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Strictly in Advance. Holdenhurst Hall WALTER BLOOMFIELD

CHAPTER XXII.

Continued. "Bravo, Ernest; well resolved. didn't think you had so much grit you. I would not have advised vo in this case, but had I done so I could have pointed out no fairer or better line of action. So much for that. Put your letter in your pocket and get on with your breakfast. What can I help

"I have not much appetite this morn ing, thank you, uncle. Another cup of coffee and I have done."

you to?"

"If it is because you are in love that you can't eat I will excuse you, bu not if it is because matters in which you take an interest don't go so smoothly as you could wish. If I had suffered my appetite to decline every one or other of the scores of matters in which I interest myself ran off the line I had marked out for it I should have been dead of starvation years ago. Exert your imagination, andforgetting all about sequins, dishonest retainers, village beauties, and whatever else occupies your thoughtsbring yourself to believe that man was born chiefly for the consumption of food-which is certainly true of the greater number of us. Imagination will work wonders. I have seen a penniless beggar confined in an insane asylum who has believed that he was a king, and been far happier in that belief than many a specimen of the real article surrounded by intriguers and fawning thieves. Now I have a proposal to make respecting this steak. You will observe that it is a very small piece-that it does not weigh much more than a pound. Well, get outside. of that steak and this piece of bread and I will give you a letter of introduction to Mrs. Van Rensselaer, which will enable you to spend the day at Tarrytown with Connie for your companion: refuse me, and I will give such a letter to your friend, Mr. Price, who yesterday asked me for it."

The task imposed was a formidable one, but then the prize with which success was to be rewarded was so delightful, and the calamity assigned to failure so awful, that I addressed myself to it with great courage. But my gastronomical powers were not equal to the strain to which it was proposed to subject them, and before my task was half completed I pushed my plate from me and gave up the attempt in despair. My uncle, who had been watching me, generously forgave my shortcoming, and remarking that I ran better when spurred, invited me into his study, where he wrote as follows on the back of one of his address

Dear Mrs. Van Rensselaer-The young gentleman who will hand you this is my naphew, Mr. Ernest Truman, of Holdenhurst, near Bury St. Edmund's, or so ago, and we are his only connections here. Kindly receive him to-day, introduce him to your friends and tell can. Very faithfully yours, S. T. Sept. 13, 18-.

ed me the card, "that will do the business for you. Mrs. Van Rensselaer owes me some gratitude for helping to settle her late husband's affairs, and she will be very pleased to entertain, you. Con and your aunt will be delighted when they learn you are to acnow barely half-past eight. I have much to do to-day, and am going down town at once, so you must amuse yourself for the next couple of hours in any way you can. Hadn't you better send your father a telegram informing him of your intention to return in the Umbria? I am going to telegraph to England myself, and will despatch your message with mine."

I hastily scribbled in my pocketbook. "Truman, Holdenhurst, Bury St. Edmund's, England - Letter received. Returning in Umbria. Ernest," and uncle, who having expressed his approval if it, wished me a pleasant day and disappeared down the stairs. A minute afterward I heard the street door close, and looking out of the window saw my uncle walking rapidly

toward Fifth avenue.

I watched my uncle's departure from ferred me of all men, and would never and vouchsafed us no further notice ten despaired, and the result was a marry unless with me, while her pow- until our arrival at Tarrytown. erful guardian, who had given abundant evidence of his prejudice in my favor, had just assured me that he and I felt that I could not tell Conwas not opposed to my suit. But the stance of my resolve to return at once estrangement of my father and uncle, to England without at the same time and above all that disboyed parental informing her of the reason for my command which I carried in my pocket were as black clouds threatening to obscure the sunshine of my happi. ed her with the story of the sequins I ness. Now that uncle Sam was gone did not have to again go through that his defense of Annie Wolsey seemed wearisome recital, but merely related painfully strained and insufficient, and

I could not but regard the circum-

stance as another and formidable diffi-

Copyright 1866, by ROBERT ROWNER'S SONS, culty to be encountered in seeking to effect the reconciliation of the brothers. My consolence whispered that my right and proper course was to obey my father, but I was too deeply in love with Constance Marsh to dare to imperil my present amicable terms with her by offending my uncle, and he twofold result would necessarily follow that course. When momentous decisions have to be made by the morally weak (and such was my condition at the period of which I write), then also comes suffering, for it is the quality of . weakness to shrink from pain, even when conscious that in so doing it not only postpones but accunulates disaster. Pondering these things I slowly returned to my room to prepare for the excursion to Tarrytown-which luckily I had not done before, for my uncle's practical illustration of the way I was to deal with old

toilet of a Suffolk farm laborer. At half-past ten aunt Gertrude and Miss Marsh entered the drawing room, bound up with the recovery of the sewhere I awaited them in some trepida. tion, for I knew that my uncle had not arranged for me to accompany them quietly. to Tarrytown, and it was quite posside that they might depart without me, or that my company might be less agreeable to them than my uncle had to get that money I am to forget you?" represented. These fears were at "No, do not do that in any case, but dry, the weather will be fresh and dry, This made it dry and easy to wash coming forward to greet me, assured quins." me of the pleasure with which she had just learned that I was to be their companion for the day.

I expressed my thanks, and at the same time my surprise that she should know of this, for I was sure that she could not have seen her husband since I saw him leave the house.

"Oh, you don't quite understand," said aunt Gertrude, laughing, "my husband is now at his office, and he has just been talking to me by telephone." Both ladies were dressed ready to depart, and looked very charming, particularly Miss Marsh, who stood near to the open door, giving sundry pats and twitches to a refractory rose which could not be easily induced to repose in the bosom of a white muslin dress to the satisfaction of its mistress. A I observed this beautiful but silent girl waiting while her sister and l were talking, I did not think, and could not then have believed that it was she moved uncle Sam to furnish me with an introduction to Mrs. Van Rensselaer. That knowledge did not come to me till long after. A wife is

maid would shrink. The journey to the dock in my uncle's carriage did not occupy many minutes. Arrived there we at once went on board my uncle's yacht-a small steamer, exquisitely designed England. He arrived in America a day and superbly fitted, a floating palace in miniature. The hour appointed for our departure had not yet arrived, but steam being up, and the captain, unhim all he don't know-as far as you derstanding that our party was complete, the gangway was at once raised. and the Iroquois slowly steamed out "There," said uncle Sam, as he hand. from among the trading steamships by which she was surrounded and bore round into the North River.

lavish of confession from which a

September and October are the most pleasant months in North America. Then the fierce giare of summer has subsided, and the air is dry, clear and exhilarating, and the foliage assumes company them. I have no doubt you a beautiful golden tint. In such a seawill find a sail up the Hudson to Tar. son a journey up the Hudson River is rytown very enjoyable. My yacht will a very delightful experience. The be ready to leave at eleven, and it is American Rhine, as the Hudson is sometimes called, is inferior to the German Rhine in nothing but historical associations, though even in this respect it is not destitute. Precipitous banks, rising to a height of from 300 to 500 feet, for the most part thickly wooded, among which here and there nestles a picturesque village or elegant mansion standing in its own highly cultivated grounds, enchant the eyes

of the stranger for many miles along its course. Speaking for myself I must say that I remember few if any days in my life upon which I have extearing out the leaf handed it to my perienced greater pleasure than was mine on the particular thirteenth of September of which I now write.

That the companionship of my Constance (I had already once or twice so addressed Miss Marsh and she had not demurred to the style), had much to lo with my satisfaction must be imme-I turned from the window with very diately admitted. Aunt Gertrude, different feelings than were mine when with admirable tact, had begged Constance and me to excuse her continu-Heldenhurst. Then I perceived no ing the perusal of an interesting book ray of hope for the accomplishment of which she had brought with her, and my desires; now my path seemed clear we (heaven bless our charity) saw fit and easy. The girl whom I loved had to graciously grant the desired pardon, gone so far as to declare that she pre- upon which she took a seat at the aft,

> The few hours remaining to me in America were rapidly wasting away, sudden departure. This I now proceeded to do. Having already acquaintuncle Sam's view of the case and the

livice which he had given me. "And must you really leave for Eng-Africa.

land so soon as the day after to-morrow?" asked Constance, looking up at me repreachfully. "Why, Ernest, dear, you have only just come here!"

"I am sorry I must," I replied, "but I will stay in England only so long as it takes to recover those sequins, and will then return to you by the first

"Why, you may never recover them! How much are the old coins worth, all of them, wherever they are?" inquired

Constance. "Almost a hundred and seventeen

thousand pounds," I answered. "Oh, I don't understand that," said Constance: "tell me in dollars." "Five hundred and sixty thousand

dollars, exactly." "Well, let them go, and trouble no more about them; they have already caused mischlef enough. I haven't so much money at my banker's, but if you will abandon the pursuit of those sequins I will get Sam to sell out a little of my stock to-morrow and give

you a check for that amount. Will that satisfy you?" Satisfy me." I exclaimed in amazement. "My dear Constance, how shall I answer you? Your generosity takes my breath away. I want those sequins for one reason only, and but for that one special reason I don't think I would interest myself about them at all, or certainly not much. If only I could get those coins, their possession would give me courage to ask you to become my wife, courage I must always want while you are rich and I John Adams would have wrecked the dear Connie, which takes me back to England, and also the honor of my uncle Sam which, as you know, is

quins." "And if you recover them, you say seen either of these ladies since he had you will return," remarked Constance

"Yes, dearest Connie, and then my fate will rest with you."

"Am I to understand that if you fail once dispelled by aunt Gertrude, who, I think I will be sure to get the se-

> "Oh, Ernest, dear," said this artless girl, pressing my hand, "come to me when you will, with money or without money, I am always yours. I can love none but you."

CHAPTER XXIII. AT TARRYTOWN.

Pleasant hours pass quickly. When the Iroquois entered Tappan Bay I was surprised to find that it was two

o'clock. Aunt Gertrude-who had not spoken to her fellow travelers once during the journey, nor, so far as I was aware, in any way observed them -now laid her book aside and came toward us. Constance and I-the f rmer very quiet since her declaration of | to him: affection for me, as if abashed by that spontaneous avowal - also rose from seats and went to meet her, and to-Gertrude pointing out to me where Piermont lay, and the course of the beautiful Palisades, and explaining to whom belonged the tasteful mansions with which the river banks were now thickly dotted. In this delightful situation, with one of these charming sisters on either arm—the more youthful and silent my very own, the other my near relation, wife of the man I most admired-I was intoxicated with my happiness, and felt how unworthy I was of my place-an image of Suffolk

clay set between two jewels. The Iroquois was now slowly approaching a landing stage at the foot of a very steep bank, on the summit of which stood the Rensselaer mansion -an elegant structure of wood, with three verandas continued quite around the building. The bank was cut into a series of terraces, each a carefully cultivated flower garden, connected by white marble steps flanked with copies of classical statues. All the doors and windows of the house appeared to be open, while dispersed about the grounds was a numerous party of ladies and gentlemen, some of whom were endeavoring to make out the Iro-

quois by the aid of lorgnettes. "See!" exclaimed aunt Gertrude, with almost childish glee, "there are Mrs. Van Rensselaer and Mr. Rosenberg on the top terrace endeavoring to

salute us. " Connie handed me the lorgnette through which she had just been looking, and I saw distinctly the two persons of whom aunt Gertrude had spoken. Mrs. Van Rensselaer was a lady not much short of fifty, tall, stately, with clear cut, regular features, and Mr. Rosenberg was by her side way ing a white handkerchief.

Our journey, which had been a slow one, was now over. A large party was assembled on the landing stage to receive us, including the hostess, Mr. Rosenberg and several persons whom I remembered having seen at aunt Gertrude's At Home. Mrs. Van Rensselaer having assured me that any relation of her late husband's particular riend, Mr. Samuel Truman, was very welcome to her house, we proceeded to ss upward through the terrace gar dens, our hostess and aunt Gertrude leading the way, with Miss Marsh

and I immediately following. ' I had now obtained that for which I had so passionately longed and so ofbuoyancy of spirit and a degree of courage which I had never before experienced. The confidence which is born of success was strong within me, and that awkward shyness of manner which had all my life marked me out for ridicule fell away from me as it

were by magic. To be continued.

Large African Bats. Bats measuring nearly five feet from tip to tip of their wings have been found in a cave near Tanga in East



The United States lighthouse service costs \$4,500,000 a year.

There are no poorhouses in Servia. Even the poorest people own property.

\$3,000,000 a year and the Senate \$1,-400.000.

Greece has as many people as Mich-Igan and as many acres as West Vir-

lightning, has been photographed in Switzerland.

The Magyars rule Austria-Hungary, although they number but 6,000,000 or 7,000,000 in a total of 43,000,000.

The Secretary of the Aeronautical Society of Great Britain expects the site to be the base of the future instrument of aerial navigation, the aero-

The number of irrigating ditches and canals in operation in the United States exceeds 20,000, and their com- boil again. Take it off the fire and add am poor. Love of you it is chiefly, bined length is not less than 50,000 one pint of turpentine. Stir until quite

The Agricultural Department has 107,000 voluntary crop observers. Cotton is reported on seven times a year, wheat eight times, corn and oats each six times.

A piece of camphor gum is a very but if the gum absorbs the moisture and seems damp it is a sign of rain.

We learn that there are over 2000 miles of streets, covering nearly 10,000 acres, in London, and that along these streets are 1500 miles of tramways. There are eighty-seven miles of main 5,000,000 people.

Relieving the Preacher.

gether we three paced the deck, aunt the Sunday-school and who is ever ticles of the wick. ready with a contribution when asked. is a distiller."

"I am sorry," said the minister. "I will go and explain it to Mr. Jones and remove any unfavorable impression, and tell him I did not mean him." Jones, who, in addition to the profession of distilling, also carried on a good many other branches of trade and indulged in a good many amusements of various kinds.

The pastor expressed his deep regret have said in the sermon which could hurt his feelings. He was extremely sorry, indeed; he did not mean anything by it, and hoped Mr. Jones would not feel hurt.

He was somewhat relieved, when, with a jovial air, the other said: "Oh, bless you, don't mind that at all. It must be a mighty poor sermon that don't hit me somewhere."-Lon-

don Tit-Bits. Freak Vegetables and Fruit.

In the children's "freak garden" we grow monstrosities and curiosities, from pear-shaped tomatoes to Sandwich Island pumpkins, and from sertatoes, says a writer in Country Life in America. The seed catalogues abound in novelties, the growing of which certainly serves to interest others besides the children.

To Find the Salt's Source.

in the waters is not derived from local radishes cut to resemble flowers.

A Chemist is Honored.

At the annual meeting of the Assosulphuric acid manufacture.

A Return Salute.

An English warship recently arrived at Puerto Arenitas and saluted the flag of Costa Rica with twenty-one guns. It took the gunners of Costa Rica two hours to answer the salute. They had only one old muzzle loader, which had to be allowed to cool after each round. But the salute was got through in the course of the day.

Destroying the Locusts. Great success has attended the efforts of the troops and ecast guards in Egypt to combat the locust plague by destroying the young insects with-

out wings.

garananananangi | HOUSEHOLD * * * 5 * * * * MATTERS 3~~~~

Storing Plated Ware.

When storing plated goods, thoroughly wash all the silver, and then clean with powder in the usual way Wrap each piece in silver paper and place in an airtight box with a large piece of camphor. Plated goods will The House of Representatives costs place. Be very careful to dry the inside of both ten and coffee pots before polishing.

Good Plant Holders.

The possibilities of common ginger lars as flower vases and plant holders are well known. They are made twice A new kind of lightning, vortex as attractive by woven covers of raffla, either in the uncolored or the tinted varieties, says the Chicago News. When the jar shows splashes of blue, green or red at the top of the glaze, it is well to repeat the tone on the raffia.

Linoleum Polish.

This polish for linoleums, is easily made, and produces a very good result without much labor. Take four ounces of beeswax, two ounces of white wax, and two ounces of Castile soap. Scrape all fine, and pour over it one pint of boiling water. When dissolved, let it cold. Use as you would beeswax and turpentine.

Cold Without Ice, "A few years ago," writes one corespondent, "ice being expensive, my husband thought of a way to keep things cold without ice," says the

Ladies' Home Journal. "In the cellar floor he dug a hole three feet wide, good indicator of what the weather is four feet long and two and one-half going to be. If when the camphor is feet deep. He masoned it with brick exposed to the air the gum remains at the sides and cemented the bottom. and keep clean. He then fitted on a York Weekly. snug cover with an air pipe running through it. In this box we have kept things cold and sweet all summer

> without any expense whatever. . Watch the Burner.

The burner of a lamp should be esintercepting sewers, to say nothing of pecially looked after, but this is the the sewers under the control of the part most often neglected. The fine borough councils. These carry the holes in it, or the "gauze" through drainage of houses inhabited by over which air is admitted to the flames, should be kept entirely free from oil and dust. The little machinery which moves the wick up and down must A popular preacher tells a good story also be cleaned out when necessary. of a young clergyman who launched If the lamp is a large brass lamp with out on a strong temperance sermon, a tube for ventilation running clear When he had finished, a deacon said through the fount of the burner, so that air ascends to the wick from - be-"I am afraid you have made a mis- neath, be careful to examine this take. Mr. Jones, who pays the highest space, for it is likely to become pew rent, who practically supports choked with dust and burned-off par-

For Porch Chairs.

An economical, as well as permanent, method of reseating porch chairs that must withstand more or less exposure to rain is to take stout drill-Accordingly, he waited upon Mr. ing or ticking and cut it lengthwise into two-inch strips. Double these, turning in raw edges, and either "overcast" closely or stitch on machine. Next fill in the vacancy with pieces, ranged side by side. Across these draw others in an opposite dito Mr. Jones for anything he might rection, much after the principle of stocking darning, securing all tightly at the ends, so that they will not slip. This will be found more comfortable and resist wear and tear much better than if one straight piece of goods is used for the purpose.



Egg Lemonade- One egg; one or two tablespoons sugar; juice of half to one lemon; one cup of milk. Beat egg till lemon colored and thick; add sugar pent gourds to garden lemons, and and beat again. Pour into delicate from Spanish peanuts to staghorn po- glass, grate nutmeg over the top and serve. If the stomach is very delicate use the white of the egg only.

Endive Salad-Arrange a head of well-washed endive in a salad bowl, adding five radishes that have been pared and cut into dice, and four hard-In order to ascertain whether the cooked eggs that have been cut lengthflood waters behind the Tonto dam, of wise into quarters. Just before serving the Salt River project, will have an im- mix half a feaspoon of salt, a half teaportant effect in reducing the amount spoon of paprika and six tablespoons of saline constituents in the water, of olive oil; when thoroughly blended, periodical salt determinations will be add a flavoring of tarragon vinegar; made in the river waters at that point. pour over the salad and toss lightly Recent experiments show that the salt | with a silver fork. Garnish with whole

Cauliflower and Beet Salad-Boil & head of cauliflower in a piece of fine cheesecloth, until tender. Remove from the fire and break into flowerets, ciation of German Chemists, held at sprinkling with a tablespoon of lemon Manheim recently, the Liebig gold juice. When cold arrange neatly in a medal for distinguished services in ap- dish, adding two tablespoons of cold lied chemistry was presented to Dr. boiled beets cut into dice, a table-Ludolph Knietsch, of the Badische spoon of chopped parsley and a tea-Anilin und Soda-Fabrik, the discover- spoon, of finely minced wild sorrel. er of the so-called contact process of Mix them lightly with a French dressing, and garnish the base of the salad with a border of boiled carrots and beets, cut into fancy shapes.

Huckleberry Loaf Cake - Sift two cupfuls of flour with two heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder and a quarter teaspoonful of salt. Cream e cupful of butter with two cupfuls | Make you fatter?" A powdered sugar, stir in the beaten yolks of four eggs, a half pint of sweet milk, a half teaspoonful each of powdered nutmeg and cinnamon, and the stiffened whites of the four eggs | same weight?" added alternately with the sifted flour. Last of all stir in lightly a quart of huckleberries thickly dredged | effect on you." with flour. Turn into a greased mole with a funnel in the centre and bake, Plain-Dealer,

WIT and HUMOR of THE DAY

Honorable.

Harding-"I see young Warwick with Miss Prosser a good deal. He's a mau of honorable intentions, I suppose?" Whiting-"Undoubtedly. He told me he intended to marry the girl. Says always tarnish if stored in a lamp that of course; he can't steal her money."-Boston Transcript.

> Such Men Are Scarce. "The man whom I marry," said Miss Sparker, "must be handsome and-"

"And rich!" put in Miss Whizen:. "He must be more than rich," exclaimed Miss Sparker. "He must be able to pay the repair bill on my automobile."-Cleveland Leader.

Autophobia. "Herbert has been running an auto so long that he had forgotten all about horseback riding." "What did he do when the horse

balked?" "He crawled under it to see what was the matter."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Basis of His Esteem.

"It is proper to respect an office under the Government," said the patriotic citizen, "even if you do not happen to approve of the man who holds it." "Of course," answered Senator Sorghum. "It is to the office that the salary and perquisites are attached: not to the individual."-Washington

Drew the Crowd. Missionary (Gulchville)-"Dear! dear It's too bad. I am told there has jus

been a lynching." Deacon Hairtrigger-"Yaas, parson; you said you wished we could have a big crowd here to the openin' of the religious revival, and I told you I'd bring 'em. They're all here."-New riers of the country. This increase of

Looking Over the Family. that young Mr. Spryggyns is especially,

interested in Mabel?" 'Mrs. Watkyns-"Well, it looks that way. The last time he called he persisted in having her bring out the old photograph album and show him the pictures of all the near and distant relatives."-Somerville Journal.

In Chicago. "Somewhere in his works," the bookish man was saying, "Ben Jonson speaks of the 'metropolis of the ages'

"What did you say his name was?" asked the Chicagoan. "Jonson-Ben Jonson."

"Never heard of him. When was he in Chicago?"-Philadelphia Press.



Mr. Newwed-"I was worried for nearly three years for fear I wouldn't

Mrs. Newwed-"What are you thinking of now, dear?" Mr. Newwed-"Thinking how foolish

I was to worry."

Fond of Him. "Of course," said the theatre patron, "of all playwrights you consider the Bard of Avon the premier."

"The bard of who?" inquired the theatrical manager. "The Bard of Avon - Shakespeare, you know." "Oh, Shakespeare? Oh, sure; I like

him. He doesn't bother me about royalties."-Philadelphia Press. She'd Looked It Up Alright. Teacher-"Have you looked up the

meaning of the word 'imbibes,' Fan-Fanny-"Yes, ma'am." Teacher-"Well, what does it mean?"

Fanny-"To take iu." Teacher-"Yes. Now give a sentence asing the word." Fanny-"My aunt imbibes boarders."

Homeless. Wiseman-"To look at that Englishman you'd think he was a tramp, gress last winter authorizing National wouldn't you?" Jokeley-"Well, I know for a fact

-Woman's Home Companion.

that he hasn't a place that he can call home." Wiseman-"Nonsense! Why, his mansion in London is-Jokeley - "Sumptuous, yes, but he

No Wonder. "How does breakfast food affect you? "Nope." "Thinner?"

calls it 'ome."-Catholic Standard.

"None." "Does it keep you exactly at the "None."

"Now, see here, it must have some "Nope. I don't eat it."-Cleveland

GOOD ROADS

Rural Free Delivery an Ald.

T the recent International Good Roads convention, at St. Louis, Hon. Frank E. Nevins, of the United States Postoffice Department, delivered an address

"The establishment of the rural free delivery of mail throughout the country has produced a marked improvement in the condition of the highways. When there is a prospect of rural free delivery in a community, work immediately begins on the roads. There are now in operation 23,000 rural routes over which carriers travel 550,-000 miles delivering mail to about 9,000,000 people. More than 15,000 bridges have be constructed over streams that would not have been built if it had not been for the establishment of the free delivery system. Nearly every portion of the country, where road conditions will warrant it, is now supplied with this service. But in many sections the bad conditions of the roads, or the lack of bridges, prevent the extension of the service. The rural carrier of a standard route is now expected to travel about twentyfive miles each day to earn his salary of \$600 a year. He is required to furnish and maintain his own outfit and team, and to give a bond of \$500 for the faithful performance of his duties. Experience has demonstrated that this distance is too great on account of the bad condition of the roads. So many carriers have resigned, thereby causing much confusion and labor in the department, that the Congress just adjourned has been compelled to add \$170 a year to the salaries of the carsalaries amounts to about \$4,000,000 a year additional that the department has to pay to maintain this service on Mr. Watkyns-"Do you think that account of bad roads. Over a good graveled or macadamized pike road a carrier can easily make twenty-five

> to the salaries of the carriers. "Under the road laws of most of the Western States at the present time work is done upon the roads in the fall by the various road districts, when there is no work to be done on the farms. In the spring this work disappears. Nothing permanent remains, and the roads are in as bad condition, or worse, than they were before. The cost of \$2000 to \$6000 a mile for the construction of hard roads in this Western country is too great, in most instances, for road districts, townships and counties to bear; neither is it right that they should bear the entire cost. The public at large," which shares directly or indirectly in the benefits, should contribute to the expense. There never will be good roads in this country until the National Government takes the initiative in this movement, and the respective States of the Union join in with liberal contributions, and this again is supplemented by local enterprise. Continental Europe, England and Ireland are covered with hard broad pikes built at the expense of the governments of those countries. No country in the world ever yet had or ever will have permanent and passable highways constructed and maintained

miles a day six times a week. With

the roads as they are, it is a question

whether the next Congress will not be

called upon to add another \$4,000,000

by local authority. "Sixty per cent. of the population of this country lives in the cities and villages; forty per cent. lives in the country. It is not fair or just to place the entire burden of good roads upon the shoulders of the farmer. The general public shares directly or indirectly in the benefits and should bear the expense of an equitable tax for this purpose on all assessable values. The weight of it upon the individual would then be as light as a summer shadow. While this spectre of taxation may frighten some of our skittish country friends and cause them to rear and plunge a little, they will find on closer inspection that the goblin is a harmless creature of the imagination. They will get back in benefits ten times more than they will pay out in taxes.

"Why some of our friends spurn Government aid when it is offered them I cannot understand. They claim to be opposed to it on principle, and can see no good in it. There are some people so constructed that when looking into a pool of water they can never see the sky and the clouds above it reflected on its surface, but only the

mud at the bottom. "This Government never fails to do the right thing in the end. It will not fail to do the right thing in this instance. The impetus given to this movement by a few progressive statesmen who introduced measures in Conaid in the construction of highways, will ultimately produce the results aimed at. It cannot fail to do so because the public interest demands it; the welfare and development of the country at large demand it, and it is bound to come in spite of those who raise their voices in opposition to it."

Helpful Association.

The movement to help the cause of good roads by organizing an association that will be interested in keeping the roads in repair after they are built is one that deserves encouragement. The serious problem of good road building is to provide for maintenance is well as construction, and no matter how carefully public authorities may act in this matter unofficial cooperation will be of some assistance,