt," will have had fun enough for one generation. We'll get a new deal then, and wipe out Rooseveltism, Dingleyism, and triple-headed bossism forever.

Partisan Politics.

The partisan persistence of the Republican managers in refusing to agree on the bill to admit Oklahoma is entirely opposed to public opinion on this question. The Senate, for once at least, is actually in agreement with the Democrats, that justice be done to nearly one million citizens who have made their homes in Oklahoma and Indian Territory. The question of the admission of Arizona and New Mexico as one State has been very properly left by the Senate amendment to the vote of the people, but to this the Republican majority of the House refuse to agree. When these standpat members are asking for endorsement next fall the voters should give them a dose of their own medicine and refuse to re-elect those who would not trust the people.

Political Potpourri.

Congress seems determined to cut down the salary of Chairman Shonts, although President Roosevelt declared he was cheap at the price—$50,000 a year.

The United States Supreme Court has endorsed the Democratic contention, that the railroads must confine themselves to the transportation business and not be interested in coal mining or the selling of any commodity.

The Southern cotton planters, entirely unprotected by the tariff, are quite prosperous and are organizing to protect themselves from the protected monopolists. How do the Republican standpatters explain this prosperity of the unprotected

The Republican city of Omaha has given the G. O. P. the grand bounce by electing a full set of Democratic officials. This indicates that even Nebraska Republicans are bound to have retrenchment and reform, which their own party will not furnish.

It may surprise some people to know that Uncle Sam has gone into cement manufacturing in Arizona, to protect himself from the cement combine and is turning out hundreds of barrels daily at a cost far below the market price. And yet Congress refuses to revise the tariff, the tax on cement being 20 per cent, and even refuses to abate the tax to the suffering people of San Francisco.

The delegates to the Republican convention of the 10th Iowa Congressional district refused to commend President Roosevelt for selecting Leslie M. Shaw as Secretary of the Treasury. There are a good many Republicans everywhere who feel the same way, but do not like to express themselves so freely for fear of disturbing "the party." If a convention could be held of the Wall street bankers, Shaw would win hands down.

Postmaster-General Cortelyou told the Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads that the department had not recommended the granting of railroad mail subsidy, but that "no objection had been raised against it." Cortelyou evidently believes it good policy not to oppose the railroads in their graft, or he might not find it easy to collect campaign funds from the corporations for the next national election.

Kissing is evidently becoming an important part of the political game, for two of the most eminent osculators, Hobson, of Alabama, and Hoch, of Kansas, have received nominations from their respective parties. But there is a vast difference between the Hobson, or Democratic brand, and the Hoch, or Republican brand. In the case of Hobson, many women seem anxious to be kissed, while in the latest reported attempt of Hoch, although he is governor of Kansas, the lady in the case repulsed him. That should settle Hoch's case with the voters.

Bills have been introduced in Congress suspending for one year the duties on structural steel and other necessary materials for use in the construction of buildings in San Francisco and other Pacific coast cities affected by the recent disasters. This is the first political movement due to the earthquake. If the stand-patters have their way these bills will be defeated, on the principle that there must be no crack in the Dingley tariff wall, lest the people should discover that it was not of divine origin. It is all right to give money after it has been collected from the people by taxation, but it would be sacrilege to allow anybody to buy steel and lumber not protected by a tariff law.