

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON, Publisher.

Published every evening (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning at the Journal Building, 125 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Entered at the postoffice at Portland, Or., for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.

TELEPHONES—Main 1173; Home, A-9001. All departments except the editorial department, which is reached by the editorial switchboard.

FOREIGN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE, Benjamin A. Kenton Co., Brunswick Building, 125 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Subscription Terms by mail or to any address in the United States or Mexico.

DAILY. One year, \$5.00; six months, \$3.00; three months, \$1.50. SUNDAY. One year, \$2.00; six months, \$1.00; three months, \$0.50.

He stands for fame on his forehead, by heraldry, proved valiant or discreet.

—Young.

IMMORALITY OR MAN?

BEHOLD ALL THESE spasms over immoral conditions in Portland. It is a long time since the city heard such trumpeting from the tall tower. Never before was there such thundering in the index.

It paws the earth in its anger, and swoons away after each convulsion. Never before did it contemplate the hosts of wickedness with such horror.

How times do change. But yesterday we had Simon with the same or worse moral conditions, but no bugle call to war was sounded from the tower. The parasites parasited and the cadets cadetted, but not a whimper issued from that elevated sanctuary that has suddenly become a flaming torch of righteousness and the signal fire of purity.

Under Mr. Simon the police department was as bad or worse than now, but not a squawk came from the white robed gladiator that now chews the ground and smites the moon in its fierceness and rage. It winked at the sins of the police, it closed its eyes to vice, it slept the sweet sleep of the satisfied under Simon, but it is a crusader for righteousness under Rushlight, with the police as good or better now, with the vice no worse and moral conditions quite as good now as under the wide open regime of Mr. Simon.

Nor is it forgotten that under the days of Lane, when the town was the cleanest in its history, the tall tower jeered and sneered, assailed and censured the administration for its efforts to fumigate the city. It ridiculed Lane for what it called his "moral squad," smote him for his every effort at reform and constantly distorted the facts about his conduct of affairs.

Portland ought to be a cleaner town. Its police ought to be more effective. Vice should be driven out. But the question is why did the tower fight moral conditions under Lane, and tolerate vice without a complaint under Simon? Why did it wink at immorality, smile on vice and close its eyes to wide open conditions under Simon and suddenly leap into the foreground as leader of a moral wave under Rushlight?

Wasn't vice in the reign of Simon as bad as vice under the regime of Rushlight? Is it the immorality, or is it the man, that the tower is after?

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS

ON THE PRINCIPLE that an ounce of fact is worth a pound of theory it may be recorded that threshing is just over at the Moro farm directed by the State Agricultural college and that the best wheat on that dry land farm went 22.6 bushels per acre, while on identically the same character of neighboring soil the yield was either too poor for the wheat to be worth cutting or was only giving ten to twelve bushels to the acre.

An experiment station has several functions. These may be divided into, tests of varieties, tests of methods of tillage and culture, tests of new crops, and tests of rotations.

Tests of varieties deal with crops already in use in the district where the experimental farm is located. In the case of the Moro farm barleys, corn, oats, potatoes, peas and wheat are being dealt with. These are divided between winter and spring varieties. One of the most interesting plots is that devoted to plant breeding. Single plants are selected from plots and fields of both local and introduced varieties for some apparent superiority. The progeny of the single plants is collected and sown, and determination is reached by successive plantings whether the original apparent superiority is maintained or developed. Thus, by selection new possibilities are found.

In the tillage tests dates of plowing, sowing, harrowing and packing are varied and results recorded. At Moro results of April 1 plowing have been found to be far superior to those from sowing on May 1 and June 1.

The cost of cultivation in all these cases is carefully kept, and balanced against the value of improved results. Tests of new crops are made at the Moro station of varieties of alfalfa, clover, grasses, corn, field peas and sorghums.

Experimentation in rotation of crops will extend over many years before exact results can be ascertained and definite advice given. But periodical reports will give indications of great value to the district.

It is objected by some that the value of the farm in general, and

many of the experiments in particular, is reduced by the outlay in both labor and money in arriving at results—the expenditure in both directions being in excess of what the average farmer can afford to devote. The answer would doubtless be that the farm is intended to prove the best possibilities of dry land farming. Each observer must then determine for himself how far his means allow him to go in the search for improvement.

It must be borne in mind always that experimenting is slow work at the best, results of one year being indications rather than demonstrations of the ends sought.

THE GREATEST GATES IN THE WORLD

OF COURSE THE greatest gates in the world are those being built for the locks on the Panama canal—forty-six of them, costing over five million dollars, and weighing together sixty thousand tons. Piled on top of one another the result would be a tower a mile and a quarter high. Each of them is as tall as a nine story building, and so thick that they bear a concrete foot walk on their upper edge. They weigh seven hundred tons each, and swing on hinges of nickel steel ten inches thick.

Such are the general features given by the American Machinist of New York.

The construction of them calls for the work of the structural steel maker and also of the shipbuilder. They must be made to fit with water-tight joints, but as they will have to be moved at a touch absolute accuracy of surface will be demanded. The lower half of each gate will be a water-tight air chamber. By vertical bulkheads each gate is divided into six series of water-tight compartments.

Such details throw a vivid light on the magnitude of the total construction, of which these gigantic gates form but a small part. They illustrate also the fact that in modern engineering enormous size offers no excuse for roughness of construction—delicacy and accuracy of finish are applied to structures a mile and a quarter in total height, no less than to an ordinary steam engine.

Reading these descriptions Colonel Goethal's requirement of a year's experimental working of the canal and its many appliances before it is thrown open to the commerce of the world, is most satisfactorily accounted for.

IMPROVEMENTS IN ST. PAUL

ST. PAUL PAPERS deal in glowing terms with a contemplated improvement on a gigantic scale, to be undertaken by the city at an outlay of three million dollars, for diverting the Mississippi river into a new, straight, channel, and adding nearly seven hundred acres to the business section of that enterprising and prosperous city.

It is said that the chairman of the river and harbor commission of St. Paul has satisfied himself, on competent legal advice, that there is no legal obstacle in the way of the city's acquiring ownership of the land to be reclaimed by the removal of the river bed. The Minnesota legislature has already prepared the way for the city's obtaining title to the land in question. Engineers have advised that there is no engineering problem involved that is not easy of solution.

In the territory now bounded by the river most of the retail houses, the bulk of the jobbing business, many of the factories and a part of the railroad yardage and terminal grounds, are included. The proposed improvement will add about three and a half times to that area.

The legislature of Minnesota has authorized an issue of \$500,000 in bonds for preliminary work on the project. The estimate is that the city will gain property valued at ten million dollars, after setting aside 150 acres for railway use.

RUSSIAN BAPTISTS

THE MOST INTERESTING figures at the recent Baptist World conference in Philadelphia were, past question, the Russian Baptist delegates, who came as prisoners under bond to return to Russia when the conference was over, and take their punishment, for the heinous offence of preaching Baptist doctrines to their fellow countrymen, thereby disturbing their allegiance to the Holy Orthodox church.

These men are now on their return voyage to Russia, and some American friends and co-religionists who took leave of them report that they seemed to dread the ocean voyage more than the Russian dungeons for which they were destined, and with which all of them had been for long years familiar.

Twelve in number the life histories of each differ chiefly in the number of years which they have spent in prison, in Siberia, and in exile for their faith.

The best known of them is Pastor Fetter of St. Petersburg. He is out on \$2500 bail, to stand trial on his return for preaching in Moscow without special government leave. The penalty is two years in a fortress. V. Pavloff of Odessa is a pioneer Russian Baptist. He has known the horrors of Siberian exile and the misery of dark and filthy dungeons. S. Stepanoff was for five years in Siberia among criminals of the vilest type. He is now threatened with Siberia again on his return. He has been baptised over 1000 Cossacks in Astrakhan. V. Ivanoff was born in Baku and baptised at the age of 22. Twice he has been exiled, chained to

gangs of condemned robbers, and has been in thirty-one prisons. And so on down the roll, which is verily a roll of honor.

These men impressed all who met them with their sincerity, modesty, and simplicity. Their Russian persecutors may kill them or do them to death; but they will never silence them or force them to abandon the faith which inspires their acts and makes endurable their sufferings. They are one and all converts, born and brought up in the Orthodox Greek church. When they announced their conversion they had counted the cost, and, like St. Paul, their lives were not dear unto them.

Their histories are chapters in a modern Foxe's Book of Martyrs. At the roll-call of the great meeting there were fifty-six different responses, from well nigh every civilized and several savage nations. One wonders if it can be the same one and only faith that is professed by the easy going Anglo-Saxons, free to believe what they choose, to preach and proselytize where and to whom the spirit calls them, and by these visitors, baptized, but in sorrow and suffering, and who calmly return—knowing that bonds and imprisonment await them—to their own land which to them is but a cruel stepmother.

THE LORDS PASS

PRIDE CAME BEFORE A FALL. If the lords had modestly continued to fill the function of a brake on democratic measures in the British parliament—securing full and deliberate consideration of bills on which the votes in the house of commons showed that the mind of the people was not fully made up, but not trespassing on the historic domain of the commons on finance, they might have well avoided the fuss and fury of the campaign.

They also failed to take note of the force of public sentiment on home rule, which bound the Irish members to the party support of the Liberal government. The lords, being stand-patters, or Tories, to the backbone, in the overwhelming majority of their membership, displayed the popular resentment at their deliberate reversal, times and again, of Liberal legislation.

Thus a heavy score ran against them to be paid in full when the time came.

King George was reputed to have Tory leanings when he came to the throne. But he has played well the part of a constitutional king, pledged to do his part to make the will of the majority of his people effective. If the inner history of the ultimate vote were learned it would be found that by his silent influence various votes of hesitating lords were turned to make up the majority.

So king, lords and commons still constitute the British parliament to outward appearance—but as to the second member of this triad their power of obstruction is converted to a simple right to delay the passage of an obnoxious bill.

An absolutely illogical, but a practical people are these Britishers. Some way round they have found, times and again, when a seemingly impossible difficulty has been met.

THE MOHAMMEDAN WORLD

THE MOHAMMEDAN world has three capitals. Mecca, the sacred city of Arabia, the center of Moslem devotion. Sanctity is held to be the possession of all who but once take part in the yearly pilgrimage, and wear ever after the green turban of the pilgrim. There is the heart.

Cairo is its head. There religious thought and education, the propaganda of Mohammedism, center in the great university, whence young men issue by the thousand as missionaries of their faith. To them is due the spread of the religion of the prophet through Africa in all the fanaticism of its early years.

Constantinople, since the tribe of the Ottoman Turks made it their capital, has been the hand of Mohammedan political power. The Caliph is both the political and religious head. In both aspects the city by the Bosphorus is still the medieval stronghold whence the armies issued that overran Europe four hundred years ago.

"Young Turks," is a misnomer. Beneath a thin veneer of modernity the original old Turk is hidden.

THE "BAD NEWS" BELL AT LLOYDS

IN THE GREAT upper room of the Royal Exchange in the city of London "Lloyds" has its headquarters. Without the uproar of the New York, London or Paris stock exchanges it is the scene of transactions gathered from all quarters of the globe. The main business is the insurance of ships of all nations and in every sea. The actual dealings are carried through by brokers, who own the privilege of a "seat," like the brokers in the stock exchanges. In the "Captains' room" steamship masters gather. During the business hours the rooms are a beehive, crowded with hurrying men.

As one stands at the door and watches, there breaks it suddenly the measured tolling of a large ship's bell, rung by the official "caller." Instantly all business stops, men stand silently in their places while the news is read out of the loss of a ship, or that a ship has failed to arrive in port and is seriously overdue.

A few seconds pass while silence lasts. Then the hum of voices rises again, men push through on their various "missions," and the current flows again.

This is the "Bad News" bell. The

bell belonged to the British frigate "Lutine," which sank off the Dutch coast in 1773, with a cargo containing gold and specie valued at \$4,000,000. Many attempts have been made to recover the sunken treasure, and about \$500,000 rewarded the divers up to 1880. The wreck is said to have been recently re-located, and a further attempt to reach the rest of the money is to be made. The "Bad News" bell was brought up in one of the early efforts.

THE CREMATORY ARGUMENT

IS A REASON SOUGHT for commission government?

The current local news affords it. Out at Guild's lake there is a new garbage crematory, so-called. It is not the splendid burner the city thought it was bargaining for, but the city is compelled to accept it.

If it does not accept, there will be no means of destroying garbage. If it does not accept, the city will lose the \$60,000 that has been paid by Portland officialdom on the purchase price. In the play of wits between contractors and officials, the contractors took every trick. Such is menagerie government.

We of Portland thought we were having an official six months' test. But it develops that the real test closed last February.

We are now to have a new four months' test, with the city to foot the bill. It is to be merely a test on whether the burner will destroy 150 tons a day at 52 5-6 cents per ton. All other requirements in the original specifications are waived by the city. We are not going to enforce the original specifications, because we cannot.

It was supposed all along that the city was fully protected by a surety bond when it paid the \$60,000. But the city attorney says there was no protection, and the health board admits that "we were out-jockeyed."

So the crematory is to be ours. It is the product of two years of government by a menagerie system under Mr. Simon. We cannot hold anybody responsible because a regiment of officials factored and figured in the dismal transaction.

If an argument is desired for commission government, the crematory affords it.

THE RECALL AND LAFFERTY

THOUGH SUCH A course is suggested by many up-state newspapers, it is improbable that the recall can be invoked against Congressman Lafferty. Each word of congress is judge of the qualifications of its members. When once seated, a member is largely in the domain of federal control, and his title to office largely, if not entirely, under the scrutiny of federal authority.

A member can be impeached, and can be expelled, but the grounds are few and instances rare. The case of Lorimer with its overwhelming evidence that his position was bought, is suggestion of how hard it is to dislodge a senator or congressman after he has been once seated.

Nor is there great sympathy at Washington for application of the recall, or for the principle. It is announced that the president of the United States will veto the statehood bill of New Mexico and Arizona because the constitution of Arizona provides for the recall of judges. In congress, a large body would be against recognition of a recall on Lafferty, taking the attitude as a means of rendering themselves immune from future proceedings of like character. These considerations with the constitutional provision which gives to each house authority over its own membership would be almost certain to render futile any attempted recall of Lafferty.

Besides those who elected Mr. Lafferty did so with their eyes wide open. Both in the primary and subsequent campaign, his fitness for the position was challenged by this newspaper. His lightning changes of name were suggested as evidence that he was anything but a statesman.

Nor was this all. The Journal gave wide publicity to Lafferty's penchant for giving his attentions to young women, exactly as appeared in the case of the Washington high school girl. The same information was also printed in the Portland Spectator and circulated widely in the district.

If these timely and truthful warnings had been heeded, some other man would have been sent to congress from the Second Oregon, and the district been saved the humiliation to which it has been subjected.

There seems no way to dislodge Mr. Lafferty, and the only apparent course is to let him serve out his term.

REED COLLEGE

QUESTIONS THAT have been in many minds have been answered during the past week by President Foster in a careful published statement.

It will be borne in mind that the avowed purpose of Reed college was to provide a sufficient number of high class teachers in studies belonging to the "cultural" or practical subjects. Then to carefully select students whose aim is to secure a liberal education, one of general culture, not directed to preparation for earning a livelihood.

By such conditions, it might be predicted that one of the great advantages of the small college would be secured, namely, individual attention to and interest in each student. President Reed reports that of 163 applicants only thirty-eight were ad-

mitted. Others under consideration will probably set 50 as the number of the freshman class.

The courses to be offered by Reed college for the opening year are English, ethics, history, Latin, Greek, French, German, public speaking, surveying and mathematics. For these 50 students, in these few departments, seven high class instructors, at liberal salaries, have been provided.

The average salary paid by Reed college is \$2085—the highest except Chicago, which pays \$2402, in the table of sixteen colleges given in the Carnegie Foundation report.

Individual attention to each student may be expected from the ratio of 7.2 students to each instructor, the lowest in a list of sixteen, comprising Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Amherst, Stanford and Chicago.

It is interesting to compare this program with that proposed in the notable address of the Amherst class of 1885 for recalling their alma mater to the path of cultural education. They also asked that Amherst be solely a cultural college, that culture be set before practical studies, and before athletics. They asked for a college that should be earnest to do intensive work, such as will train broad men, with a large outlook on life and service for the public. But both in the suggestions of the Amherst class and in the response of their trustees and faculty it is very noticeable that they demand, as part of culture, a general knowledge of science, and much of the social sciences which have to do with government, and with the problems of city and country life.

The deliberate absence of these studies from the announced plans of Reed college may probably be accounted for by the fact that provision is only made at this time for the freshman year.

The presence in this far western city of a college setting forth with aims so high is a matter of pride and satisfaction to us all. Its progress and development will be watched with full appreciation of the difficulties that necessarily await its president and faculty.

Prisoners True to Their Trust.

From the New York World.

When a herd of cattle broke away from the Colorado state reformatory farm the warden deputed two prisoners to follow them to round up the animals. The men were provided with horses and with food and rode away unguarded. At the end of 10 days they returned with the cattle and went back into confinement.

The incident is an illustration of professional pride rising superior to the instinct of escape, throws an agreeable light on human nature. In a more serious way it shows the efficacy of the enlightened modern penal policy of the United States. Prisoners are more and more under conditions of trust. One example does not prove the case, but generally where prisoners are allowed to leave their cells and are put upon the honor to return, the privilege is rarely abused.

This was the good feature of the Montpelier, Vt., experiment under which prisoners were permitted to doff their convict garb and were set at work outside the prison walls. The state prisoners of the Montpelier reformatory were given the choice of returning to the prison or of being sent to the state penitentiary. The plan removes the prisoner from degrading associations, gives him an incentive to good conduct, since he gets his wages after paying the state the amount he contributes to his maintenance.

Bilddad's Bid.

From Harper's Weekly.

Bilddad is as confirmed an auctioneer as Mrs. Toodles of historic memory. Strong in resistance to all other bidders, he is unable to understand the temptations of the hammer and the block. It is probably true, as his friend Dobbiegh has said, that in the days to come Dobbiegh will stop his own funeral procession to go in and bid on some article for which neither he nor Mrs. Bilddad has any use, if perchance the corpse passes a red flag on the way to the cemetery. However this may be, what is true is that while dozing in church last Sunday morning Bilddad's bidding aroused the minister's announcement of the hymn.

"We will continue our service by sing-

ing the three hundred and seventy-fifth hymn," said the clergyman. "Hymn number three seventy-five!" "Four dollars!" roared Bilddad, still lingering on the borderland between the province of dreams and the land of reality.

Idaho Convicts.

From the Idaho Statesman.

Prison experts, the world over, agree that it is a crime against society to keep convicts in idleness.

Warden Snook of the Idaho penitentiary is no doubt in hearty accord with this sentiment. Taking his statement in last Thursday's impression of the Statesman for authority, the warden is convinced that this state is guilty of the worst wrong in keeping a large body of prisoners in comparative idleness. This wrong extends to the state and society as well as to the prisoners themselves.

Every man who serves a term in prison should go out among his fellow men as a better man and a better citizen at the close of his imprisonment. If this is not true, society has been derelict in its duty.

Warden Snook is right. The men under his care should be at work.

Neither a Bull Nor a Bear.

From the Toledo Blade.

Charles M. Schwab, in a recent interview, pointed out the folly of ignorant speculation.

"The average man, with no knowledge of finance," he said, "has no business to speculate. Let him do so and his case is Jones' all over again."

"Jones" stepped in at a garage one morning to see about selling off his two automobiles.

"I heard you've been speculating on the stock exchange, Mr. Jones," said the agent politely.

"Yes," said Jones. "Now these cars understand, can be had cheap for cash."

"Were you a bull or a bear, sir?" asked the agent.

"Neither," said Jones, gruffly. "I was an ass."

Unusual.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

"The lady who did the shooting is an actress, of course?"

"No."

"Atheist, then?"

"No; just an ordinary individual."

"Hum," said the city editor, "this is a bigger sensation than I thought."

News Forecast of the Coming Week

Washington, Aug. 12.—President Taft is scheduled to go to Ocean Grove, N. J., Tuesday to address the Methodist camp-meeting there and later in the week he expects to go to Beverly to begin his belated summer vacation.

Admiral Togo, whose visit to the United States is attracting much attention, will remain in New York city until Wednesday, when he will go to Boston. He will remain in Boston two days, visiting the Charlestown navy yard, Harvard university and other places of interest in the vicinity, departing Friday evening for Norfolk, Va.

The annual month of rifle competitions for the picked shots of all branches of the United States service and the militia organizations of the different states will begin on the ranges at Camp Perry Monday with the opening of the twenty-ninth tournament of the National Rifle association and the ninth matches of the national board for the promotion of rifle practice.

The political calendar of the week calls for several meetings of interest to the leaders of both parties. Kentucky Democrats will assemble in Louisville Tuesday to formulate the platform on which the state ticket will make the fight for election next fall. In Nebraska on the same day the state primaries of all parties will be held for the nomination of candidates for the minor state offices to be filled at the next election. At Harrisburg there is to be a meeting of the Democratic state central committee of Pennsylvania to consider proposed changes in the party rules and to carry out the plan for the redistricting of the state. At the same time and place there is to be a meeting of Democratic editors to form a state league. At Columbus, Ohio, an outing will be given by the Jefferson club, with William J. Bryan as the guest of honor. The club is an "insurgent" Democratic organization and is understood to be opposed to Governor Harmon of Ohio for the presidential nomination.

The conventions of the week will include those of the International Typographical union at San Francisco, the American Press Humorists' association at Boston, the Irish Catholic Benevolent union at Toledo, the Loyal Order of Moose at Detroit, the American Pharmaceutical association at Boston, and the National Negro Business league at Little Rock.

SEVEN FAMOUS LOVE TRAGEDIES

Queen Guenevere.

One of the earliest of the love tragedies recorded in mythical history is that of Queen Guenevere, wife of King Arthur of Round Table fame, whose affection for Lancelot of the Lake, one of the heroes of the Arthurian romances, led this beautiful woman into forsaking her throne for her hero and blighting her life so that she led a miserable existence for many years previous to her death.

When the barons of King Arthur gave him no rest, telling him that he must marry the selected woman he considered the most beautiful in his realm to become his wife—the daughter of King Leodegrance of Camellard. They lived happily for a time until Lancelot, of royal lineage, was brought to King Arthur's court by the Lady of the Lake, to be dubbed a knight. He proved his valor in the king's wars and tournaments. He was reckoned the most beautiful and generous, as well as the bravest knight in all the world, and Queen Guenevere fell passionately in love with him. They carried on an intrigue for a considerable time before their mutual admiration was understood by the court. In course of time the queen had a rival in her affection for Lancelot in Blaise, the fair maid of Antioch. Her love was not returned as was that of the queen, although she was the mother of Lancelot's son, Sir Galahad, and by reason of her great passion she is said to have pined and died of love.

Finally the intrigue between Queen Guenevere and Lancelot became more bold and the knight, being surprised in the chamber of the queen, they both fled to Joyous Gard. On the intervention of the pope, Lancelot surrendered to the king and the king and departed over the sea. Arthur, leaving his realm in charge of his nephew Mordred, pursued Lancelot. In his absence Mordred was crowned king at Canterbury. Arthur returned, mortally wounded.

Lancelot, upon hearing of Arthur's death, returned to England to seek Guenevere, who had retired to the nunnery at Amesbury. Thus hidden from the world, she spent the remainder of her life in prayer and in thoughts of the unhappy fortune that had kept her from Lancelot. Upon Lancelot's reaching home he went with all haste to the nunnery. When Queen Guenevere saw him she swooned three times. Noting that the

ladies in attendance were anxious to know the cause, she said:

"Ye marvel, fair ladies, why I make this cheer. It is for the sight of the knight which yonder standeth; wherefore I pray you to call him unto me."

When Sir Lancelot was brought to her Guenevere said: "Sir Lancelot, I require thee and beseech thee heartily, for all the love that ever was between us two, that thou never look me more in the visage. For I utterly and completely forsake thee, and I will have nothing to do with thee, nor shall I ever be thy company, and that unto thy kingdom shortly thou return again, and keep thy realm from war and wreck. For as well as I have loved thee, Sir Lancelot, go thou into thy realm, and there take thee a wife, and live with her in joy and bliss. And I beseech you heartily, pray for me unto our Lord God, that I may amend my mis-living."

Sir Lancelot was loath to leave, but taking his horse he rode all that day and all that night in a forest, weeping. At last he was in the vicinity of a chapel between two cliffs where he heard a little bell ring to mass. Sir Lancelot threw aside his armor, the habit was placed upon him and he prepared himself to be a monk, and he remained prior to entering the priesthood.

One night there came to him a vision charging him to hasten unto Amesbury, that there he would find Queen Guenevere dead. He arose the following morning and took the hermit's robe and the chapel of his dream. "It were well done," said the hermit, "that ye made you ready, and that you disobey not the vision."

Then Sir Lancelot took seven fellows with him and on foot they went to Amesbury. He rode for three miles distant. When Sir Lancelot reached the nunnery he found that Queen Guenevere had died but half an hour before. Sir Lancelot survived the woman, whose love for him had blighted her life, only a very short time.

According to the romance of the 13th century, the passion of these lovers was awakened by a fatal kiss. The story of Lancelot and Guenevere has been treated by poets of the first order. It is the center of interest in the "Quest of the Holy Grail," and two more from it were impressively handled by William Morris in the "Defense of Guenevere" and "King Arthur's Tomb."

Tomorrow—Francesca de Rimini.

Jim Hill on Soil Robbery

"When the most fertile land in the world produces so much less than that of poorer quality elsewhere, and this low yield shows a tendency toward steady decline, the situation becomes clear. We are robbing the soil." That statement made by President James J. Hill of the Great Northern railway, tells briefly what the principal subject of discussion will be at the National Conservation Congress to be held in Kansas City September 25 to 28. Conservation of the soil will be the main purpose of the meeting; in St. Paul last year the main subject was "Public Lands," the year previous it was "Forest Conservation." This time the meeting is being held in the heart of the agricultural country, and "Saving the Soil" is to be the one important topic.

Mr. Hill, who certainly is studying agriculture from the dollars and cents viewpoint, is president of the great railway system, has made a study of what he calls "Soil Abuse." Some of the results of investigations that he has been responsible for in this line are best given in his own words. He says: "Take the case of wheat, the mainstay of single crop abuse. Many of us can remember when New York was the great wheat producing state of the Union. The average yield of wheat per acre in New York for the last 10 years was about 18 bushels. For the first five years of that 10-year period it was 18.4 bushels, and for the last five years 17.4 bushels. Further west, Kansas took high rank as a wheat producer. Its average yield per acre for the last 10 years was 14.16 bushels. For the first five of those years it was 15.14 and for the last five years 13.18. Up in the north-west, Minnesota wheat has made a name all over the world. Her average yield per acre for the same 10 years was 13.86 bushels. For the first five years it was 13.12, and for the last five 12.8. We perceive here the working of a uniform law independent of location, of soil, or of climate. It is the law of a diminishing return due to soil destruction. Apply this to the country at large, and it reduces agriculture to the condition of a bank whose deposits are steadily drawing out more money than they put in.

"According to the last census the average annual product per acre of the farms of the whole United States was worth \$11.38. It is little more