

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

If the truth is mighty and will prevail it should show more signs of becoming prevalent.

When you meet a worthless man it's doughnuts to fudge he can tell you a sure cure for corns.

We are now exporting bath tubs to Europe. Has Europe been going down to the creek all these years?

Perry thinks of trying again to reach the north pole. Isn't there anything that people can take for this?

We regard the insinuation that Uncle Russell Sage will economize by wearing his valet's castoff clothes as almost slanderous.

"Single blessedness" is a bouquet a bachelor throws at himself when he wants to get married, but can't find a girl foolish enough to accept him.

When the wireless telephone comes along the belated husband will have a fine time dodging. He will be forced to dig a hole in the ground or quit the earth.

The meat question shows that when the consumer has once been started in the way of paying high prices it is hard for him to get others to let him break himself of the habit.

Rabbi Hirsch knows of no reason why men who give themselves up wholly to money grubbing should not be called cranks. Isn't this an indictment of the human race?

When the King of Saxony declares that the elopement scandal does not "add to the prestige of the royal house" he is to be congratulated on having discerned an important and indisputable fact.

A Missouri boy stole and pawned his mother's wedding ring in order to buy a marriage license for himself. Really a boy like that deserves to have descendants who will keep his name ringing through the corridors of Time.

It now develops that General Chaffee inched up against Count von Waldersee in much the same way that Admiral Dewey crowded Admiral Dietherich. History cannot be properly judged until a long time after it is made.

A United States judge in St. Louis has sentenced a man to imprisonment at hard labor for life and twenty years in addition. The question now arises whether the sentence can be set aside for lack of jurisdiction in the country where the convict may be during the additional twenty years.

If agriculture is without opportunity to pile up wealth it has its compensations for the loss. The life of the farmer may be one of toil, of patient endurance, of comparative isolation from his fellow man, but it is one of the greatest independence. The man between the plow handles is the freest man on earth.

The whole tendency of civilization is not toward war, but away from it. This has been freshly and impressively illustrated in the case of Venezuela, and while it would be foolish to assert that a great international war cannot again happen, it may be said that every year its occurrence becomes more unlikely. The national rivalries of the future seem destined to assume the form of commercial competition.

There is no sort of doubt that the pulpit and college have both become more notably servile to very rich men than they were fifty years ago, and Professor Bascom has done his day and generation a service in sharply rebuking it. Men of learning and the institutions they represented used to respect themselves as entirely superior to great riches. The "poor scholar" felt rich in his own right of high intelligence, but the college to-day, it is frequently the case, cringes, cap in hand, to ill-gotten wealth.

The doling of the leaders in the social life of the cities are faithfully chronicled, but who, outside the country districts, realizes the joys of the "social events" that take place there? What lady going in a luxurious carriage to a metropolitan ball is as happy as a schoolma'am riding in a punk beside the young farmer who is taking her to the dance at the town hall? What music can the centers of fashion produce that falls so sweetly on the hearer's ears as the strains of the local orchestra, which, with two violins and a church organ, dispenses joyous harmony to the happy crowd from just after chime-time till the morning begins to light the eastern sky? What though some village belles wear gowns cut over to their manifest disadvantage, or some thoughtless youth endangers the toes of the dancers with his tallored boots, there is real joy in the country gatherings. And when the young men take their favorite girls to the midnight supper and eat of chickens and beans and homemade cake they are as gods in the social circles of their community and as happy, perhaps far happier, than the men who take fashion's leaders in city mansions to feasts a hundred times more expensive. Social happiness is dependent upon the hearts of those that seek it. And those who listen to the tuneful voice of some gifted farmer as he calls the changes

in the old-fashioned dances may be after all the most successful social rulers of the world to-day.

Judging from the growing fashion of turning one's back, particularly if it be a fashionable back, upon winter, there is an increasing distaste for the chill season, and it would be quite in order to change slightly the old adage and say that as the days begin to lengthen not only does the cold begin to strengthen, but the determination to escape this cold grows equally severe. The two pictures that confront a prospective traveler are those of a meager coal pile at home and an ever-abounding blooming rosebush and ever-bearing orchard tree abroad, and it is not to be wondered at that he decides in favor of the roses and oranges. Time was when literary men constituted themselves defenders of the seasons and wrote "a good word for winter," or "a plea for summer" in a way to win unalloyed hearts. But where is the modern poet of winter who would have the hardihood to write as Lowell tells us did the ancient poet of winter, lying in bed with his hand through a hole in the blanket? Lowell also reminds us that one of the first rules of whist is winter, and he declares that for "a good solid read" there is nothing like the sense of safety that a winter tempest brings. Some deep observers of society go so far as to declare that the growing habit of escaping from winter argues the fact that people are becoming more enervated, but it is to be doubted whether the habit is sufficiently universal to justify these forebodings. Yet it remains to be proven whether the individual who takes the weather as he does life, "Just as it comes," does not, after all, have the best of it.

In our concern about what shall be done with the dusky tribes that came under our flag as a result of the war with Spain we have almost forgotten the red-skinned wards who for four centuries fiercely resisted the encroachments of the white man and stubbornly resented the paternalistic efforts of the government to civilize them. It will be interesting news to many Americans to learn that the identity of the Indian in his tribal relation will soon be forever lost. It is believed that another year will see his final disappearance from among the segregated communities of the world. The tangible remnant of the aborigines of North America now consists of the five principal civilized tribes—Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws and Seminoles, numbering, in round numbers, about 85,000. Some of the nomadic Apaches, Comanches and Arapahoes still exist as melancholy relics of a barbaric age in Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona, but they long since lost all semblance of tribal autonomy. Seventy years ago the five tribes were moved to the territory west of the Mississippi, and for thirty years they have been living under tribal governments under constitutions copied closely after those used by the States. In the course of years thousands of white settlers have entered the territory and "squatted" on any vacant lands they liked. The racial situation has been further complicated by the return of the negro slaves held by the Indians, but liberated during the civil war. The three races have intermarried until travelers in the territory assert that the Indians are divided into two general classes—"white men and negroes." There are, however, some twelve or fifteen thousand full-bloods in the territory. Hundreds of these Indians have been graduated from the best colleges in the United States while thousands have received an excellent education in the schools maintained by the tribal governments. Their degree of literacy is much higher than that of the whites who have invaded the territory. But the Indian is now standing on the threshold of United States citizenship. His tribal governments must be merged into the Union. Since 1893 the Dawes commission has been engaged in the work of allotting 30,000,000 acres of valuable land among some 85,000 legitimate heirs out of 200,000 claimants. The stupendous character of this task and the difficulties in the way of equally dividing the land are pointed out in an article in the Forum by Thomas F. Millard. In the opinion of Mr. Millard this "equalization," which is costing the government hundreds of thousands of dollars, is in reality a farce. The Indians desired to divide the land by the very simple plan of giving each man his and his family's share of the land he was living on and partitioning unoccupied land among those who had no regular place of abode. Mr. Millard believes this plan should have been followed.

There are many poor correspondents who would doubtless like to make the excuse given by a boy who was spending his first year at a boarding-school. The first letter, anxiously awaited by his parents, was not received for more than a week, and then it was short and to the point. "Dear people" (wrote the boy), "I don't believe I shall be able to send you many letters while I'm here. You see, when things are happening I haven't time, and when they aren't happening I haven't anything to write. You'll understand how it is, won't you, father? And, mother, you just ask father to explain to you how it is. So now I will say good-by, with love to all. In haste.—George."

Khaki in China. Khaki uniforms are now worn by all the foreign troops in China except the Russians.

It is not bravery to call a man a liar once; most men don't get mad until the second time.

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

GOOD FIELD FOR AMERICAN CAPITAL.

By Thomas Nast, Late U. S. Consul General at Guayaquil. Ecuador is reasonably healthy, especially in the country, the prevailing diseases being malarial fevers. One soon gets acclimatized. In Guayaquil and along the coast the climate during the wet season (from January to May) is very unhealthy.

The chief industry of Ecuador is cacao growing, which is extremely profitable. The world's supply of cacao amounts to some 90,000 tons, and of this Ecuador produces 27,000 tons, or about one-third of the total. Land can be obtained at about \$1 per acre. It requires about five years to bring a cacao estate into bearing, at a cost of 15 to 20 cents per tree. The trees yield on an average one pound each. For a plantation of 100,000 trees it costs to bring into bearing, say, \$17,500. At the end of five years it is worth \$50,000; at seven years, \$75,000, etc. The production of 100,000 trees would be 100,000 pounds, worth \$11,000 at present. The cost of putting this quantity on the market, including labor, etc., would be \$4,000, leaving a net profit of \$7,000.

Estates are easily sold at the above figures, and if a capitalist can wait for results for five years he is sure of a good income. In the meantime, "catch crops," such as rice or corn, can be grown on the same ground, which is so fertile that for the growing of rice, etc., it is never necessary to plow; a hole is simply made with a machete and the seeds put in, and good returns are obtained.

The planting and growing of rubber trees is considered one of the best investments; but very few have been planted, on account of the large supply of wild rubber and the fear that some artificial matter might be discovered to take its place. There are plenty of good opportunities in Ecuador for the investment of money.

LABOR'S RIGHT TO COMBINE.

By Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts. I cannot see why if capital may combine in corporations, labor may not combine in labor unions. Every corporation and every partnership is an aggregate of individuals. So when a single workman desires employment he has to make his bargain not with one employer, but with many employers acting as one. He is also at another disadvantage. The thing he has to sell is his day's work. If he goes down in the morning to make his engagement, the thing he is to sell is perishing with every hour of delay in making his contract. These associations of capital frequently extend through the whole country and control under one head and with one will every establishment in the country in which a skilled workman might hope to find employment. So I can see no reason why the workman should not combine to make his bargain as to the rate of wages, as to the hours of labor and as to the comfort and safety of his occupation.

But, on the other hand, he has no right to interfere by violence with the freedom of any workman who does not choose to belong to his union. Of course where men act in masses and are under excitement there will be occasional and sporadic instances even of unlawful and violent action. These will always occur while human nature remains unchanged and are not to be considered too seriously or too harshly. But a republic cannot live if any body of men undertake to impose their own will upon the lawful freedom of others.

Subject to this condition I believe the sympathy of all true Americans is on the side of labor and its attempt to better its condition. Unless the American workman shall have good wages and leisure and comfort, shall have books in his home, shall send his children to school, can provide comfortably for his old age, the republic itself will be no longer worth living in. Capital and wealth will in the end take care of themselves, but to the elevation of labor, which is but another name for the elevation of citizenship, the whole force and power of the republic should be bent.

SHE CLAIMS \$40,000,000.

The Sum Left by the Man She Married on His Death Bed.

In all probability Mrs. William H. Bradley, of Tomahawk, Wis., will come into possession of the \$40,000,000 left by her husband, William H. Bradley, a pioneer lumberman and the richest man in Wisconsin. Three days before his death he married Miss Marie Hannemager, who for twenty years was his private secretary and who knows more than any other person about his vast estate.

Bradley was as eccentric as he was wealthy. He was a native of Bangor, Me., where his father, as the son



W. H. BRADLEY. MRS. W. H. BRADLEY.

proved to be, was a successful lumberman. In the early 60s he went to Wisconsin and entered the lumber business in a small way. Then he got in with some Milwaukee capitalists and began operating near Muskegon, Mich. This venture was very profitable, and made him wealthy. He moved to Milwaukee, but the inactivity of city life palled on him and he decided to found a city in the primeval forest.

He traveled up the Wisconsin valley till he reached the place where Tomahawk now stands. There he built a saw mill and a large hotel, with appointments equal to those found in large cities. He started a newspaper, built and stocked a general store, and then waited for the population which he was sure would follow him. As the timber about his mill was cut down and shipped to market he built railroads, adding miles and miles as

it is for this that we have schools and churches. It is for this that we have law. And it is for this that the republic must live or bear no life.

PRaise AND BLAME BOTH OF VALUE.

By James F. O'Brien.

The two greatest factors in securing the best work from employes are praise and blame. I am sure that neither alone will answer the purpose. The man who must be scolded and found fault with continually is of little value in any position. He is in disfavor with his superiors in office because they cannot trust him to perform his duties faithfully. As for the man himself, his many delinquencies cause him to lose confidence in his own ability; he becomes careless and forgetful, and finally loses his place altogether. A too frequent use of praise in the management of employes is productive of undesirable results of a different character. The man who is continually praised after a while becomes imbued with the idea that he is "IT." He has an exaggerated idea of his own importance and is liable to assume a patronizing air toward his associates and customers that is not at all desirable—in fact is decidedly harmful. Such a man is almost certain in the end to become so intolerable that he is at last notified that his services are no longer required.

Too much praise or too much blame is therefore equally harmful, though in a different way. A judicious use of both is highly desirable. When a salesman makes a good sale, it pleases him to receive a word of commendation from the manager and it spurs him to do better. On the other hand, if he is impolite to a customer or does something he ought not to do, he should be reproved gently but firmly. This will make him more careful in the future, and in the end he will be more valuable to himself and the firm.

Much depends upon the manager himself. If he possesses good common sense, has a fair knowledge of human nature, and has personal magnetism, he will have no trouble with his employes. If, on the other hand, he is unjust, hard, and unsympathetic, he will be unable to keep good salesmen or saleswomen in his employ for any length of time. No one of spirit will submit to being cursed and reproved before his shopmates by the man from whom he receives his orders. Dissatisfaction is certain to show itself among the other employes, and the entire force soon becomes demoralized.

CHOOSING AN OCCUPATION.

By Hamilton D. Maxwell.

Many a young man fails to make his mark in the world because he does not make a choice of occupation. This is a very commonplace remark, and so also is the inquiry why is a choice not made?

The painful fact is that the young men who think and consult about the future, and come to some well-defined plan of life, are in the minority; while the men who take things as they come, care little for the future, and plan less for it, are in the majority. But there are a large number of men who are in perplexity about the future. They almost wish some overwhelming circumstances would force them into an occupation or a profession.

Man is endowed with the power of choice, and we must decide for ourselves. True, a man's choice will be modified by circumstances not in his immediate control, but, after all, one must act for himself.

The power of choice does not, of course, prevent the asking for that wisdom from above which will be liberally given to those who devoutly seek it.

The first inquiry is: What can I do? I may be able to do several things, and do them reasonably well, but there must be a selection, and hence the second inquiry: What can I do best? Then follows the question of opportunity.

Where and how can one find not only opportunity, but the largest opportunity to do what one can do best? The man who finds "the largest opportunity to do what he can do best" has chosen his work, the method and the field.

MANY UNDERTAKINGS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN THE FARMERS' INTEREST.

THE National Geographic Magazine asserts that no other government in the world does so much as the United States to promote the agricultural interests of the country.

Through its efforts tea is now being successfully grown in South Carolina.

Through its encouragement Connecticut will soon be raising all the Sumatra tobacco consumed in the United States—\$6,000,000 worth annually.

A new variety of long-staple cotton, having nearly double the value of the old, has been created; new wheats and new rice, and even a frost-resisting orange has been evolved. And these are only samples of what has been done.

The American farmers have an invested capital of \$20,000,000,000. This is a great agricultural nation, and Uncle Sam doesn't forget it. Glance at some of the things he does to help and protect the farmer:

The bureau of animal industry made last year nearly 60,000,000 ante-mortem inspections of meat animals and about 39,000,000 post-mortem inspections. The meat inspection stamp was affixed to over 23,000,000 packages of meat. And this is only part of the bureau's work.

The land grant agricultural colleges have an attendance of 42,000. The export trade in fruit and vegetables is assisted by the introduction of improved methods of handling. Imported food products are examined for injurious substances. Important investigations have been made in the sugar laboratory with a view to improving the quality and quantity of table syrups. Weather bureau warnings are of the greatest assistance to agriculture. The Department of Agriculture is a worker for forestry, the bureau of forestry being a part of it. The bureau of soils employs over 175 persons. The department published last year 757 different publications, with a total circulation of 10,588,580. Although the cost of publications amounts to \$800,000 a year, it is inadequate to supply the demand.

he needed them. Everything he touched seemed to turn to gold, and investments which to others seemed the height of folly brought him fortunes.

While Tomahawk was still in its infancy Mr. Bradley established another town at Spirit Falls, and in this, too, he was successful. He became fabulously rich, and the fortune left his widow is estimated at \$40,000,000.—Utica Globe.

His Notion of the West. "This surely is a great country, since we have arrived at the point that geographical terms no longer convey any adequate idea of location," remarked W. S. Crouch of Tacoma, Wash., at the Raleigh.

"The other night, shortly after arriving here, I got into an accidental talk with a gentleman who chanced to be my vis-a-vis at dinner. He was a stranger, and as I was in the same category it was pleasant to have someone to chat with. Moreover, he was evidently a gentleman of standing and re-

UNIQUE MANSION IN NEW YORK.

Three-Story Dwelling Reproduced in Miniature as an Advertisement. The smallest of buildings on Broadway, N. Y., is a substantial three-story frame structure, exactly 27 inches in height. It stands on the northeast corner of Broadway and 81st streets. The site occupied by this diminutive structure is in the center of the fashionable west side district and is immensely valuable. It commands an unusually fine view of Broadway and of the Hudson River.

The little house is complete in every detail, as far as may be judged from the outside at least. The first floor is almost surrounded with spacious porches, an unusual architectural feature for this section of New York. The house is well lighted by many win-



SMALLEST HOUSE ON BROADWAY.

dows on all four sides. The roof is covered with tin. The whole structure is freshly painted at regular intervals and repairs are quickly made as soon as they are needed.

At present the smallest Broadway structure stands about nine feet above the sidewalk level—on the top of a board fence. Until recently, however, it stood some distance back from the street, at the same corner, and appropriately surrounded with a well-kept garden. A narrow walk about four inches wide, neatly bordered with grass, extended from the front gate to the steps leading to the porch. Two small flower gardens flanked the walk immediately in front of the porch. It was probably the last house garden to disappear from Broadway.

The little mansion has no tenants. The windows are even carefully closed with tiny window sashes to prevent the birds from taking possession. The house has been built at considerable expense by a carpenter in the neighborhood, and is intended to illustrate how neatly he can build a house and what is as important, how neatly he can keep it in repair. There are few buildings on Broadway more carefully tended.

FOR SOLDIERS ON THE MARCH.

For many years military authorities have been trying to improve the condition of foot soldiers and one result is that the burdens which soldiers have to carry while marching have been



A SHOE THAT'S EASY.

reduced to a minimum. Now a new invention has been made which will enable them to march with still greater ease. This invention is a shoe which, instead of the customary hard and stiff sole, has a sole to which springs are fitted. Under the heel is an ordinary spring and under the ball of the foot is one which is shaped like a hoof. When the foot is at rest the spring in the back is pressed down and the one in front is slightly raised. Similarly the two springs adapt themselves to every motion of the foot when it is in action. Another advantage which this shoe possesses is that, when a shoe is worn out a new one can very quickly be substituted for it.

A Brotherly Greeting.

Pretty speeches are not so characteristic of the Briton as of some of his southern neighbors. During the siege of Ladysmith a certain young Englishman, the heir to a dukedom, was among the victorious soldiers who entered the city. His brother had been confined there and as soon as possible the young men got together. An observer says they shook hands heartily, looked into one another's eyes, then turned their heads aside and resolutely gulped down—something. "I say!" began the future duke with a mighty effort, "old Tom, the gardener, is dead." "Oh, I say!" replied the other. Then they walked away together. Each knew that the other was glad to see him, but, being a Briton, was too manly to be more effusive.

Liquid Air Power.

The result of tests of a liquid air plant made at Cornell University, reported at the Pittsburgh meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, indicates that the expenditure of one horse power continuously for one hour results in the production of just enough liquid air to produce, if utilized in its turn as a source of power, in a perfect machine, one horse power for one minute. The experimenter adds that the most efficient method of obtaining liquid air as yet discovered would increase the time to only five minutes.

When money is tight the pawnbroker is apt to take the pledge.