THE LITERATURE OF NINEVAH AND BABYLON

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THE OREGONIAN'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE: DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON

GOLDEN AGES OF LITERATURE

III. ASSYRIAN LITERATURE.

BY PROF. PAUL ELMER MORE.
(Harvard University.)

There is something of a dispute between students of things Egyptian and Assyrian as to which records reach further into the past. If we could credit the imagination of certain scholars the history of Assyria goes back to a fabulous period that sounds almost geological. At any rate, there is age enough here to lend the mystery of antiquity to this study; and the discovery and deciphering of these records form another chapter in the romance of modern scholarship.

In 1842 a French consul, P. E. Botta, began to make excavations near Nineveh, where he found ruins of great extent. The objects sent by him to the Louvre were sufficient to awaken the curiosity of scholars. A few years later the work of excavation was taken up by Layard, and the ruins unearthed by him in Nineveh and Babylon from 1845 to 1850 are described by him in volumes that have become classics of English literature. Here for centuries had lain, under mounds of earth blown up by the wind, the remains of a mighty civilization, that long ago had aroused the interest of Herodotus and other historians. Among other things Layard found several rooms filled with the relics of a remarkable library. It was the custom of the Assyrians to use for books and documents, even for business receipts and contracts, clay tablets or cylinders, and Layard had stumbled on a vast storehouse or library of these records, which were, however, for the most part in a wretchedly mutilated condition. Some 30,000 of these fragments were sent to the British museum, and the interpretation of these and of Istar finds has given us a unique knowledge of that portion of ancient history. It is good to add that America also has done her shure in this work. In 1887 the university of Pennsylvania sent a party to the spot, with the result that about 20,000 fragments have been collected in the university museum in Philadelphia.

The characters employed by the Assyrians were as peculiar as the substance used instead of paper. These are the so-called cuneiform, or wedge-shaped characters, which were known to us, even before the time of Botta and Layard, from certain inscriptions on stone, but which defied interpretation until greater resources were at our command. These cuneiform writings are in several different styles and languages. Those of oldest date are not strictly wedge-shaped, but are made of short, straight lines, and are the simplified outlines of ideographs, or picture words, that had been employed for stone inscriptions. When they came into use a wedge-shaped instrument was handy for pressing the marks on the moist earth, and we have genuine cuneiform writing. This writing was now ideographic and syllabic—that is, some characters stood for a word, while others were phonetic and recorded a syllable. When, later on, the Persians conquered Assyria, they adopted the same method of writing, but in a much simplified form, using only 42 characters as a phonetic alphabet.

There is at present a vivacious dispute waging among Assyriologists in regard to the people who first inhabited the fertile valley of the Euphrates and Tigris. It used to be held, and many still hold, that this people, called the Akkadians, or Sumerians or Sumero-Akkadians, who built Babylon and originated that great civilization, were of the Turanian race, and quite different in language and character from the Assyrians, who later subdued them. Other scholars maintain that from the first the inhabitants of Babylon were of Semitic source, akin—that is, in language and religion—to the Hebrews and Arabs. However this may be, the civilization of the country as known to the ancient Jews and Greeks, and as we see it reflected in its ruins, was chiefly Semitic.

As has been said, the tablets already interpreted include almost every form of literary and incidental writing. What may in any true sense be reckoned as literature is all strongly imbued with religious ideas. Apart from the interest of mere antiquity and the slight influence that Assyria had on more important civilization, it cannot be said that this literature has any great intrinsic value. Professor Jastrow in his recent handbook of the Assyrian religion divides the subject treated into five groups—magical texts, hymns and prayers, omens and forecasts, cosmogony, epics and legends. Note the following hymn of Nebuchadnezzar, the king so well known to us in the Bible, to the god Marduk. The translation is Professor Jastrow's:

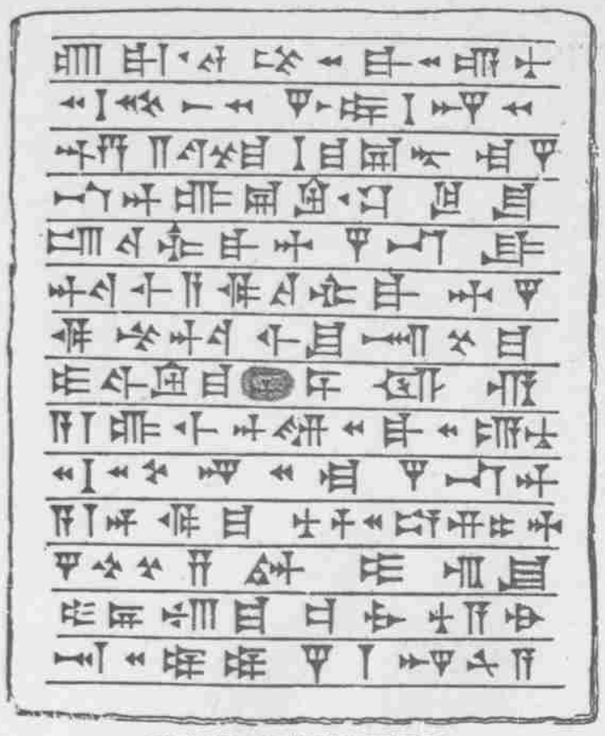
"O Eternal Ruler! Lord of the Universe!
Grant that the name of the king whom Thou lovest,
Whose name Thou hast mentioned, may flourish as seems good to Thee.
Guide him on the right path.
I am the ruler who obeys Thee, the creation of Thy hand.
It is Thou who hast created me,
And Thou hast intrusted to me sovereignty over mankind.
According to Thy mercy, O Lord, which Thou bestowest upon all.
Cause me to love Thy supreme rule.
Implant the fear of Thy divinity in my heart.
Grant to me whatsoever seem good before Thee,
Since it is Thou that dost control my life."

Notably the most interesting and important part of Assyrian literature is comprised in certain mythical poems and in

Assyrian Tablet of Creation Series.

the great epic of Gilgamesh. Were space at command it would be profitable to study in detail some of these minor poems, and especially the famous lines which tell of the descent of Ishtar, goddess of love and fertility, into hades, and of the blight which her absence caused to the upper world of light. The description here given of the realm of the dead, on whose portals the dust lies ever undisturbed, is one of the most graphic pictures ever portrayed with the pen. But we must pass on to the longer poem, of which the descent of Ishtar was formerly supposed to be an episode.

The great epic of Assyrian literature is contained on 12 tablets, each tablet holding a book, and extends through some 30,000 lines; but, unfortunately, the utmost diligence hitherto has failed to discover more than half of the whole poem, and much that has been discovered is in so fragmentary a state as to make interpretation extremely doubtful. An American scholar, Professor Haupt, of Baltimore, has done more than any other one person to restore the poem, so far as restoration is possible. Even the name of the hero



SLAB WITH CUNIFORM WRITING.
(In the British Museum.)

was until quite recently a matter of entire uncertainty. The word was always found written in ideograph style, and the conventional reading, Isdubar, was accepted in lieu of anything better. Recently, however, the syllabic character has been discovered, and the name is now commonly read Gilgamesh, a word which signifies apparently savior or conqueror. The following analysis and extracts of the poem are abridged from Professor Jastrow's work already alluded to:

We are introduced first to the ancient city of Uruk (or Erech), which apparently for some offense to the gods is suffering a terrible siege. Then in some unknown way (the text is here very fragmentary) we see the city under the control of Gilgamesh, probably its conqueror. The inhabitants, in despair at the tyranny of Gilgamesh, appeal to the gods, and the creature of Eabani, half han and half beast, is sent to save them. The wiles of Gilgamesh to win Eabani to his side are graphically told, and at last the monster is seduced by a fair woman, Ukhat, sent out by the prince to allure him.

Gilgamesh and Eabani are now fast friends, and together the two march against an enemy who inhabits a strange fortress situated in a grove of wonderful beauty and shaded by a great tree. The enemy is subdued, and, apparently, Eabani is made lord of the mystic garden, where he can follow out the instincts of his half-animal nature.

A new element is now introduced, and we see Ishtar, the queen goddess, pleading for the love of Gilgamesh. There is a note of curious mystery in the words which which the hero rejects her advances. Too many lovers have suffered strange ill at her hands—Tammuz, a lion, a shepherd, a bird of the forest. Of the bird, he says:

"Then didst crush him and break his pinions.
In the woods he stands, and laments, 'O, my pinions.'"

In revenge for this refusal Ishtar's father sends upon him a savage bull, but the hero and his friend destroy the beast, and Gilgaemsh offers up his horns as a sacrifice.

Then the gods snatch away Eabani, and send sickness upon Gilgamesh; and the hero in his grief and pain travels afar off by a road beset with fantastical dangers to Parnapishtim, who alone of mankind is immortal. He climbs a fearful mountain, is ferried across the bolsterous sea, and at last meets the undying hero face to face, only to hear that death is inevitable, and that he, too, must die. But how then hast thou escaped death?" asks Gilgamesh; and in reply Parnapishtim tells him the story of the flood—how for its sins his city was buried under the water, and only he and his wife, being warned by a god, saved themselves in a "six-storied" boat. When the flood subsides the gods are repentant for the evil they have wrought, and grant him immortality. There is a striking similarity between this episode and the story of the flood in the Bible, and unquestionably the twoaccounts are different versions of some ancient tradition. When the waters have diminished the Assyrian Noah sends out birds, just as the Hebrew Noah:

"When the seventh day approached
I sent forth a dove.
The dove flew about.
But, finding no resting place, returned;
Then I sent forth a swallow.
The swallow flew about.
But, finding no resting place, returned.
Then I sent forth a raven.
The raven flew off, and, seeing that the waters had decreased,
Cautiously waded in the mud, but did not return."

Gilgamesh is healed of his sickness and sent by the undying hero to seek the plant of immortality. He finds the plant, but a demon snatches it from his hand, and he is forced to return, healed but still mortal, to Uruk.

Last of all we see him wandering from temple to temple, lamenting his departed friend Eabani. He even strives to learn of the state of his friend in hades, and we see Eabani "rise up like a wind" and stand before him. Gilgamesh cries to him:

"Tell me, my companion, tell me, my companion,
The nature of the land which thou hast experienced; oh, tell me."

But the sad reply is:

"I cannot tell thee, my friend, I cannot tell thee!"

And so this strange poem, whose age no man can guess, comes to an end.

Harvard university.

Grammatical Oversight in the New Treaty.

New York Times.

According to common report Secretary Hay not only drew up with his own hand the Nicaragua canal treaty now before the senate, but he devoted an enormous amount of care to its wording, in order that it might be a perfect expression of the understanding reached by himself and the British ambassador. This being the case, it is indeed remarkable that so queer a bit of English should have crept into the document as is the sentence which ends the fourth article. It reads: "And the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington or at London within six months of the date hereof, or earlier if possible." Of course it would be nonsense to pretend that the meaning of this is not obvious at the first glance, and the practical importance of the awkward little twist is nothing, but it is sufficiently amusing nevertheless. The treaty was doubtless read over and over again, both by Mr. Hay and Lord Pauncefote, before it was sent the the senate, and the wonder is that neither of them was struck by the absurdity of using "earlier if possible" to emphasize "within six months." When one remembers the opportunities for, and the incitements to, the most painstaking revision offered by the drafting of an international treaty dealing with a momentous topic, and then recalls the contemptuous indignation so often heaped upon journalistic slips of the pen, made in conditions so vastly less favorable for maintaining the niceties and exactnesses of language, then there results—or should —a clearer realization of the amount of injustice that exists in the world.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

THE PORTLAND.

Max Schwedersky, N Y
G H MacRae, St Paul
Trabue Van Culin, Denver
L Sweet, Providnc, RI
H A Kyer, Seattle
W E Burns, Chicago
R M Leopold, Phila
B M Solomon, N Y
Henry G W Dinkelspell, San Francisco
Chas K Foster, Chgo
Geo W Cook, Chicago
G H Callender & wife, Chicago
Chas G Briggs, Quincy, Or
H M Haller, city
Percy H Greer, San Fr
S Witkouski, San Fran
S W McAun, Kaslo, BC
Mrs J Gibbs, Spokane
H S Johnson, Neb
R A Kuner, San Fran
W S Sherwood, St Paul
Dr Thos M Owen, Washington, D C
J S Levy, San Fran
S H Fielding, New Yrk
Chas Peck, New York
H C Bartlett, Colo
S A Moore, St Louis
L M Fisher, St Paul
H J Ottenheimer, S F
F I Dunbar & w, Salem
W V Rice & w, Salt Lk
Richard Nixon, city
J K Levy, San Fran
Ben Joseph, Chicago
W W Ridehalgh, Astora

THE PERKINS.

J S Adams, Galveston
G W Halea, Burns
F Williams, Ashland
W W Green, Reedley
F M Smith, San Fran
W S U'Ren, Or City
E A Smith, N Y
C L Tviller, Independence
N Tostwine, Hood Rvr
C L Tostwine, do
A F Liley, La Grande
S S Johnson, Lewiston
F Rogers, Heppner
M R Slapp, Everett
Mrs N R Slapp, do
Master P Slapp, do
B F Shreves, Creston
Mrs H E Malone, Grand Forks, N D
Mrs H Hedberg, Fessenden, N D
Mrr J K Swan, do
Hazel Swan, do
G H Shager, Kalama
A Sadd, Ogden
J D McGowan, Astoria
S E Heath, Racine
Dr H J Roesiter, Hoquism, Wash
Mrs H J Roesiter, do
Miss Roesiter, do
Master Roesiter, do
M McFall, Fargo, N D
Mrs M Palmer, Alva
A L Emery, San Fran
J C Sedman, Seattle
Mrs J C Sedman, do
H Harkins, Tacoma
G Steele, Independence
R W Steele, do
M Miller, Spokane
J T Adams, Spokane
Mrs Frost, Hastings, Neb
Miss Frost, do
Mrs Florence Holden, Spokane
E C Burlingame, W W
Bruce Brier, Seattle
Minita Bell, Seattle
Julia Wells, Seattle
G W Ninemere, Montesano, Wash
F M Warren, Warrentn
H Goddard, San Fran
Miss Julia Palmer, New South Wales
Miss Ida Palmer, do
Miss E Merrill, do
G E Kellogg, Dalles
A Christenson, Lewistn
F E Frazier, Eugene
H C Edgerton, Ga
John Gellatly, Corvallis
Mrs John Gellatly, do
Chas Gallther, Wasco
L C Gilmore, Indp, Or
B B Finklenston, city
Chas A Helmer, Oakland, Cal
J K Cupp, Salt Lake
W F Mitchell, Salt Lak
N W Whealdon, Dalles
H J Miller, Aurora
E J Harris, N Y city
H H Buddington, S F
F J Cram, Chicago
Miss Hattie Gorde, Salem, Or
Miss Jessie Gorde, do
Miss M Palmer, Albany
U S Booth, McMinnvill
V H McChesney, Omaha
Mrs Henshaw, Houlton
E L Smith, Silverton
Fred Baker, Astoria
J D Holton, Baker Cy
A Mastergeadle, Spok
R E Tewel, Hood River
A Bollinger, Starbuck
E B Kelley, Los Angls
A J Rhodes, St Louis
H E Brown, Astoria
Mrs M G Odell, Eugene
C N Brocks, Seattle

THE IMPERIAL.

C. W. Knowles, Manager.

J A Manly, Chicago
Geo F Stine, Seattle
W E Baker, San Fran
E W Bradley, Hood Rv
D W Crosby, Riddle
Mrs Crosby, do
J W Hobbs, McMinnvi
J D Locey, Vale
E O Foster, Eugene
T T Geer, Salem
J L Warner, Tacoma
John D Daly, Corvallis
Miss Pelland, Juneau
Capt A N Creighton, Ship Kinfauns
C La Bordo, Seattle
M L Inmacs, San Fran
T J Hart, New York
Mrs L J Estes, Heppnr
Lole Estes, Heppner
Miss Gertie Pruden, Lafayette
M W Spencer, N Y
G Mandell, Arlington
M J Connell, Seattle
L W Wade, Tacoma
Mrs G M Hall, Wallace
Dr D T K Deering, Union
J A Devlin, Astoria
Mrs Devlin, Astoria
B P Wallace, Astoria
B T Wilson, La Grnd
Miss Dora B Cooley, Baker City
Mrs Jerome Dokery, do
J S Cake, Coos Bay
Mrs R V Jones, Astora
Mrs J E Barnett, Salem
E L Haff, Cripple Crk
F C Reed, Astoria
Edwin Hobson, Astoria
P C Cordiner, Astoria
Mrs P C Cordiner, do
Jos McLemmen, do
Wm Kennor, Dubuque
C W Stone, Astoria
Gus Moose, San Fran
G G Chapin, Tacoma
John Mathias, S S Neas
James Withycomb, Corvallis, Or
John Fulton, do
A H Huntington, Bak C
W C Cowgill, do
J F Rorick, Grand Dalles, Wash
R C Judson, La Grande
Mrs Judson, St Paul
Stephen A Lowell, Pendleton
A M Gillis, Athena
W B McGuigan, Eugene
Mrs W E McGuigan, do
Martha Fischer, Corvallis
T J Van Outeren, Oakld
F W Benson, Roseburg
J Bloenkfield, N Y
E H Stephenson, Astora
Mrs Stephenson, do
Guat Larson, Astoria
John Johnson, Astoria
Miss Hasak, Astoria
Miss Anderson, Astoria

THE ST. CHARLES.

C Black, Tacoma
D Delphin, Cape Horn
J C Brown, Junc City
Fred Cook, do
Grant Haley, do
W N Nims, Toledo, Wn
Geo Bates, Silverton
B R Cook, Junction Cy
I Tate, Walla Walla
J A Morgan, Hillsboro
R D Henry, Hillsboro
G N Farr, Goble
Miss G Farr, Goble
L H Morris, Kelso
D Turnbull, Seattle
H Bohde, Hammond
F A Jett, Hammond
J H Elmson, Ft Sterns
Jas Tierney, city
A Coppock, Nelson, BC
Joe Morgan, do
J M Yocum, McMinnvl
C Black, Tacoma
J Hohback, city
J Despain, Goble
H L Calvin, Marshland
W B Calvin, Marshland
John Davis, Napa
E C Byorth, Woodland
Mrs Byorth, Woodland
J W Dicks, Woodland
S T Murray, Woodland
Mrs Murray, Woodland
Jessie Pay, Rainier
T Peterson, Hood River
P Peterson, Hood River
M Owens, Skamokawa
G L Perrin, Clatskanie
H Sheen, Monroe
J D Belt, Dallee
H A Cleek, Albany
Bert Froman, Albany
Harry Riffle, Walla W
H M Stalmaker, Clackamas
Saul Garrison, do
J W Myer, Dallas
Chas D Ward, Dallas
B F Ward, Dallas
Louis Dossett, Mcminee
J C Freeman, do

Hotel Donnelly, Tacoma.

European plan; headquarters for commercial men. Chilberg's restaurant in connection.

Hotel Butler, Seattle.

European. Rooms with or without bath. Ladies and gents' grillrooms in connection.

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Derangement of the liver, with constipation, injures the complexion, induces pimples, sallow skin. Carter's Little Liver Pills remove the cause.

TO PROTECT STREET MAINS

WATER COMMITTEE PREPARES AN ORDINANCE.

Council Asked to Pass It and Prevent Ruin of Iron Pipes by Electrolysis.

Electrolysis of metal pipes was the principal subject before the water committee at the monthly meeting held yesterday. The subtle workings of electricity, its startling corrosive properties, preventives and remedies were fully discussed by J. N. Teal, chairman of a committee appointed to draft a measure to be presented to the common council. The bill agreed upon requires electric light and street-car companies using electricity as a motive power to adopt whatever means science approves for confining the current to wires or other conduits. Mr. Teal's report was unanimously approved by the water committee, and the measure will be presented to the mayor, that he may bring it up in the council for enactment into ordinance.

Investigation into the effect of the corrosive properties of electricity on metal pipes reveals that with the extended use of the subtle current there is a constantly growing danger. Three specimens were before the committee yesterday. One two-inch pipe had been destroyed completely for a short distance. Ordinary feed pipes for residences, galvanized as usual, looked as if some powerful acid had eaten into them. The metal would be left with the appearance of having a longitudinal fiber, between which all had corroded away. Reports from experts in other cities showed that the same difficulty is encountered all over the country where electricity is used, and that there is a quite general movement to fight it.

The members of the committee present were Messrs. Carson, Bates, Hill, Haseltine, Inman, Joseph, Knapp, Kohn, Lewis, Rowe, Scott and Teal. Chairman Corbett came in before the meeting was concluded. Mr. Carson acted as temporary chairman. The operating committee submitted its report of the operation of the waterworks during the month of January, which was as follows:

Cash receipts	$23,434 55
Operation and repairs	2,694 68
Remainder paid to treasurer	$20,740 17

Following other routine business, the chair called upon Mr. Teal for a report upon the proposed ordinance. The measure agreed upon and read was as follows:

Ordinance No. ——. An ordinance regulating the use of electricity in the city of Portland, and to protect pipes and other structures in the said city from the effects thereof.

The city of Portland does ordain as follows:

Section 1. That it shall be the duty of all persons or companies using or employing electrical currents in the city of Portland to provide and put in use such means and appliances as will, as far as practicable, control and effectually contain such currents in their proper channels and on their own wires, tracks and other structures, so as to prevent injury to the pipes and other structures belonging to the city of Portland or to any person, firm or corporation within said city, and to repair and renew said means and appliances, and from time to time to change and improve the same, as may be necessary to accomplish said purpose; all at his or their charge and expense, and at his or their own risk, selecting and adopting such means and appliances as shall prevent injury to the pipes and other structures belonging to the said city aforesaid, or belonging to any person, firm or corporation within said city.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of all railway companies operating within the city of Portland and using electricity as a motive power, at their own cost and expense, to make tests from time to time, at not longer intervals than three months, to determine whether the means of protection adopted prevent the flow or escape of electrical currents to any pipes or other structures belonging to the city of Portland, or to any person, firm or corporation within the said city; and to file with the clerk of the water committee of the city of Portland complete reports of each test made, at least once every three months. Tests shall be made at as many points on each railway system as the water committee of the city of Portland may direct; and it shall be the duty of the superintendent or other managing officer of said railway companies to notify the clerk of said water committee at least 24 hours in advance when and where such tests are to be made.

Sec. 3. The water committee of the city of Portland is hereby authorized and empowered to cause at said times, and as often as said committee may deem necessary, tests to be made for the purpose of ascertaining and determining whether there is any escape of electricity from the tracks, wires or other structures of any person, firm or corporation using electrical currents for any pupose within said city; and the said water committee or its duly authorized agents shall have free access at seasonable hours to all said tracks, structures or other premises of said persons, firms or corporations, and make such connections with the said tracks, wires and other structures as may be necessary to make such tests.

Sec. 4. Any person, firm or coporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of $100 for each offense; and in order to a conviction under section 1 of this ordinance it shall not be necessary to show that the entire electrical current imposed on the pipes or other structures belonging to said city, or to any person, firm or corporation, as aforesaid, escapes from or comes from the power-house or other works of the parties charged as aforesaid, but it shall be sufficient for conviction if the company or party, by failing to restrain its or their currents, materially contributes to the injury of the pipes or other structures bolnging to said city, or to any person, firm or corporation herein. All fines collected under this ordinance shall be paid to the city treasurer, and by him to be credited to the general fund of the city.

Sec. 5. The collection of any penalty for violation of this ordinance, or any part thereof, or any prosecution for the same, shall not have the effect of taking away or abridging the right of said city, or of any person, firm or corporation therein, to damages arising from any injury to the pipes or other structures belonging to said city, or to any person, firm or corporation therein, by reason of the escape of said electrical currents from the structures, wires or other works of the party or parties generating said current or currents.

Then Mr. Teal introduced the following resolution for the action of the committee:

"Be it resolved, That a copy of the proposed ordinance just read be approved by the water committee, and that the same be delivered to the mayor of the city of Portland by the clerk of this committee, with the request that he submit the same to the city attorney of this city for approval as to form, and that, after being so approved, the mayor cause it to be presented to the common council of the city of Portland for its consideration; and that the said mayor be advised by the clerk of this committee that the said copy of the ordinance has been approved by the water committee of the city of Portland, and that they respectfully request the honorable mayor and common council of the city of Portland to enact the same as one of the ordinances of the city of Portland."

Mr. Teal spoke at length on the resolution. He said lead pipes were most easily harmed; wrought iron pipes came next, and that cast-iron pipes withstood the action of electricity best of the metal now used. The first section of the ordinance was merely declaratory of the common law, that no one had a right to so use his property as to injure another's. The clause requiring inspection had been thoroughly deliberated over, and the opinions of companies using electricity had been sought, with the result that one inspection at least each three months was thought best. Then the water committee reserved the right of making inspections at their own expense. Extensive opinions from experts in other cities were read, one of whom said a simple way of reducing the danger was for many of the street-car companies to reverse their present mode of establishing a circuit. In this manner the danger area would be kept close to the power-house and affect a comparatively small territory, while, as as present, the area is often made the very greatest possible. Mr. Teal said the street-car companies of this city were using the system extending the area, and when the matter of reversing was taken up, the added danger to the wrought-iron water mains under the river was an element that had to be considered.

Mr. Rowe asked if the ordinance covered such companies as were using merely storage batteries for their wires, like the fire-alarm system, telephone and telegraph lines. Mr. Teal replied that he had not investigated sufficiently to say whether electrolysis resulted from weak currents of this character, but if it did not, as determined by scientific men, such companies would not be affected. A report from New York city regarding the stray currents found on the Brooklyn bridge stated that most of the danger came from trolleys. The resolution was adopted by the committee without a dissenting vote.

Routine Matters.

Superintendent Dodge reported on the advisability of extending the six-inch main on Twenty-second street one block, so as to accommodate the Good Samaritan hospital. In view of the large quantity of water consumed by the hospital and the increased demands likely to result from construction of the new building, his recommendation was accepted, and the main will be extended.

The matter of a half section of land in the Bull Run reserve, owned by the H. D. McGuire estate, was brought up through a request from the attorneys for the estate for immediate action. Two years ago the water committee adopted a resolution regarding this land. Yesterday the superintendent was instructed to confer with the city attorney, and when the latter would certify that the estate had complied with the conditions of the resolution the transaction should be closed.

A request that a main be extended on East Eighteenth street, between East Ankeny and East Everett, was placed on the table until further investigations were made. The committee's attorney was instructed to inquire into the effect of the recent decision of the supreme court on the overlap land cases, as it bore on portions of the Bull Run reserve.

STREET RAILWAY'S TROUBLES

Reorganization of the Third-Avenue Company, of New York.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—The troubles of the Third-Avenue Railroad Company continue the exciting topic in Wall street. The composition of the syndicate which is to reorganize the road is not definitely known, but it is known that Vermeiye & Co., the bankers, are at the head of it. The statement of Treasurer W. H. Curtiss, of the Third-avenue, announcing the solution of the difficulty, is as follows:

"As chairman of the committee appointed for that purpose by the board of directors, I have entered into an agreement with a syndicate of eminent bankers, including two very large international banking-houses, and under the terms of the agreement the bankers will furnish to the company the sum of $21,500,000 at 5 per cent. I have also entered into an agreement with other parties who will furnish to the company the sum of $7,000,000 additional.

"The terms upon which these arrangements have been made are, in my opinion, very advantageous to the company. Persons owning a majority of the capital stock of the company have decided to form a corporation which shall lease the properties of the Third-Avenue Railroad Company in perpetuity and at an annual rental sufficient to pay its fixed charges, and, in addition thereto, dividends upon its stock on a scale beginning at 4 per cent immediately and reaching 5 per cent per annum at the end of four years, and continuing at that rate thereafter.

"In this connection the stockholders of the Third-Avenue company will acquire certain very valuable rights. The leasing company will deposit with a trust company satisfactory to the Third-Avenue Company a sum in excess of $1,000,000 in cash, which shall stand as a guarantee fund for the payment of the dividends. Messrs. Ryan and Vreeland, of the Metropolitan Company, published a statement today to the effect that the Metropolitan Company does not want the Third-Avenue, and never has considered the question of taking it over. This statement surprises me very much, because within the last 30 days J. Pierpont Morgan personally offered to take up and fully reorganize the finances of the Third-Avenue Company on condition that the stockholders would consent to a lease to the Metropolitan on terms which would guarantee to the stockholders 4 per cent per annum in perpetuity."

James R. Keene says in reference to the subject:

"I am a holder of a large amount of the capital stock of the Third-Avenue Railroad Company, a portion of which is in my hands on advances that I have made to the party owning it for a very long period of time and thoroughly secured. The right to vote on any proposition for the pledged stock in connection with any plan to place the company on a sound basis has been delegated to me by the party to whom I have lent the money. I have taken great pains to inform myself respecting the value of the property of the company, its present difficulties and its future prospects, and after the most thorough investigation I am satisfied that the Third-Avenue Railroad Company will emerge in a few months, when the full construction of its lines is completed, into one of the best-paying properties in the country."

Butte Saloon Murder.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 21.—Joseph Gannon, a miner, was shot and killed by John Kehoe, in the latter's saloon, on Main street, tonight. Gannon bought a drink, receiving change for a $5 bill. He claimed he had given Kehoe a $10 bill. It is said Gannon drew a pistol and threatened to kill Kehoe unless the latter gave him the change he claimed. Kehoe grabbed his revolver from behind the bar and shot Gannon through the head.

For the Baby

The fifty-cent size is just right for the baby. A little of it in the bottle three or four times a day will supply precisely the fat all thin babies need. If your baby does not gain in weight as fast as you would like, try

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The result will please you. If the baby nurses, the mother should take the emulsion. It makes the baby's food richer and more abundant; only buy the dollar size—it's more economical.

Both mother and child will feel at once its strengthening, upbuilding and fat-producing properties.

At all druggists; 50c. and $1.00.
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Men who go out fishing in an open boat in the midst of a blinding storm and enjoy it, must be strong and healthy and are pretty sure to live to a ripe old age. Unfortunately, the rush and hurry of modern business life will not permit the average man to take frequent outdoor exercise.

In lieu of a life spent partly in the woods and on the water, a man must find some kind of medicine to tone up and invigorate him and incite the vital organs of his body to the faithful performance of their normal functions. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the only thoroughly effective medicine for this purpose. Its principal action is upon the organs that feed the blood, the stomach, the large intestines and the liver. It facilitates the flow of the digestive juices in the stomach and the production of healthy chyle in large quantities in the large intestines. It invigorates the liver and purifies and enriches the blood. When the blood is rich and pure the old, inert tissues throughout the body are torn down and replaced by new and healthy flesh tissues and nerve fibers. If a man's blood is filled with the rich, pure elements of health, he can get along with a scanty amount of exercise. Disease germs can gain no foothold in his system.

"I had catarrh for several years and then the grip and also had a hemorrhage from the lungs," writes Mr. T. J. F. Brown, of Sands, Watauga Co., N. C. "I had the best medical attention, but it could bring only partial relief. I had more hemorrhages. I took twenty-five or thirty bottles of medicines, but continued to have spells of bleeding. I commenced taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy. I used eight bottles and have been able to do any kind of labor for more than twelve months. I owe my life to Dr. Pierce's medicines."

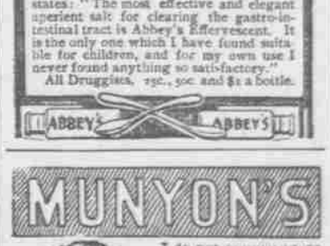
Catarrh.

Mr. B. P. McAllister, Harrodsburg, Ky., says: "I employed numerous methods of local treatment for a severe case of Catarrh, but the disease grew worse steadily, getting a firmer grip on me all the time. I finally realized that this treatment did not reach the disease, and decided to try Swift's Specific,

S.S.S. For The Blood

which promptly got at the seat of the trouble, and cured me permanently."

Catarrh is a blood disease and can not be reached by sprays, inhaling mixtures, etc. S. S. S. is the only cure. Send for valuable books mailed free by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga.



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