

Idaho

THE great change of bringing 14,000,000 acres of land that were once but desert under cultivation is steadily going on in Idaho. As fast as water can be supplied the transformation is made, and now lands that were worth less than \$1.00 an acre fifteen years ago are selling in the entire state almost, with water attached, at \$150.00

Everything grows in the soil of Idaho so soon as moisture can be supplied. Her fruit ranks among the very finest in the world, its abundance is wonderful, and the markets are waiting for it, no matter how much can be produced.

The state still maintains its mining prestige. The yield from the northern mines is very great. There is just enough mining to give a market for all the state can produce in the way of agriculture and horticulture.

The region around the new waterworks is fast becoming a sugar region. We believe one ranch up there this year had 12,000 acres of sugar beets. It seems to be especially adapted for that purpose, and we do not see how any catastrophe can come to the industry, because with the utmost exertion the increased amount of sugar every year does not keep up with the increased demand, and millions and millions of dollars are paid for imported sugar.

Idaho will have more land under cultivation fifteen years hence than the great state of New York; it will produce just twice per acre over the ordinary eastern lands, and the prices of products will be just about twice as high. It is an ideal place for the farmer and the horticulturist to work; the climate is among the very best in the world, and a generation hence, the Gem state should be one of the richest in the Union.

Mining

MR. HARRIMAN the other day gave expression to the wonderful product of the mines of the United States and to the tremendous business they give the transportation companies. He was right. One big lead and silver or copper mine is worth more to a railroad than half a dozen townships of agricultural land when planted in ordinary crops.

If a man raises fruit or corn, a few carloads disposes of his crop. If a man raises fruit all the benefit it is to the roads only covers a few days in the autumn. A great copper or silver and lead mine means business to the railroads every day in the year; it means employment to a large force of men every day in the year; it means a constant absorption of machinery and merchandise; it settles upon a state or a community like a veritable providence. But beyond all that, when it is put in commercial form it is a factor of profit to all the country. It enters into no competition with any other man's industry, rather by the amount it produces, the volume of money of the world is increased and the price of every other man's property is increased accordingly.

When silver was demonetized the men of the great farms in the east were glad, they drew around themselves the robe of self-righteousness and declared that there were wicked men in the west who would, if they could, debase the coinage of the nation and pay their debts in dollars that were worth only half dollars. It was a pitiable spectacle of ignorance on their part; it revealed more ignorance on the part of the great press of the East than they have ever showed on any other subject, and even when the effects of the demonetization began to be apparent, when all they had felt in value as much as silver had seemed to fall, they still hugged their self-righteousness to their souls, and they looked upon the hard times as does the faithful Moslem when a

calamity comes to him and he shrugs his shoulders and says: "It is the will of Allah."

Because of the western miner the United States has advanced from a fourth or fifth rate power to the front rank of nations in half a century; because of the mining in the west the product of eastern farms has doubled; so has the value of eastern lands. When men realize the

The Greatest of These

By Arthur W. Copp.

"THREE things," said Christ, "My Father asks;
These, then, I teach to thee.
These are the things thine hearts must hold;
Faith, hope, and charity.

"FAITH, thou shouldst have, for without that
Thou canst not look on high;
Hope, thou shouldst have, for without hope
How canst thou pierce the sky?
But charity, it must be thine;
Without its soft'ning fold
No man may look upon his God
And fashion in His mold.

"BEST thou that hooded woman there?
Who taught her wage of sin?
Who showed to her the reeling path?
What holds her soul within?
Wouldst thou, who cheated at the nets,
Wouldst thou, who robbed the road,
Wouldst thou, who filched thy master's shop,
Make keen this woman's goad?

"WHO knows but God this woman's cause
For all her scarlet way?
When He forgives, then wouldst thou dare
To raise thine hand to slay?
Each blackened soul holds deep within
A reason for its fall;
God knows, and if thou lovest Him,
Show Him thy best of all—

"AND this, oh, men who follow Me
To where My Father reigns,
This, this is boundless charity.
Ah, ye of earth, the stains
That come of crime-begotten lives
Are less before the Throne
Than those that show on hardened hearts,
On those who cast the stone.

"BEFORE thine eyes on Calvary
Christ and a dying thief
Thou'lt see, and at the cross
thou'lt hear
A woman's hopeless grief.
Mark well, oh, men, what passes there;
For charity is naught,
But God's own boundless, deathless love.
And this thou'lt have, blood-bought."

truth they will acknowledge that civilization itself advances and recedes just in the ratio that the precious and semi-precious mines give up their treasure.

This is so palpable that when the miners want anything that is fair they ought to have it, and when they approach the government, show how many Americans have employment in the mines,

what they do with their money, how they educate their children, how they build the cities and make the waste places glad, and ask for protection against the peons of another country, men without pride of ancestry, without any honest pride, who do not educate their children, who keep their wives in huts, who have no instincts except those of semi-barbarous men, when such an appeal is made the government ought to respond without debate.

Mining is the noblest work that man ever engaged in, for the reason that whatever the miner does, whatever he produces, whether it is a benefit to himself or not, it is a benefit to all his countrymen.

The Holiday Season

THE HOLIDAY season is upon us. The year's accounts are about closed; the time is here when the children claim their prerogatives; when they begin to count their treasures, when the love they return for blessing received, ennobles those who receive it, and make them realize that the utmost they can give is but a beggarly return for the love that is given them, when men realize that a world without children would be at best a barren promontory, upon which men would become savages in a generation, when the songs of children are sweeter than flute or harp, and are in themselves a promise of the spring with its birds and blooms, and as men listen they become human, and are willing to admit that when the world was created, it was in love and that man himself makes all its discords.

Death of Mrs. Doscher

THE DEATH of Mrs. H. W. Doscher, whose funeral was on Monday last, was sad beyond expression. Only those who know the family realize how blessed a home that was, when the beautiful mother was there, and how desolate it is now. The husband and the bereft children are lost in sorrow. They may have imagined many things, but that the wife and mother would be taken from them while yet in her youth, they never deemed possible, and their grief is something terrible. May the All Compassionate have pity upon them, and give to them something of the peace that has come to the beloved one who has gone.

The Nishal Novgorod Fair

CONSUL GENERAL SHAW, from Moscow, tells about this year's great fair in Russia. It is that fair that is really the annual market of the great empire. The population of the little town of 75,000 is increased to 200,000. The purchasers come from Russia, central Asia, Persia, Bokara and China. At the fair of 1907 the sales amounted to \$64,525,000, which was a little greater than that of this year. The goods included cotton textures, wool, woolen manufactures, hides, furs, rubber, shoes, drugs, chemicals, tobacco, cigars, horsehair, bristles, dressed leather and many other things. Eight banks did a great business. Their drafts amounted to \$80,606,134; drafts paid, \$25,950,841; bills of exchange, discounted, \$10,836,163; payments on bills, discounted and collected, \$10,160,560. It is the great event in Russia. If anyone has anything fine for sale he takes it there; if anyone wants to make purchases, no matter in what line, he goes there.

We are not at all certain that it would not be a good idea to have just such a fair and market in one of the old West states of our own country, where for a month or two men with anything for sale would know they would get offers if they took their property there.

"Have you read any of the recent fiction?" "I have read it all." "Where?" "In Dumas, forty years ago."—Boston Traveler.