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COLUMBUS.
Behind him lay the gray Azores,
Behind the Gates of Hercules;
Before him not the ghost of shores,
Before him only shoreless seas.
The good mate said: "Now must we pray,
For to the very stars are gone,
Brave Admiral, speak, what shall I say?"
"Why, say, 'Sail on! sail on! and on!'"
"My men grow mutinous day by day;
My men grew ghastly wan and weak."
The stout mate thought of home;
A spray
Of salt wave washed his swart-thy cheek.
"What shall I say, brave Admiral, say,
If we sight naught but seas at dawn?"
"Why, you shall say at break of day,
'Sail on! sail on! sail on! and on!'"
They sailed and sailed, as winds might blow,
Until at last the blanched mate said:
"Why, now not even God would know
Should I and all my men fall dead.
These very winds forget their way,
For God from these dread seas is gone.
Now speak, brave Admiral, speak and say!"
He said: "Sail on! sail on! and on!"
They sailed. They sailed. Then spake the mate:
"This mad sea shows his teeth tonight,
He curls his lip, he lies in wait,
With lifted teeth as if to bite!
Brave Admiral, say but one good word.
What shall we do when hope is gone?"
The words leapt like a leaping sword:
"Sail on! sail on! sail on! and on!"
Then, pale and worn, he kept his deck,
And peered through darkness. Ah, that night
Of all dark nights! And then a speak—
A light! A light! A light! A light!
It grew: a starlit flag unfurled!
It grew to be Time's burst of dawn.
He gained a world; he gave that world
Its grandest lesson: "On! sail on!"
Joaquin Miller.

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A. L. MILLS, Pres. L. SAMUEL, Gen. Mgr.
CLARENCE B. SAMUEL, Asst. Mgr.

President Taft and Gifford Pinchot with reference to Alaska the Oregonian says: "Mr. Taft says we must attract capital; Mr. Pinchot says in effect we must dictate terms to capital."
The Oregonian professes to think Pinchot is wrong and that the Guggenheims and other land grabbers should themselves define the basis upon which the development of Alaska should proceed. Probably this view comes from the fact Mr. Pitcock, chief owner of the Portland Oregonian, is said to be heavily interested in Alaska grabbing himself. On no other ground could such views be excused.
The resources of Alaska belong to the people of the nation and it is but right the country should dictate the terms upon which those resources must be developed. When a farmer wishes to have his land cultivated by another he insists upon a contract under which the work is to be done for a certain time in a certain way and that he be given cash rent or a percentage of the crop. He would object seriously if some fellow should come along and say: "Get out of here, my name is Capital and I propose to farm this place as I see fit. I will take everything in sight and you can have the place when I get done with it. Don't be a dreamer or a demagogue and raise a fuss about it."
Yet this is exactly what the Guggenheim syndicate would do in Alaska and in their schemes they are endorsed by such capital-serving journals as the Portland Oregonian, Gifford Pinchot and others of the Roosevelt-Pinchot conservation school have been engaged in a patriotic effort to protect the public against such injustice. They are right in the stand they take and the virtue in the conservation policy must be apparent to anyone who investigates the matter with an eye single to the general welfare.

It is because Pinchot is right and can prove it that he has been subjected to so much abuse and vilification. He opponents have no solid arguments to use. When Pinchot went to Alaska he met with snubs and insults arranged at the instance of those serving the syndicate he opposes. Wonderful logic indeed! Sheets like the Oregonian delight to talk scornfully about Pinchot and to misrepresent his views. They treat him as Wendell Phillips was treated and as others have been treated who bravely stood up for human rights in defiance of established selfish interests. They may defeat his purpose for a time but not for long. Selfishness is a flower that last but a day while justice blooms eternal.

STEADYING DOWN.
In his weekly financial-review Henry Clews has the following comments to make regarding the present situation:
The efforts to trace causes for the recent financial depression still continue. They are numerous enough to cause amusement were it not for the serious consequences involved. The majority of opinions are based upon conditions with which their authors are chiefly familiar. Some blame Mr. Roosevelt, some hold President Taft responsible, others Mr. Wickersham. Some say politics, others say too much speculation is at the bottom of present difficulties. Some blame the tariff, others the anti-trust law. Some say high prices are responsible, others partial crop failures. A few say too many securities, many say too much inflation. At one time the Mexican difficulty was blamed, at another the supreme court decisions; still later, the Moroccan crisis proved the most popular explanation for our troubles, but even that has temporarily disappeared without leaving corresponding improvement. The truth is all of these explanations have contributed to the decline in Wall Street values, though after all they are but part of the phenomena connected with a general trade reaction following the worldwide boom which seemed to culminate this midsummer. Perhaps the Moroccan incident merely set off the trigger and marked the turn; but experienced judgment certainly believes that the present reaction is far too general and far too persistent to be explained by merely local or temporary incidents. Possibly we are moving down hill toward safer and more stable levels. In such a movement there is no cause for uneasiness, unless the decline comes so rapidly and suddenly as to make preparedness impossible. Ultimately, such an adjustment will be beneficial. Steel products, textiles, cotton, building materials, rubber and other articles are declining. If this downward movement continues it will certainly lead to that much desired end, a reduced cost of living. Prosperity, it should be said, can be found on declining commodity markets as well as upon advancing markets, but the winning of success under such conditions depends upon intelligent and prompt adjustment to changed conditions.

THE HAPPY MEDIUM.
Reliable reports from Baker show that the commission plan of government works well in that city though it is admitted the salaries prescribed under the charter are too large. The mayor is given \$2500 per annum and each of the two commissioners a salary of \$2000.
A move is now on by reactionaries to Baker to reduce the salary of the mayor to \$200 per annum. But such a sum as that would not be sufficient. If the Bakerites adopt such salaries they will be swinging from one extreme to the other. It would be better to give the mayor a salary of \$1200 per annum as is proposed here. It is not necessary to pay the mayor of a small city a large salary because he devotes only a portion of his time to public work. But it is equally unbusinesslike to try to get a man to work for nothing or for such an insignificant sum as \$300 per annum.
When Columbus first came to America affairs were very slow and quiet. The Round-Up had not yet been planned nor was the Pacific slope wracked as it is at this time over the problem as to which team gets the penant.
Sooner or later a railroader gets hurt and poor Jack Wright was crippled after he had worked long enough to be exempt from such misfortune.
The price of the bridge should also be inscribed upon that plate. It totals \$36,400.

MAKING MISTAKES.
Just as sure as "to err is human," to make mistakes is a good sign. If we did not make mistakes once in a while we should be calling for our celestial harps. A mistake now and then keeps our conceit in check and our hand to the plow.
Once there was a man who determined not to make a mistake. Enough money had been left him so that he did not have to get up with the alarm clock. Into a moderately priced boarding house he moved. He did not enter business of any kind for fear of going wrong. He sat around from day to day with just enough to make ends meet. He treated the other members of the boarding house with consideration, and kept within proper social bounds. He would enter into nothing where anything was left to chance. He would vote neither yes nor no, say neither yes nor no. He was always on the fence; he was neither positive nor negative. His life was being spent in not making a mistake.
Then one day the man died.
After the funeral was over one of the neighbors said: "Well, I calculate Jim's life was just about as complete a fizzle as you could find anywhere. He was neither for nor agin. He spent his whole life in holding his hands and trying not to make a mistake. Consequence was, he never did anything right and worth doing. Poor old Jim!"
So it was. Jim had made a mistake in trying not to make a mistake.
A good theatrical producer can tell what will be a success only about six times out of ten. He makes mistakes galore. With the public, when dramatists are concerned, a mistake is a mistake, and nothing less. When a manager scores seven successes out of ten they call him a wizard. The seven successes more than wipe out the three mistakes.
So even though you are making some mistakes, don't hesitate. If you have successes two-thirds of the time, throw your hat up into the air and shout. Do as the ground-squirrel does when trapped in a hole—use the dirt behind to brace your feet on.—Homer Croly in October Lippincott's.

OBJECTED TO THE JOB.
"I want to see our hale young girls marry hale young men," said a Texas congressman, "I want to see them all showing the spirit of a girl I knew in Waco."
"She was proposed to by a rich bachelor of fifty, and she refused him. She turned him down. Afterward, talking over his turndown with a mutual friend, she said:
"Yes, I refused him. He has, you know, a past. He has a dreadful past."

A MOTHER'S DUTY
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"Oh, but," said the mutual friend, "a man can always blot out his past."
"Yes that may be," replied this splendid Waco girl, "but he shan't use me for a blotter."—Los Angeles Times.
Miss Highsee—But it is time for the guests to leave.
Hostess—Yes; that's why I want you to sing.
Many a bare-faced lie is old enough to have whiskers.

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