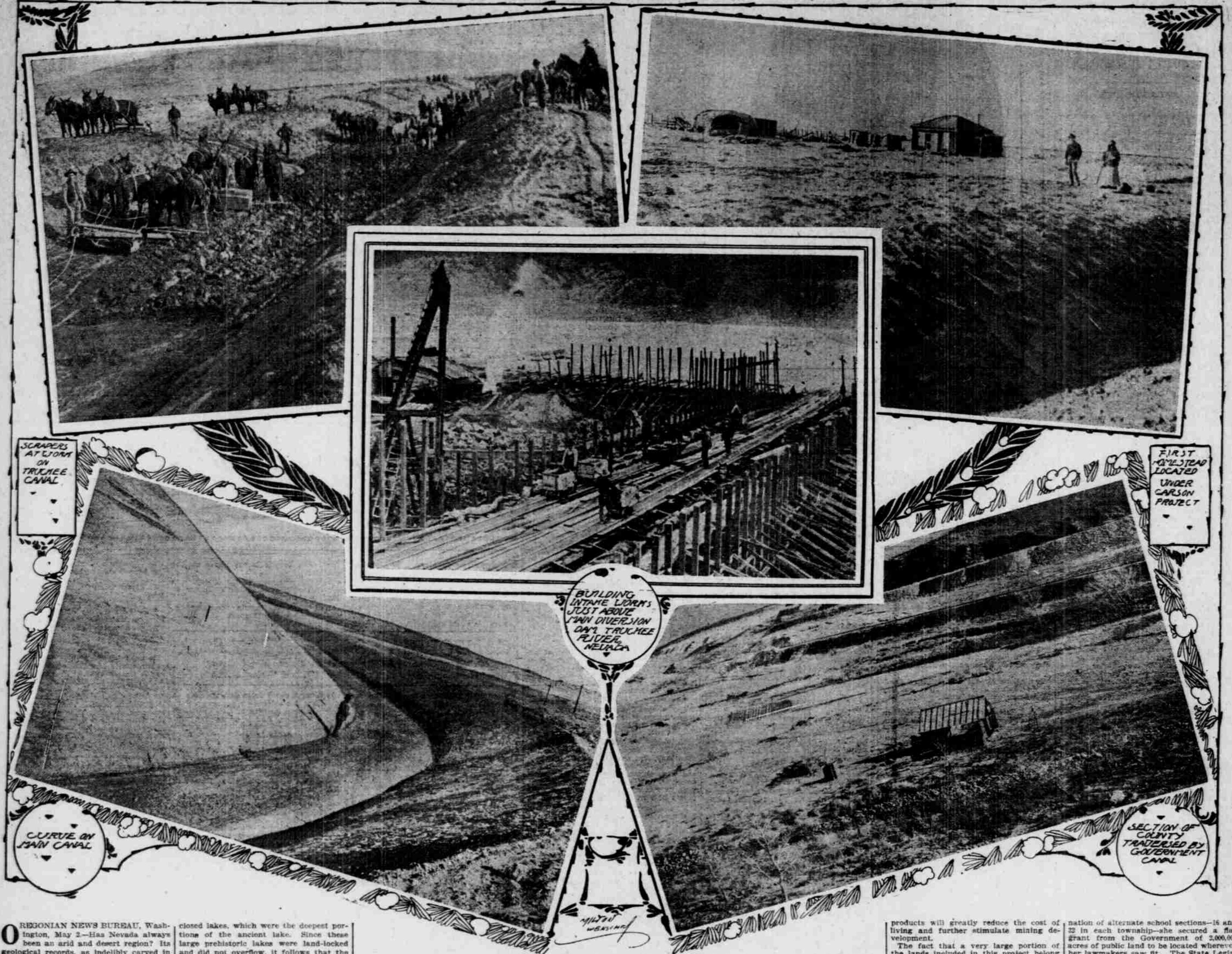


SECOND CONQUEST OF SAGE BRUSH STATE

First Actual Work Under the National Irrigation Law Is the Carson-Truckee Project.



SCRAPERS AT WORK ON TRUCKEE CANAL

FIRST GROUND LOCATED UNDER CARSON PROJECT

BUILDING INTAKE DAMS JUST ABOVE MAIN DIVERSION DAM TRUCKEE RIVER, NEVADA

CURVE ON MAIN CANAL

SECTION OF CANAL TRAILERED BY GOVERNMENT CANAL

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash- ington, May 2.—Hia Nevada always been an arid and desert region? Its geological records, an indelibly carved in sandstone and granite, showing the shore lines of ancient lakes, proclaim that it has not, but that at one time a vast body of water, as great in area as Lake Erie, covered a portion of the state. Today, however, the aridity of the country is unquestioned and the 200,000 acres, to part of which Uncle Sam is about to apply water, will practically double its well-irrigated area and its agricultural population.

Nevada's ancient inland sea is known as Lake La Bontine; it was one of several great prehistoric lakes distributed over the Great Basin of the arid region, among them Lake Bonneville, of which the Great Salt Lake was the deepest portion. Its area was nine times greater than the Great Salt, or almost as large as Lake Michigan and much deeper.

The contracted remains of Lake La Bontine in Nevada are found in Pyramid Lake and a number of other small in-

closed lakes, which were the deepest portions of the ancient lake. Since these large prehistoric lakes were land-locked and did not overflow, it follows that the rainfall which fed them was much heavier than it is today.

Drowning Out the Mormons.

Should conditions revert, many of the important points situated in the Great Basin would be hopelessly flooded, such for instance as the Mormon Temple, which would stand in 80 feet of water, while 700 miles of railroad would be submerged. These same prehistoric lakes are said to be of very recent origin—that is recent by the geologist's count—perhaps 30,000 or 40,000 years old. Fossils have been found showing the presence of primitive man along their ancient shores and embankments, which in many instances are as perfect in contour and as distinct as if the waters had receded only a few years since. These lakes included such arid and fear-inspiring localities of today as the Black Rock Desert, Skull

Valley, Death Valley and a score of other places where the bleached bones of man and animal attest to an awful lack of water.

Great Government Irrigation Work.

This first irrigation work of the National Government, which is to be celebrated by the turning of the water into the gigantic ditches this month, is the largest project which has been definitely outlined and approved under the irrigation act—known as the Truckee-Carson project. When completed it will involve the expenditure of approximately \$5,000,000 and will reclaim 250,000 acres of desert land. That portion of the system now completed consists of a canal 21 miles long to take water from the Truckee River and convey it to the Carson River, where a large storage reservoir is projected. Just below this reservoir site the waters of the two streams will be led out

upon the plains by two canals, with a combined capacity of 1900 cubic feet per second. Some 50,000 acres are to be irrigated this spring, for which 200 miles of small distributing ditches have been dug. The Secretary of the Interior has set aside \$2,700,000 of the "Reclamation Fund" for the initial work, and by the time this has been expended about 100,000 acres will be under canals, and the settlers will be returning in annual payments the original investment. The money thus received will be used as a revolving fund for the completion of this project. The land has been divided into farm units of 80 acres, and the cost of reclamation will be \$25 per acre. Work is being commenced this spring on regulating gates at the outlet of Lake Tahoe, located in California, but whose waters will be used to reclaim the fertile Nevada soil. Future plans involve the draining of Carson Sink, 25,000 acres in extent, which overflows in

years of heavy rainfall, and the reclamation of lands in the upper Truckee and Carson Valleys. As these large areas are gradually brought under irrigation a greater water supply will be required and nine additional reservoirs will be constructed, with a combined storage capacity of over 1,500,000 acres foot (an acre foot equals one acre, one foot deep).

Abundant Yield.

The soil under this project is very fertile, and deciduous fruits such as apples, pears, peaches, grapes, all the berries and vegetables produce luxuriantly. Wheat, oats, potatoes and alfalfa are the staple crops. The lands are tributary to the Southern Pacific, the Nevada, California & Oregon, and the Virginia & Truckee railroads, and the recent enormous activity in gold and silver mining in Nevada insures a near-by and profitable market. At the same time the supply of food

products will greatly reduce the cost of living and further stimulate mining development.

The fact that a very large portion of the lands included in this project belong to the Government and have been withdrawn from speculative entry under the desert and other land laws, is a matter for congratulation. Nevada's past history has been one of land monopoly, in fact, it has been said that the state was long since stolen by land grabbers. In area Nevada is three times the size of Indiana, but her population is scarcely sufficient for a single small county. The popular vote of last year was but little over 12,000. The bulk of the inhabitable lands are in the hands of a few great landowners, while the opportunity for settlement and increased population has never been extensive. Nevada's land history is one which can be studied with profit by those who are searching for light on the question of proper administration of the public domain. With exception of the influx of immigration due to mining excitement, the population is at a standstill, and must continue to remain so until farm lands are thrown open to settlement in small tracts through Government irrigation. When the state was admitted to the Union, in place of receiving the usual do-

mination of alternate school sections—16 and 32 in each township—she secured a flat grant from the Government of 2,000,000 acres of public land to be located wherever her lawmakers saw fit. The State Legislature passed as much as desired of this great and valuable resource into private ownership of stockmen, at as low a figure as 25 cents an acre. These lands have been located up and down the sides of every river and stream and around every spring and water hole in the state, so that while Nevada has today some 60,000 acres of public land, there is not a quarter section of it upon which a homesteader could make a living. The land granted to the state for school purposes—disposed of by the state for a mess of pottage—controls the lands of the state. The Government's irrigation, when worked out, will immediately double Nevada's population; it will provide a new life-blood of settlement and citizenship for a region of unsurpassed agriculture. This great reclamation scheme for the rebuilding of Nevada is being carried into operation by Engineer L. H. Taylor, under the supervision of Frederick H. Newell, Chief Engineer of the Reclamation Service. It will afford the first practical example of the operations of the new National Irrigation law.

The Future Policies of America By Andrew Carnegie

PASSAGES FROM THE STEEL KING'S "LIFE OF JAMES WATT."

THOSE sanguine prophets who predict the reunion of our race on both sides of the Atlantic can at least aver that in view of the union of Scotland and England, the element of time required to traverse distances of and from the capital is no obstacle, since the most distant points of the new empire, Britain in the East and British Columbia and California in the West, would be reached in less than one-third the time required to travel from the north of Scotland to London at the time of the union. Besides, the telegraph today binds the parts together, keeping all citizens informed, and stirring their hearts simultaneously thousands of miles apart—Glasgow to London, 17½ days; 18½, eight hours. Thus under the genius steam, tamed and harnessed by Watt, the world shrinks into a neighborhood, giving some countenance to the dreamers who may perchance be proclaiming a coming reality. We may continue, therefore, to indulge the hope of the coming "parliament of man, the federation of the world," or even the older and wider prophecy of Burns, that, "it's coming yet for a' that, when man to man the world o'er, shall brethren be for a' that."

There comes to mind that jewel we owe to Plato, which surely ranks as one of the most precious of all our treasures: "We should lure ourselves as with enchantments, for the hope is great and the reward is noble. So with this enchanting dream, better than most realities,

even if it be all a dream. Let the dreamers therefore dream on. The world, minus enchanting dreams, would be commonplace indeed, and let us remember this dream is only dreamable because Watt's steam engine is a reality.

Uniform Standards Coming.

The war of the standards still rages, metric, or decimal, or no change. What each nation has is good enough for it in the opinion of many of its people. Some day an international commission will doubtless assemble to bring order out of chaos. As far as the English-speaking race is concerned, it seems that a decided improvement could readily be effected with very trifling, indeed scarcely perceptible, changes. Especially is this so with money values. Britain could merge her system with those of Canada and America, by simply making her "pound" the exact value of the American five dollars, it being now only ten pence less; her silver coinage one and two shillings equal to quarter and half-dollars, the present coin to be retained upon presentation, but meanwhile to pass current. Weights and measures are more difficult to assimilate. Science being world-wide, and knowing no divisions, should use uniform terms. Alas, at the distance of nearly a century and a half we seem no nearer the prospect of a system of universal weights and measures than in Watt's day, but Watt's idea is not to be lost sight of for all that. He was a seer who often saw what was to come. East Indians, Mexicans, Japanese, Chinese, all become more or less efficient workers with a few months' experience.

Manufacturing is therefore to spread rapidly throughout the world. All nations may be trusted to develop, and, if necessary, for a time protect their natural resources as a patriotic duty. Only when prolonged trials have been made can it be determined which nation can best and most cheaply provide the articles for which raw material abounds.

Early in 1784 we find Watt taking the lead in getting up a loyal address to the King on the appointment as Prime Minister of Pitt, who proposed to tax coal, iron, copper and other raw materials of manufacture to the amount of \$5,000,000 per year, a considerable sum in its infancy. Boulton also joined in opposition. They wisely held that for a manufacturing nation "to tax raw materials was suicidal; let taxes be laid upon luxuries, upon vices, and, if you like, upon property; tax riches when got, but not the means of getting them. Of all things, don't cut upon the hen that lays the golden eggs."

Future Tariff Policy.

Watt's services were enlisted and he drew up a paper for circulation upon the subject. The policy failed, and soon after Pitt was converted to sounder doctrines by Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations." Free trade has ruled Britain ever since, and, below the country that could manufacture the cheapest, and indeed, the only manufacturing country for many years, this policy has made her the richest, per capita, of all nations. The day may not be far distant when America, such to be the cheapest manufacturing country for many, as it al-

ready is for a few, staple articles, will be crying for free trade, and urging free entrance to the markets of the world. To tax the luxuries and vices, to tax wealth got and not in the making, as proposed by Watt and Boulton, is the policy to follow. Watt shows himself to have been a profound economist.

Watt had cause for deep anxiety for his eldest son, James, who had taken an active part in the agitation. He and his friend, Mr. Cooper of Manchester, were appointed deputies by the "Constitutional Society," to proceed to Paris and present an address of congratulation to the Jacobin Club. Young Watt was carried away, and became intimate with the leaders. Boulton also joined in opposition. They wisely held that for a manufacturing nation "to tax raw materials was suicidal; let taxes be laid upon luxuries, upon vices, and, if you like, upon property; tax riches when got, but not the means of getting them. Of all things, don't cut upon the hen that lays the golden eggs."

Britain the "Crowned Republic."

Today we regard his mild republicanism, his alliance with Jacobin leaders, as a ribbon in the cap of youth. All that the revolutionists of Watt's day had desired has, in substance, been obtained, and Britain has become in truth a "crowned republic," with "government of the people, for the people, and by the people." This steady and beneficent development was peacefully attained. The difference between the French and British methods is that between revolution and evolution. In Britain, since Watt's day, all traces

of opposition to monarchy aroused by the French Revolution have disappeared, as completely as the monarchy of King George. The "limited monarchy" of today, developed during the admirable reign of Queen Victoria, has taken its place. The French abolished monarchy by a frontal attack upon the citadel, involving serious loss. Not such the policy of the colder Briton. He won his great victory, losing nothing, by flanking the position. That the king "could do no wrong," is a doctrine almost coeval with modern history, flowing from the "divine right" of kings, and, as such, was quietly accepted. It needed only to be properly harnessed to become a very serviceable agent for registering the people's will.

A Still More Perfect American Union

In America's political domain, a similar evolution has been even more silently at work than in Britain during the past century, and is not yet exhausted—the transformation of a loose confederacy of sovereign states, with different laws, into one solid government, which assumes control and insures uniformity over one department after another. The centrifugal forces grow stronger with the years; power leaves the individual states and drifts to Washington, as the necessity for such successive change becomes apparent. In the regulation of interstate commerce, of trusts and in other fields, final authority over the whole land gravitates more and more to Washington. -- is a beneficent movement, likely to result in uniform national laws upon many subjects in which present diversity creates confusion. Marriage and divorce laws, bankruptcy laws, corporation charter privileges, and many other important questions may be expected to become uniform under this evolutionary process. The Supreme Court decision that the union was an indissoluble union of indissoluble states, carries with it finally uniform regulation of many interstate

problems in every respect salutary, and indispensable for the perfect union of the American people.—Copyright, 1905, by D. T. Pierce.

Genius Inimical to "Prizes."

London Saturday Review. There is not in existence a single great opera, oratorio, symphony, or, indeed, any fine piece of musical art which is the result of the prize system. There is "Cavalleria," which is driven; there are other works which are worse driven, but no one can name to me a really fine work that has won a prize. The reason, though apparently ridiculously simple, is sufficient. In music the big

men contemptuously refuse to compete for prizes. I know that in sculpture it is otherwise; Stevens' Wellington affair, which they tell me is kept in a cellar somewhere, is proof of that; but there is not a fine prize play, prize picture, prize poem, prize piece of music. Still, what has failed a thousand times may succeed the thousand and one-th.

Surprise.

Lippincott's. How passing strange it seemed to me I never shall forget. That day I went out in the rain And found that it was wet.

Married Women

Every woman covets a shapely, pretty figure, and many of them deplore the loss of their girlish forms after marriage. The bearing of children is often destructive to the mother's shapeliness. All of this can be avoided, however, by the use of Mother's Friend before baby comes, as this great liniment always prepares the body for the strain upon it, and preserves the symmetry of her form. Mother's Friend overcomes all the danger of child-birth, and carries the expectant mother safely through this critical period without pain. It is woman's greatest blessing. Thousands gratefully tell of the benefit and relief derived from the use of this wonderful remedy. Sold by all druggists at \$1.00 per bottle. Our little book, telling all about this liniment, will be sent free. The Bradford Regulator Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Mother's Friend