

STORY OF THE YAZOO FRAUD

One of the Most Gigantic Trusts Ever Known in America.

One of the most gigantic trusts ever formed on this continent was in the early days of the republic, back in 1795. Several gentlemen organized themselves into a company for the purpose of purchasing from the state of Georgia her unclaimed western territory, extending from the Mississippi on the west to the Atlantic on the east and from the thirty-first degree of latitude north of the equator on the south to the southern boundary of Tennessee on the north, including what now constitutes the territory of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. This vast territory was purchased for \$500,000 and this was the commencement of the famous "Yazoo fraud," about which so much was said and written.

The bill authorizing the purchase and sale passed the Georgia legislature on Jan. 9, 1795, and it is said that members were paid all the way from eight negroes to 200,000 acres of land to vote for it. Corruption by bribery was open. Great indignation spread throughout the state, and upon the assembling of the legislature one year later an act was passed declaring that the said resurped act was null and void; that the records relating to the same be burned in order that no trace of so unconstitutional, vile and fraudulent a transaction should remain public.

"The infamous records were placed in one vast heap," said a senator, "and a sun glass was used to set it on fire, that it might be said that the fire that destroyed it was from heaven. This is the first and only instance in the history of the country where a legislative body personally superintended the destruction by fire of its previous records of corrupt and obnoxious laws."—St. Paul Globe.

AN EDITOR'S APOLOGY.

A Happy Inspiration That Proved to Be a Boomerang.

The editor of a small provincial paper in Austria was in great difficulty to find a fit subject for his leading article, having been too intent upon other business or upon pleasure to provide one. The last moment had come, and the editor was in despair. He tortured his brain in vain, when he suddenly was inspired by a happy thought and dashed off the lines:

"After carefully perusing the leading article written for the present number by one of the ablest of our contributors, we have arrived at the conclusion that it may be misinterpreted by the authorities and regarded as an attack upon the government. We ourselves consider it to be perfectly innocent; but, as we are unwilling, for our readers' sake as well as for our own, to have our newspaper confiscated, we have very unwillingly, though, as we think, prudently, resolved to withdraw the article. This must serve as the apology to our readers for the blank space in our present issue."

The journal was published in the evening, and the able editor, after performing this little piece of stratagem, left the office in high humor. As soon as he arrived in the office the next morning a clerk came up to him with a doleful expression and said, "Herr Redaktor, the paper is confiscated by the police!" "For what reason?" asked the astonished editor. "For malicious ridicule of the institutions of the Austrian empire by the omission of the leading article," replied the man.

A Curious Shoe Trust.

Dorsetown has four odd characters who pool their issues in buying shoes. They all have the same sized foot, and each regards this fact in the nature of a libel perpetrated upon him by the other three. Every year each one of the quartet chips in \$18, and the fund of \$72 is expended for shoes. Buying them in such quantities there is naturally a reduction in price. One would think that there would be an equal division of the shoes, but that isn't their little game.

The shoes are owned collectively, share and share alike, and when not being worn they are kept in a closet in the express office, which is the general lounging place of the quartet. If one man wants to wear new shoes, he goes to the express office and puts them on. If he wears rascals in the daytime and wants to wear patent leathers in the evening, he goes to the express office and makes the change. They have been doing this for several years and claim they wouldn't wear shoes in any other way.—Philadelphia Record.

Why They Keep to the Right.
"It is a rare treat for a person to go

KIDNEY DISEASE

CHICAGO'S GREAT
CRIMINAL LAWYER
CURED.



Chicago, Ill., Sept. 5, 1899.
The Dodge Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—I suffered from Rheumatism and Kidney Trouble for years. My condition grew gradually worse, in spite of my efforts to improve it, and finally I became totally blind. I consulted different physicians, but none of them could cure me. My case seemed to be hopeless. My physician advised me to try Dodge's Kidney Pills. I used the pills, and am now glad to say that I am cured. My eyesight is restored, the Rheumatism has disappeared, and my kidneys appear to be in as good and healthy condition as before I was attacked with the disease. I am as well as every way as I ever was.

Dodge's Kidney Pills cure all diseases of the Kidneys. Sold by all dealers in medicine. 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50. Sent on receipt of price by The Dodge Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

through Europe the first time," said a returned tourist. "I visited one old palace in Scotland and was walking down a long corridor when I came to a sentinel, who told me to keep to the right. I could not see any reason why I should keep to the right and asked him why, but he said he could not tell. I finally asked the custodian, and he said he had looked it up in the archives of the palace and found that nearly 100 years ago the floor was painted, and some people walked over the fresh paint. The officer of the day was ordered to station a sentinel there to keep people off from the fresh paint and have them walk to the right. The order had never been countermanded, and from that day to this a sentinel stands there and tells everybody to keep to the right."—Indianapolis Press.

Antidotes For Carbolic Acid.

Alcohol and vinegar are effective antidotes for carbolic acid poisoning, a New York doctor announces. Whatever quantity of the poison has been swallowed, four times as much whisky or five times as much vinegar should be administered immediately. No oil of any kind should be given. "Thus treated early enough," he adds, "all cases will recover."

Cool the Bees and the People.

"People buy comb honey," said a man from the country, "believing that the fact that it is sealed by the honest little bee precludes the possibility of fraud. The fact is that the bees of many professional 'honey' raisers do nothing the livelong summer but pack glucose into their hives from an open barrel that is left standing close by. The bee will not search fragrant flowers the livelong day for a trifling amount of pure honey when he can get glucose. The honey men see that there is plenty of glucose handy, and instead of one pound of pure honey they add the bees in putting ten pounds of glucose on the market.

"Human ingenuity has not devised a way for making and sealing the honey-comb, or the bee would be dispensed with altogether. In handling the glucose the bees give it a honeyish flavor, and if you complain to the bee man that it is not as sweet and sticky as it should be he will tell you that it is the early crop and that the heavy rains make it thin.

"I know a man who keeps 50 hives of bees on the roof of his store in the city, and by hustling up plenty of glucose he gets enough 'honey' out of the buzzing slaves to do a wholesale business in honey. Why, his bees never saw a flower and would shy at a honey-suckle if they happened to come near one. He will not even let the poor things have a recess to get a drink of water, but keeps a pan of fresh water near the hives for them to drink."—New York Mail and Express.

An Immortal Oration.

The funeral oration of Pericles is pretty nearly what was actually spoken, or else it is the substance of the speech written out in the historian's own words, says James Ford Rhodes in The Atlantic. Its intensity of feeling and the fitting of it so well into the situation indicate it to be a living contemporary document, and at the same time it has that universal application which we note in so many speeches of Shakespeare.

A few years after our civil war a lawyer in a city of the middle west who had been selected to deliver the Memorial day oration came to a friend of his in despair because he could write nothing but the commonplaces about those who had died for the Union and for the freedom of a race which had been uttered many times before, and he asked for advice.

"Take the funeral oration of Pericles for a model," was the reply. "Use his words where they will fit and dress up the rest to suit our day."

The orator was surprised to find how much of the oration could be used bodily and how much, with adaptation, was germane to his subject.

Averted the Storm.

A certain congressman went home at a very early hour in the morning. He had made a night of it with some friends. He knew that his conduct would be considered reprehensible by his better half, and so, as he ascended the steps of his modest home, he racked his brain for some plan to avert the lady's wrath. As he entered the hall he saw an umbrella. Instantly it occurred to him that the umbrella might be his salvation.

He carried the umbrella up stairs. Seating himself on a chair in the corner of the bedroom, he raised the rain guard over his head, and then he coughed loudly. His wife awoke and saw in the dim gaslight her liege lord sitting solemnly under the raised umbrella.

"What are you doing?" she asked in natural surprise.

"It is 3 o'clock, my dear," said he, "and I am waiting for the storm."

The congressman's ready wit saved him from a Caudle lecture. He is worrying now, however, to find an equally effective act for the next time he stays out late.—Washington Post.

A Mightier Tribe.

Once upon a time the Rev. Thomas K. Beecher of Elmira, N. Y., brother to Henry Ward Beecher, got into some sort of a quarrel with a man named Smith down at Cohoes. Thomas K. Beecher wrote the prominent man a defiant little note, saying curtly:

"Do you want to get into a quarrel with the Beecher family?"

And the man wrote back, with a snarl:

"Do you want to fight with the Smith family?"

And no Beecher could stand that. Thomas K. laughed and hastened to make terms.—Los Angeles Times.

At the battle of Hastings, A. D. 1066, the weapons being swords and battleaxes, 500 fell fatally wounded out of every 1,000 soldiers.



PROSPECTUS

OF THE

SIEGEL-COOPER CO. CO-OPERATIVE STORES,

NEW YORK AND CHICAGO.

Profit-Sharing with Our Patrons—Co-Operation with Our Employees.

The great success attained since 1887 by Siegel, Cooper & Co. has induced and given warrant to the enterprising owners to further ingratiate themselves into public favor by consolidating their two mammoth establishments into a co-operative enterprise on a profit-sharing basis. They recognize the tendency of the present age to be in the direction of co-operation of employers with employees, as well as in profit-sharing with patrons.

To accomplish this desired condition a new company, the Siegel-Cooper Co. (Co-operative Stores, New York and Chicago), has been incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey, with a capital stock of \$24,000,000, of which \$14,250,000 is divided into 285,000 shares of \$50.00 par value, and \$9,750,000 into 195,000 shares of \$50.00 par value.

The charter of the Company provides that after full dividends of 6% per annum have been paid on the Preferred Stock, and full dividends of 3% per annum have been paid on the Common Stock, all additional dividends shall be apportioned and paid on the basis of 1/3 in amount on the Preferred Stock and 2/3 in amount on the Common Stock.

To carry out the plan of co-operation with its employees, \$2,000,000 of the Common Stock has been placed in trust, the annual dividends of which will be distributed among such employees as have been or may hereafter be with the New York or Chicago establishment for a period of three years, during their satisfactory continuance in the service of the new Company; such dividends will also be continued and paid to employees for life who, after ten years of service with the new Company, become incapacitated for further employment, thereby practically providing a pension fund for faithful employees in their old age.

To carry out the plan of Profit Sharing it is proposed by the present owners, who are the owners of all the stock of the new company, to offer to the public through the undersigned 200,000 shares (fully paid and non-assessable) of the 6% cumulative Preferred Stock at par; upon which the full 6% dividend must always be paid before the Common Stock receives any dividend whatever, the Preferred Stock also having a prior right to all the assets of the company.

In order to give double assurance to the general public, whom it is desired to interest as stockholders (instead of speculators) and who may not be fully conversant with such investments, the money required to pay dividends on said 200,000 shares has been set aside and will remain on deposit with the Central Trust Company of New York and the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank of Chicago respectively to secure the dividend of 6% per annum, payable 3% semi-annually, for a period of five years, i. e., until July 1st, 1905, on all such Preferred Stock as may be allotted in their respective territories, and each certificate of stock so allotted will have an indorsement by said Trust companies respectively to that effect. We thereby offer not only an absolutely safe 6% investment, but one which will without question yield considerably more.

Under no circumstances will any of the Preferred Stock not so allotted, nor any of the Common Stock, be sold, the present owners having no desire to sell out, but intending to remain with the business; they will therefore not part with any more stock than they believe necessary to fully carry out their plans for co-operation and profit-sharing, as previously stated.

The owners confidently believe that, by inaugurating the liberal policy above outlined towards their employees, they will in return be rewarded by more faithful service and courteous attention to patrons, the result of which must be beneficial to the new company, as well as augment the continued good will of the public.

Furthermore, it can be calculated to a certainty that with many thousands of new stockholders exerting their personal influence toward the success and welfare of the business larger patronage and correspondingly greater earnings for the new company will be assured. It is from the increased benefits and material advantages which these changed conditions are expected to bring about that the present owners feel confident of better pro-rata remuneration on the stock which they retain and in a measure justifies them in parting with any portion of their interests in an established and exceptionally profitable business.

The SIEGEL-COOPER CO. Co-operative Stores will take possession Monday, July 2d, 1900, of the two great department stores of Siegel-Cooper Co., New York, and Siegel, Cooper & Co., Chicago, in their entirety, covering a floor space of over thirty acres, with their millions of dollars' worth of Merchandise, Store Fixtures, Delivery Plants (consisting of many hundreds of Horses, Wagons, etc.), Machinery, extensive Stable Properties and all appurtenances required for the complete operation of the two stores, and also its palatial fireproof store building and real estate in New York City which alone represents an asset of many millions of dollars, free of all encumbrances or indebtedness whatever, so that the Siegel-Cooper Co. (Co-operative Stores, New York and Chicago) will start its career without owing a single dollar.

For the good and sufficient reason of not wishing to divulge the details of our business to our competitors we present no balance sheet for publication. We do not, however, desire to ask our patrons or the public to rely exclusively on our representations, and therefore the money required has been set aside and will remain on deposit.

In order to subscribe for shares use the blank hereto attached:

Date.....1900.

To the Siegel-Cooper Co., Chicago, Ill.:
Enclosed please find \$....., being 20 per cent, first payment,
upon shares of the Preferred Stock of the Siegel-Cooper Co.
(fill in amount.)
(fill in number of shares.)
(Co-operative Stores, New York and Chicago), for which I hereby subscribe and promise to pay to the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank, at its office in Chicago, Illinois, as agent of the vendors, the balance due on shares of the stock allotted to me on or before July 5th, 1900.

Name.....

Street address.....

Town..... State.....

posit with the above named Trust Companies to absolutely secure the dividends on all the Preferred stock to be allotted as stated. Moreover, we allude with pride to the fact that the Chicago establishment has since its inception paid millions of dollars in dividends to its stockholders, and that the New York establishment, while only in its fourth year, is not only doing a larger business than the Chicago store, but is also on a most profitable dividend paying basis. We can also say for the benefit of subscribers that the net earnings of our two establishments for the past year were largely in excess of the amount required to pay the dividends on all the Preferred Stock of the new company.

There will be no change in the management, and the same men who thirteen years ago started the original Siegel, Cooper & Co. store in Chicago (and later its sister store in New York), and who have achieved a success almost without parallel in modern retailing, have pledged themselves to continue in the management of the business of the new company the same as in the past, and they will deposit with the Central Trust Company of New York all of their stock holdings for a term of years to secure such pledge.

Subscriptions for the 200,000 shares of the Preferred Stock will be received in person or by mail on blank forms provided for that purpose at the office of Siegel, Cooper & Co., Chicago, beginning at 10 A. M., Monday, May 7th, 1900, and will continue for a period of one week; the right, however, is reserved to close subscriptions upon one day's notice in any one of the Chicago daily papers.

All subscriptions must be accompanied by money, check, money order or draft payable to Siegel-Cooper Co. to the amount of 20% of such subscriptions (equal to \$10.00 per share), for which proper receipts will be given.

Notice will be given as soon as practicable of the number of shares allotted to each subscriber, and the balance due must be paid to the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank, corner La Salle street and Jackson boulevard, Chicago, as agent of the vendors, on or before July 5, 1900, and said bank will thereupon make delivery of the stock delivered to it for that purpose, pursuant to the allotments thereof.

With a view of extending the benefits of our offer to as many of our patrons and the public as possible it is proposed to allot the stock in the following order, namely:

1st.—To all subscriptions for one share.
2d.—To all subscriptions for two shares.
3d.—To all subscriptions for three shares.

And to continue in the same order for larger subscriptions until the entire 200,000 shares have been allotted.

Respectfully,
SIEGEL-COOPER CO.
(Co-operative stores, New York and Chicago.)