State Librarian

THE FARMERS' ADVOCATE.

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BRIEF OPINIONS.

THE Cincinnati *Herald*, (Cincinnati, Ohio) says: It would be a horrible thing you know for the farmer to be allowed to place his grain in a warehouse, saved from the necessity of selling to the speculator, for mere nothing. But it is all right for the speculator to buy the farmer's products for a song and lock it up till the necessity of the people living in towns and cities enable him to realize a fortune. See?

THE politician is my shepherd, I shall not want any good thing during the campaign. He leadeth me into the saloon for my vote's sake. He filleth my pockets with fine cigars and my beer glass runneth over. He enquireth concerning the health of my family, even to the fourth generation. Yea though I walk through the mud and rain to vote for him and shout myself hoarse, when he is elected he straight way forgetteth me. Yea though I meet him in his own office he knoweth me not. Surely the wool has been pulled over my eyes all the days of my life.—*Ex.*

WHEN the government owns and controls all banks, public confidence will be established: money will no longer hide in private vaults; it will flow easily and naturally through the channels of trade, doing its work without hindrance. To-day there is no confidence in the banks: money hides itself, producing an unnatural scarcity. Bankers corner it for speculative purposes, and to destroy values and bleed industry. The borrower is bled in an inverse ratio of his ability to pay. Our present banking laws are the curse of the industrial and commercial world. Government banking will do away with all evils of the present system.—Cincinnati *Herald*.

The Grand View *Sentinel* (Grand View Tex.) says: After the war was over bankers and capitalists came in swarms to enrich themselves by reason of the nation's distress. Garfield said that the people would remember the bankers and capitalists of Wall street as the Germans remembered the robbers of the river Rhine, who never came out from their strongholds but to plunder and rob them. As the sharpers performed their work so well that at one blow twelve hundred millions of currency was converted into 5-20 bonds bearing 6 per cent. interest. History affords no parallel to this great crime agrinst the industries of a confiding people.

IT is just as much the duty of our government to furnish money sufficient to meet all the demands of trade as it is to furnish postage stamps sufficient to answer all the demands of correspondence, and as intrinsic value does not belong to postage stamps neither should it belong to money. The fact is it belongs to neither. Both are creatures of the law. Without image and superscription of our government they stand for nothing. As one is cheap and abundant and uniform in price to facilitate the demands of correspondence so ought the other be cheap and abundant and of uniform value to supply the wants of trade. All this babbling about intrinsic value and specie basis is the sheerest nonsense. —*Alliance Echo.*

The *Independent* (New Britain, Con.) says: The number of newspapers published in all countries is estimated at 46,000, of which number about 24,000 appear in Europe. Germany heads the European list with 5,000, then comes France 4,100, England with 4,000, Austria-Hungary with 3,500, Italy with 1,700 Spain with 850, Russia with 800, Switzerland with 420, Belgium and Holland with 300 each, and the rest are published in Portugal, Scandinavian and the Balkan countries. The United States has 18,700 newspapers, Candada has 850 Australia also has 700. The people of the United States, therefore read and support about as many papers as England, France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy and Russia combined.

No one will deny that hard times are the result of vicious laws. No man can earn one hundred thousand dollars in a life time. Seventy years is a very long life, but suppose a man should live to that age, and earn one dollar and fifty cents, six days in each, more than he consumed, (which is an impossibility) at the end of seventy years he would have $22,365, or $17,365 less than $100,000. Hence there must be something wrong when men accumulate $200,000, or $300,000 during twenty or thirty years. How is it done is the question. The answer is, by laws granting patents, charters, subsidies, protection to certain industries, etc., that take from the people their earnings, and transfer them to the beneficiaries of these laws. As a result we have millionaires and tramps, when if just laws obtained such conditions could not prevail; hence the necessity of equitable laws.—*Southern Mercury.*

STATE NEWS.

THE DOINGS OF OUR PEOPLE BRIEFLY AND PLAINLY TOLD.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK CONDENSED.

The Republicans of the first district, in convention at Elizabeth City, endorsed J. C. M. Bernard, white, and Hugh Cale, colored, delegates to Minneapolis.

The feature of the approaching Commencement of Oak Ridge Institute will be a Reunion of the old students, on May 31st. Speeches will be delivered by various old students, and a good time generally is expected. Bishop Edward Rontbtler will deliver a Dedicatory address.—Greensboro *Patriot*.

Mr. T. C. Harris of the State Museum, who has had fine opportunities to touch at all points of the compass, informs the Raleigh *Visitor* that he has made special inquiries from the various sections, and the reports show that in that in that section and to the east there will be a fair crop.—Greensboro *Patriot*.

A rock fish was caught Saturday last week by one of our fishermen that weighed over two hundred pounds. Eighteen large sturgeon were caught by one of the sturgeon netters on Wednesday. This was the fishing of one boat. From twenty to sixty thousand herrings are now being daily landed by the various fishermen in our waters. They are selling fresh at $2.50 and salted at $4.50.—*Fishermen & Farmer.*

Harnett county can boast of the most industrious woman so far on record. Some four years ago Mrs. Lacey McLeod, of Nell's Creek township, did most of the work on building herself a comfortable little house. This winter she has done all the necessary ditching on her farm, which was some 800 or 1,000 yards, besides she has split a number of rails and repaired the old fences.

The Oxford *Day*, a bright and interesting daily, has suspended publication. Editor Kronheimer in announcing it says: To those who know us it is needless to say that we make this announcement with much regret. If we could afford to keep the paper going we would do so, but we cannot live upon glory, and we cannot pay for labor, etc., with empty promises.—Goldsboro *Headlight*.

The Rocky Mount Improvement and Manufacturing Co., are making the dirt fly on the river side of town. They are laying out streets and beautiful avenues, and getting every thing in shape for the big building boom that is coming as soon as they get everything everything ready to start. Mr. J. H. Logan, the General Manager, is now North, arranging for large enterprises of various kinds, and the ball will soon be rolling. Before the middle of next fall Rocky Mount will be the liveliest place in the whole Sunny South. She is getting on top and that mighty fast, and better than all, has the solid foundation to keep her there.—Rocky Mount *Argonaut*.

We hear that Mr. Worth, who owns or is largely interested in an ice plant in Wilmington was in town a few days ago looking into the possibilities of an ice depot here. While he did not definitely decide whether or not he will open one here we hear he was favorably impressed with the advantages Weldon offers for such an enterprise. We hope he will decide to open this business here. Trains leave here on all the roads morning, noon and afternoon and he could supply a large scope of country in a few hours after receiving orders. There is not an artificial ice point nearer than Petersburg and the railroad schedules are such that he could compete profitably with that.—Weldon *News*.

The American Tobacco Company are having erected a mamoth leaf factory here for the storage of Eastern Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia tobaccos purchased on this market. Ground was broken this morning and a large force of hands are at work on the foundation. Mr. Silas Lucas closed a contract for the brick on Tuesday.....It has been reported here quite frequently that Rev. Sam P. Jones would conduct a revival in Rocky Mount this summer. The Argonaut says Rev. J. O. Guthrie read a letter in church last Sunday from the great evangelist saying it was impossible for him to come this summer. We are sorry, because many of our people desire an opportunity of hearing this great preacher and it will not be offered.—Wilson *Advance*.

There was a May romantic marriage in Durham county Tuesday afternoon on the banks of Flat River at the Person county line. The contracting parties were Mr. Burruss Pool, of Chalk Level, Durham county and Miss Anna Parish, of Person county. Justice R. B. Blalock performed the ceremony. The Durham Sun says Mr. Pool secured his license in Durham county, and drove to the home of the bride-elect in Person county and brought her back with him to the banks of Flat River where a large number of friends were waiting to witness the ceremony. They alighted from the buggy and stood in the middle of the road beneath the spreading branches of a large tree while the ceremony was being performed. After they were married their friends crowded about them congratulating them, and several minutes were spent in pleasant conversation.

GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Powderly says the Reading coal combine had agents in the Lackawanna valley trying to secure publicity in the name of priests in favor of the combine by offering to pay church debts and parochial school expenses.

Work is being done in Laredo, Tex., by the mechanics, but not with much success. After a recent experiment, in which a large amount of explosive was used, not a cloud was to be seen. The belief is gaining ground that this method of producing rain is a humbug.

Since the burning of the negro Jay, at Texarkana, the negroes have been leaving Arkansas, and nearly all the rest are to leave and go to Africa. Planters are greatly alarmed over the condition of their farms resulting from this exodus, as they are fearful there will be no one to cultivate their fields.

The following is a dispatch from Chicago, dated May 9th: The international congress of Machinists, in session here, adopted today a resolution from the floor favoring the membership of white men. The Southern delegates opposed any change as the men, although Northern delegates stood with being to overwhelmingly for the colored men.

A telegram from Washington dated May 11th, says: The free silver people in Congress expressed gratification with England's acceptance of the invitation to participate in a bimetallic conference and hope that the result of the conference will be to raise the standard of silver. A northwest Senator said the acceptance by England of the invitation was a great stroke for the administration.

Notwithstanding the fact that another woman travelling alone has been assaulted in one of the compartments in an English railway car, the second within a month, a bill to abolish the compartment has been defeated in the House of Lords, on the ground that it would entail great expense upon the railroads. It may be inferred from this that the railroad men run the House of Lords as well as the railroads.—Wilmington (N. C.) *Star*.

Commissioner of Patents Simonds has issued a patent for the Edison telephone assigned to the Western Union telegraph company. The Bell telephone patent expires in May 1893, and the patent issued will run for seventeen years. The action ends a long standing contest. As there is an agreement between the Bell telephone company and the company for the joint use of the invention and a division of earnings the action taken by the commissioner virtually extends the life of the Bell patent.

A dispatch from Wichita Kansas of May 11th says: A fearful state of destitution and starvation exists among negro colonists scattered throughout Black Jack county around Kinisher, O. T. It is said there are 500 of 600 families with starvation staring them in the face. The negroes blame the men who organized colonies in the South and charge them with misappropriating funds which it was thought would take the immigrants over till they could raise crops. An urgent appeal has been made to Governor Seay through E. P. McCabe, colored, ex-Auditor of this State.

The United States may well be proud to participate in the great naval display congressed for next year. In April, when it will take place, the nation will have thirty-two cruisers, battleships, rams and torpedo vessels in commission, and thirteen of the old wooden vessels which are still able to fly a pennant and to discharge a broadside. At least forty ships of modern build and graceful proportions could be spared to escort the visiting vessels from Hampton to New York and to attend them during the parade. There is no cause for feeling doubtful about the propriety of showing off the American squadron to the civilized world.—Baltimore *Herald*.

LIMA, O., May 11.—The Democrats of the Fourth Ohio Congressional district met at Sidney to-day and renominated Frederick Layton for Congress, choosing George Hull, of Lima, and J. K. Cummings, of Sidney, as delegates to the National Convention. Reaffirmed the platform of 1888 and asked that Senator C. S. Price be elected Delegate-at-Large. The delegates are uninstructed, but favor the Senator for President. It was generally understood to-day that Mr. Price is a candidate for President and that his name will go before the Chicago Convention if the conditions are favorable, which conditions he is planning to bring about.

Information coming from a private source would seem to give a somewhat alarming aspect to the indisposition from which the Prince of Wales is known to be suffering, but the exact nature of which has never been satisfactorily described. The statement is credited to an intimate friend of the late Sir Morell Mackenzie that the eminent throat specialist, three days before his death, paid a professional visit to the Prince, having been hastily summoned to Marlborough House for that purpose. The Prince's symptoms were such that he and the Princess feared they might indicate the existance of an ailment similiar to that for which Sir Morell had treated the late Emperor Frederick.

Plan For Relief.

Progressive Farmer.

IREDELL Co.

MR. EDITOR.—We have been reading and examining the various plans of relief suggested in the *Progressive Farmer* for some time past, for the benefit of members of the Alliance who have been unfortunate, and who have lost their property by fire or other causes.

We have also noticed the many appeals for help published in your paper, and all we have received such from various Alliances asking assistance for their unfortunate members. We have always responded to the calls whenever appeared to be, We believe, however, that the present system—or want of system—is very unsatisfactory and expensive, as well as being uncertain. If a member has sustained a loss of property in value to the amount of three or four hundred dollars, and an appeal published in your paper to the various Alliances throughout the State, there are over 2,000 of them, if each of Alliances responded, the amount he would receive would be much double the value of the property he lost. He would receive single dollies the expense of postage and registering letters, from 2,000 Alliances, which would be at 12 cents, $240 more.

Of course it is not at all probable that all of the Alliances would contribute every time an appeal is published in our paper, or handle by sending postal cards properly addressed. But under the present method and want of system in helping suffering Alliance members, how are the various sub-Alliances to know how often has been contributed by any or all of the various Alliances throughout the State? They have no means of knowing; there never has been any notice published as to whether the amount asked for had been received—more or less. We therefore think that a system of relief should be adopted that would be more certain and less expensive, by which a large amount could be saved in postage and registering letters.

It has been suggested by Horse Ville Alliance, that a general assessment could be made quarterly, then remitted to the County Secretary with the regular quarterly dues, and by him remitted to a State Agent who should be a bonded officer. The amount to be assessed to be in proportion to the value of property each member lists. Should such a system be adopted, it would enable a prosperous member to help according to his means a member who was unfortunate—a brother who accidentally lost his property, but not by any fault or neglect of his.

These suggestions are made with a view of having the matter discussed, to the end that a system of relief will be agreed upon and adopted that will give relief to worthy members in actual need, more certain and prompt with as little expense for postage and mailing as possible.

The relief plan should be considered and discussed by Alliance men as being a very important measure for their consideration. It goes to the foundation of fraternal brotherhood.

The matter should be discussed in the sub Alliances, and the delegates to the county meeting could have it discussed there. The County Alliances could instruct the delegates to the State Alliance to have that body discuss the matter and to take definite action and formulate a plan of relief that would be just, prompt and more certain.

P. B. KENNEDY.

Read and Learn Who Rules the Nation.

Southern Mercury

The proceedings of the lower house of the 52nd congress proves conclusively the power of the northwest to dictate national legislation, through machine methods which control the two dominant parties. At present, numerically they compose but a fraction over one-fourth of the voting strength of congress yet they manage the majority with as much ease and certainty as skilled rider does the motion of his horse. The housed is composed of 332 members: 236 of these are democrats, 88 republicans and 8 independents. When the silver bill first came up, a test vote was had, 100 voted for it, and 84 against it. This evident intention to carry out some part of the policy of the northwest, west and south, admonished the rider that it was time to take his mount in hand, and the following vote taken a few days after ward shows how well he knows his business. On a motion to table the bill, the vote then stood 145 to 148. This was a second test vote. Out of the 148 votes against free silver, 82 were democrats and 66 republicans. The independents voted solidly against tabling the bill. The democrats of the south and west voted 126 for free coinage and 30 against it, 10 were paired, and 9 absent, or not voting. The following states furnished 30 votes against the bill: Alabama 1, Illinois 2, Iowa 1, Kentucky 1, Louisana 2, Maryland 1, Michigan 2, Minnesota 2, Missouri 1, Ohio 1, South Carolina 1, West Virginia 1, Wisconsin 7. The democrats of the eastern states, including New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey cast 46 votes against free coinage, and only 3 votes for it. These ten states have 96 members all told in the house, and every one of them whether republican or democrat, except three, are against free coinage. And yet it is claimed that 50 out of the 96 are democrats, in the line with their brethren throughtout the union.

WHY THE CHINAMAN TAKE TO LAUNDRIES.

The Curious Partiality Certain Persons Have for Certain Callings.

Why is it that Chinamen take to laundries much as to the proverbial duck takes to water? Why is it also that Greeks and Italians take so naturally to fruit stands, or Jews to peddling? Why, or Neal, the retailer of curiosities, has for years been in the same line? Why some Irishmen are policemen, while other Irishmen are contractors? Why in general machines have taken so much to it, if they ever took to it at all? Why some Irish girls are fond of being cooks, for instance, while other Irish girls prefer the laundry business? Why it is that practically naturalized Germans are preferred by the native born? Why this is a land of specialties? Everybody from everywhere has been here. This is the place to get rich, and so we get the very pick—the most wrecked—of the natives of Italy, Africa, Greece, Russia, Arabia, and every country. There are here representatives of every people, and in some cases they seem to succeeding fairly well. Why is it that nearly every one of a Chinamen comes and his chief aim is a laundry business? With the exception of the Pacific coast John is congested in big cities, mingling in goodness with the native born to the laundries. This has been handed down as a legacy by the ingenious Chinaman who first started the business here. Among friends he pays him—it does not pay much to charge a Chinaman laundry—and he is lauded on a commercial career. In a short time he is able to inform friends in the old country that this is the wealth-seekers paradise, and when they come he helps give them the easiest and cheapest start—to open a laundry. But Uncle Sam has stopped all this now.

What is true of the Chinaman is true of the Greek. Some pioneer compatriot once began the selling of fruit and found it successful. His friends, when they came, followed in his footsteps, and so every Greek and Italian shows a bonding aptitude and has little or no capital is started with are little stand. The profits are enormous.

The gold bricks a curious partiality for image peddling. Lately a few have taken to peddling candy, but the great bulk travel around with a board containing chalk figures covered with paint. Enterprising Arabians have even opened an entrance where they supply all new-arrived countrymen with an outfit, to be paid for when the peddler has a good start.

Many such establishments have been in existence for years for the benefit of the Jewish emigrants. The Jewish emigrant virtually has a pick or basket thrust upon him when he arrives, and this is an easy way to start in trade and the chance is gratefully taken.

That some of these peddlers suffer there is no question; that some of them make comparatively fortunes is also true.—*Ex.*

Money.

The Truth, Sanantonia Texas

Money is overbundant in both London and New York, but so far this year there has been none for new enterprises or speculation. Things are surely rounding themselves into the condition when it will be available for, first, the very best railroad enterprises, and later for those that do not show up so well. The Bank of England rate is only 2 per cent, and other like investments do not offer more. The money, which all the present year and much of 91 has laid in vaults and banks earning nothing, is getting quite uneasy and almost ready to venture out on speculation. When a break is made there New York will go in with a rush, and a boom may be looked for. The Wall Street News says:

"Considerable comment was made in financial circles on the exclusive announcement made in the Wall Street Daily News that the Union Trust company had notified its customers that after May 1, interest rates on deposits would be reduced from 2½ per cent. to 1 per cent. Bulls on stocks says that the other trust company will have to follow suit and adopt the same rate, and this they argue will compel investors to go into the stock and bond market before long in order to profitably invest their funds. When this happens stocks are bound to advance."

This clipping is from the "Railway Register" and is worth some attention. The anomalous fact that naturally gathers about it are, that agricultural products are lower than since the morning of this century; that actual wants stalks pale-faced abroad in the land; that interest in the west and south rules at 8 to 12 per cent; that money in the agricultural regions is hard to get at the high rates given; that thousands abroad are starving for the bread of which we have such uncounted stores at low prices; that with such crying need for currency in circulation, it is in the power of Wall street to lock up the medium necessary to do the business of the country, and that while "investors" can get money at one per cent. for "speculation," the farmer must pay 8 to 12 per cent, for funds in legitimate business.

That country can not possibly be in wholesome condition when the stock gambler is so favored and the producer is so handicapped by legislation. There is something rotten in the state of Denmark.

And the Democratic house with its elephantine majority has offered no relief: the republicans failed as signally when they had control of legislation, and yet the party bosses in Texas as elsewhere, are busy whipping the "cussed" into line.

It is the part of wisdom or patriotism or safety to obey the lash till revolution sets things to right.

Those who precipitated the French revolution scouted the idea of danger and "asked us the deed" was a favorite phrase of the sanguinary mobocrats who carried out the behests of those who gave light and theory of the latter days and yet they were mere what we are.

How to Raise a Campaign Fund

The Texas farmer says and publishes it for the campaign fund of Texas for the campaign of 1892. It wants 50,000 another states. The people want the paper it will be a power in the campaign coming. It will carry victory wherever it circulates. It is needed in every intelligent household. The farmer also needs a campaign fund. We submit to the following proposition for the attainment of all the above desirable ends. For every five dollars subscribers for one year at $1 each, cash in advance, we will give $1 to the campaign fund of the state from which the subscriptions are received.

Now please notice all the terms of this proposition so that we may be saved the labor and expense of private correspondence on the subject, study the following statements.

First—We will receive these subscriptions in clubs of ten or more, and credit them to the state from which they come.

Second—We do not require the 10 subscribers from any one locality. Let it be distinctly stated in sending lists that they are sent under this proposition and we will credit them properly, and whenever the number reaches 100 from any state we will send check for $20 to the chairman of the reform party committee of that State whose name and address must be furnished us by those sending the subscriptions.

Third—We can pay no commissions or other expenses under this proposition. Every name sent must be accompanied by a full dollar. A 70 cent silver dollar or a flat dollar will be accepted at par with gold.

Fourth—No club of less than ten will be accepted under this proposition, and no additions of single subscriptions will be made to these clubs. Each list must be for ten or more.

Fifth—This proposition does not superceed the campaign offer for subscribers to November 15. Those who prefer to subscribe under that offer can continue to do so, but it will be understood that we contribute nothing to the campaign fund from such subscriptions.

Now, please do not ask questions concerning this offer. We have endeavored to make the terms of this proposition clear. Rest assured we have a good reason for each condition and cannot depart from it. If the people of Texas send us 10,000 subscribers under this proposition it will place $3,000 in the campaign fund of the State, besides placing the *Truth* in 10,000 additional homes, and thereby contributing largely to the success of the party in the great contest upon which we are just entering. Send in the flat and 70-cent dollars.

TARIFF REFORM.

How the Three Parties Handle the Question.

Much is said of late about tariff reform, and there are three ways proposed by which it may be reformed.

PEOPLE'S WAY.

We recognize no way of reforming an evil except to abolish it. If a man has been in the habit of stealing chickens the first and most necessary step for him to take, if he contemplates reform, is to quit stealing chickens. "Let him that hath stole, steal no more."

DEMOCRATIC WAY.

Our tariff-for-revenue-only brethren propose to reform the tariff by clipping off some of the outside branches. They propose to have the man cured of stealing by having him steal less. If he has been stealing both hens and roosters, they propose that he desist from taking roosters and confine his thefts to hens alone.

REPUBLICAN WAY.

Our republican brethren claim that the tariff is not a vice at all, but a virtue, and although it robs the masses for the benefit of the classes, it is none the less a virtue. They would say to the man who has been stealing chickens, to not only take the hens and roosters, but go even farther and steal the eggs and nest also. They are looking for reform in the opposite direction.—The McKinley bill was tariff reform viewed from a republican standpoint.—*Ex.*

SEYMOUR, Ind., May 11.—The proposed appropriation by Congress to erect a monument at the grave of William Henry Harrison, ninth President of the United States, meets the approval of the people. Frequently as the trains of the Ohio and Mississippi Railway whirled around the North Bend in the Ohio River, near the eastern Indiana line, the attention of the passengers is directed to the lonely spot—a brake of entangled briers and stunted shrubbery—the grave of the honored dead. Several years ago the old brick monument was repaired, but relic-hunters and the elements have almost completed the work of destruction.

IT WAS TABLED.

The Resolution about the Union Soldiers.

From The New York Sun.

I see a good deal of controversy about the platform at St. Louis; that a great many swear that we adopted everything that was spoken or proposed. I also noticed one friend [illegible] that we believed that we can pay a million of soldiers of the late war who believe that it ought to have been done after the close of the war, you cannot find one that believes that it ever will be done.

We have been opposed without regard to party, to the great pensions of the war. We believe in [illegible] dollars and want another [illegible] of a soldier's pension every paid in a year, not dollars.

[illegible] have started [illegible] the Grand Army, another to the veterans, and he is howling about the enormous drain on the treasury that would be caused by our plan. But I started this letter to give you a scrap of history.

At the meeting of the Blue and the Gray at [illegible] at which was present over [illegible] of the delegates [illegible] the resolution [illegible] pensioning every union soldier and sailor, and it was laid on the table by a unanimous vote, it being it for possible, and all believing that it would never be heard and all feeling that they would rather trust the new party without a plank than the old ones teeming with promises. We can safely refer to our State platforms, safely point to the bills introduced by our People's party members of the Senate and House for a vindication of our policy in this direction. No Union soldier need be afraid for one moment that free coinage of silver will reduce the value of any pension, or that our party contemplates in any way adding to the volume of currency an amount sufficient to depreciate a dollar. Let us, before we are mystified out, bring about harmony and union between the North and the South. Let us bury under foot the scheming knaves who seek to revive bitterness, and with hearts full of loyalty and devotion to country and flag, let our last great act be the crowning one in our history.

PAUL VANDERVOORT.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

The Advance of Public Ownership as Applied to Germany.

Prof. Ely, of John Hopkins University.

I was very much impressed during my stay in Germany this Summer by the superior service of the State controlled railways of that country as compared with the careless management of our own lines. There was scarcely an accident in Prussia during the whole summer, while in this country nearly five times as many passengers are injured or killed outright. The American railways have not enough employees to insure safety and attention. England has four times as many men and Germany even more.

We are fully thirty years behind in safety for passengers. There are no ungarded crossings allowed to menace the public. Even at the stations there is no crossing the tracks to reach the out-going trains, as is the case in our own Union station. To get on the other side in Germany you must descend a flight of steps and pass through a tunnel under the track. The stations themselves are models of beautiful architecture. The new one in Frankfort cost eighteen million dollars. When the government intends to erect a new station it offers a prize to architects for ornamental designs. There is a maximum of comfort in railway travel, as the stations are all union stations, which is possible since the government controls the lines.

Since I was in Germany ten years ago many improvements in speed have been made, fifty miles an hour being the schedule time for many trains. The express from Berlin to Hamburg made fifty miles an hour all stops included. Government ownership also opens a way for the use of the railway for social purposes. The general opinion is that the population is too much centralized in the large cities, and by the cheap zone or belt railroad system, soon to be opened in Berlin, workmen may live in the suburbs and work in the city without much expense.

The government management of railway finances has also been a brilliant success, surpassing all expectations. In Prussia alone last year, after paying the interest and part of the principal on the bonded debt there was a surplus of twenty-million dollars. The reduction in fares and freights annually amount to a distribution of over 25 million dollars. I must say a word for the high quality of the freight service, which is fully equal to the express traffic in many parts of our county. A trunk can be sent all over Germany with perfect safety and convenience for a more trifle when a cent extra will insure it, and a few cents more guarantee its delivery at a certain hour.

It is said that water can be found in the most solid substance, and yet there are people who complain every time they find it in their milk.—*Ram's Horn.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED BY DR. [illegible], PRESIDENT STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

Water Closets and Privy Vaults.

[illegible] most [illegible] subject that [illegible] the health of the people. Yet there is not a city, town, village or country that is not more or less concerned with them.

This is a most [illegible] threatening subject but not a startling one, for [illegible] of the contents of [illegible] earth I am [illegible] to have been of the greatest benefit to the rendered [illegible] the air around us.

It is but a question of time when all our surroundings will be fully saturated—the ground water charged with virulent poisons, and the ground water saturated with the germs of death.

Each brick will [illegible] hold at least one pint of liquid excrement; each stone absorb [illegible] as a sponge. We wash our [illegible] with several [illegible] of water [illegible] cellar, [illegible] is [illegible] cellar, [illegible] nuisance, and as there pass into the air or ground instantly, the same pores are again filled, this time it may be with the discharges of cholera, typhoid, scarlet, or yellow-fevers, diphtheria, dysentery, smallpox or measles, and so this exposition and absorption continues night and day, week following week, month after month, year after year.

The town in which I live, is about the average in its water supply, and general hygienic condition. There are more than 30,000 people living in the township, and fully 25,000 in the corporate limits. Our Health board was established about twelve years ago, and for [illegible] and proficiency, this board in my opinion, has been at all times fully up to the average.

The sanitary condition of our town is, therefore, as follows: About 13,000 are supplied with closet, water-carriage, and excellent sewer connections. There are about 400 vaults built of brick, stone or cement and about 350 dry earth boxes; and, let it be added, to our disgrace, there are yet 1550 old fashioned planked and leaky vaults in use. These figures are not absolutely accurate, as the inflexible rule of the Health Board is to allow no new plank vaults but either sewer connections, dry-earth, or water-tight vaults and to be substituted when the old planks decay, and also in all new structures.

What, now, does this condition of things bring about? Well, the result is: about 10 tons of excreta are daily, or more than 3300 tons yearly, deposited in these 1550 receptacles, the major part of which finds its way into the surrounding soil or passes off by evaporation, leaving very little for the scavengers. And with the 400 water-tight vaults, so-called, of the kind which, I believe, every city America allows, 1500 tons yearly additional are allowed to render their surroundings putrescent, this noisome mass being removed but once a year.

The question now crowds itself to the front: Is there any other good way of disposing of excreta save by closets and water carriage? Yes; let every hole vault, and receptacle be cleansed and filled with clean, fresh earth or ashes; and place the privy upon a solid and well-aired foundation convenient to the house but sufficiently secluded, and if said privy is six by four feet place under it a box seven by four, this same being kept of the ground by substantial stone corners, and this whole problem is solved, while purity, health, decency and comfort are secured. This box can be furnished water-tight, thoroughly coated inside and out with hot coal-tar, and placed in position for $2.25.

The projecting foot is covered with a neatly fitting plank, which is all that is disclosed and set aside in the removal of contents. The scavengers of our town are anxious to contract for their proper care, removing contents without the knowledge or supervision of the owner, and disposing of same at the rate of $1 per annum.

All the housewife is asked to do is to save the ashes, and throw them into this box, and not upon the ash-head. Use lime, or earth, or copperas if there is supposed to be occasion, but which, with my daily experience of ten years, is, in my opinion, not necessary, the ashes alone from any ordinary house being amply sufficient.

The system I advocate is not only suited to the insolent cottage or elegant country home, but also to the mighty city, as year after year demonstrates in the case of Manchester, with her half million of people, or Glasgow with her hundreds of thousands, or Rochdale or Heidelberg with their tens of thousands.

It has never been thoroughly explained why a man who cannot be hired to do a day's work will spend three hours throwing a sledge-hammer or hopping in front of a grocery. —*Columbus Post.*