

In a work published last year a well known writer on economic subjects endeavored to trace some constant law regulating the division of profits of industry between the capital and labor employed therein. He reasoned that as labor could produce nothing without capital, the amount of capital required to set each individual at work ought to receive about as large a part of the profits as the laborer himself. This, it was rumored would form a just division, because, while the laborer has to support himself, capital also has to make good all waste and depreciations of property, and to bear all losses in the business. Some interesting examples were given, tending to show an approximate equality in division of profits in some departments of industry. But the figures given were not exceedingly convincing, nor were they the best attainable.

The census report on railroads gives the wages actually paid to all offices and clerks (12,930) as \$12,209,375, and to all other employees (406,929) as \$183,140,638, making wages amount to \$195,350,013. The net interests paid on debt by all the railroads was \$108,305,877, and the dividends actually declared amounted to \$70,550,342, making actual payments to capital \$178,854,219. There were also net profits not divided amounting to about \$48,000,000, but certainly a part of these were retained by the company to provide for replacement and repairs not covered by the annual statements of expenditure, and it may be fairly presumed that the companies divided about all they felt at liberty to divide. On this basis the actual earnings of labor exclusive of superintendence were very nearly equal to those of capital exclusive of surplus reserved.

Take next the manufacturing returns, which show net products amounting to \$1,972,755,642 in the census year. As this is the gross value of our products less the actual cost of materials consumed, there must be deducted something for annual repairs and replacement of plant and machinery, which may be reckoned at 3 per cent. on the reported capital employed. From the remainder do not all wages actually paid, \$947,953,795 in the census year, and there remains only \$941,022,669 as all that can have gone to capital in every form. In a great many cases, too, the personal labor or the supervision of owners or employers would be entitled to wages, though none were paid, but on the other hand the allowance for repairs and replacements may be too large. But the comparison again indicates a tendency toward an equal division of the profits between capital and labor.

Nothing like so accurate an estimate can be made as to farming, because a great part of the work is done by the farmers or their sons who receive no wages. On the other hand the return of value of products sold or consumed is notoriously deficient several hundred millions, if not by 1,400 millions as Mr. Dodge, the special agent of the census on agriculture, publicly estimated. But taking his comparison as approximately correct—namely that the net products, including additions to live stock and on all products consumed on the farms were about \$3,600,000,000—an equal division would give \$1,800,000,000 for the wages of labor. Now the official returns made the average of wages on farms in 1879 \$16.16 monthly, and there was some advance in 1880 toward the much higher average reported in 1882. Let it be supposed that the farmers and the agricultural laborers were all entitled to \$17 per month as wages for labor, which is certainly putting the labor of an employing farmer too low, and the wages due for 7,670,000 persons employed in agriculture would be at least \$1,565,000,000. But in addition there were several hundred thousand workers reported only as "laborers" who should have been included in the agricultural return, but were not; and, moreover, no small part of the farm work is done by the wives and daughters. A reasonable allowance for wages, therefore, at the rates actually paid in the census year would approximately cover half, even, of Mr. Dodge's estimate of the value of farm products.

These comparisons serve to show only this—that there is nothing grotesque or obviously contradictory to known facts in the supposition that labor and capital do now work practically on shares, each taking about half the profits. Out of his part the worker has to pay his own support and for lost time and sickness, while capital out of its part has to bear all losses in the business, besides replacing the wear and deterioration of property employed. That the bar-

gain on the whole is not a very unequal one may be inferred from the rapid development of industries on the one hand and the rapid increase in the number of persons employed on the other.

The waters of Scotland were productive of a large revenue last year. The value of the cured fish is put down by the fishery board at £1,324,372, while the fresh fish sold for use brought £717,057. Shell fish produced a return of £71,728, making a gross total of £2,113,157. The value of salmon is estimated at £240,018, making the grand total of the sea and salmon fisheries of Scotland £2,353,157. In the sea fisheries total, cured herrings are credited with £1,174,815, and fresh haddock with £333,134. The number of lives lost was fifty-nine, against 156 in 1887, and the loss sustained in boats and fishing material amounted to £49,826.

MAJOR POWELL'S announcement that irrigation will bring into the productive area of the United States 100,000,000 acres of land now accounted barren will perhaps help to still the absurd predictions of certain English wisacres, that by the end of the century America will have no more land to be generous with. Probably twice or three that area will eventually be reclaimed.

Is a vain attempt to get a better account of the Brown hanging than his contemporaries, Major Edwards of the Fargo Argus had one of his reporters arrested and lodged in jail. The unfortunate wight was made to scrub floors and perform other menial services during his incarceration, and when the hour of execution came was removed to a distant part of the jail.

The total number of failures in the United States for nine months past were 8,334, which is heavier than in any preceding year for the like period except 1885, when the aggregate was greater by ninety-nine than in 1889. There have been only thirty-two more failures from January 1st to October 1st in 1889 than in 1884, the year of the financial panic which centered at New York.

PRINCE BISMARCK is reported to have said: "The foreign situation is so peaceful. It has not been always so. Not long ago England still hesitated whether to act the mad bull or the fat ox chewing his cud. To-day her resolution is taken, and the maintenance of peace is certain."

It is stated that Germany and Italy will combine their fleet in the Mediterranean and place the whole under one commander. This will reduce France's numerical importance and be the forerunner of probably an exceedingly angry discussion.

COMPLAINTS of the conduct of the American consul general at Berlin are now being issued through English channels. He does not suit a certain class of German merchants, and they are working hard to have him removed.

The Russian government has ordered the completion of a network of railways to the German frontier, which will enable the czar to mass troops there on short notice; 300 locomotives have been ordered for delivery in May.

ONE of Utah's inexplicable marvels is a mountain, thirty-five miles north-east of Salt Lake City, thickly covered with oyster shells. The mountain is over 4,000 feet higher than the city, which is 4,300 feet above the sea level.

The largest county in the United States is Custer county, Montana, which contains 36,000 square miles, being larger in extent than the states of Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware and Rhode Island.

The new locomotive works of the Pennsylvania railroad at Altoona are to have a capacity of building 500 engines a year, and are so constructed that their manufacture can be increased up to 1,500.

NEARLY seventeen and a half millions of people have visited the Paris exhibition, an increase of more than eight millions over the number in the corresponding period at the exhibition in Paris in 1878.

MRS. FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT, the charming American story writer, was hurried from a buggy at London, England, recently, and fell on her head. Her condition is serious.

ENGLISH medical experts are now making strong arguments in favor of the corset. Thus little by little evidence accumulates to show that the corset has come to stay.

SUNSET Cox's last joke was played upon the lawyers in the form of a will which is declared to be absolutely incontestible.

**AUNTIE PERPLEXED.**  
  
"For heaven's sake what does your mother do to your children that makes you so hungry?"  
"Please, auntie, she gives us Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla and its awful good."  
T. S. MILTON, of 311 Post street, San Francisco, writes: "I had been ailing for weeks with disorder of the liver and kidneys. Finally, becoming frightened, procured a box of 'The California Remedy'—Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla. It cured me right up. I had done so much for me that I sent for a bottle and gave it to my children, with the most satisfactory results."

**A Clever Idea.**  
Some brilliant woman with a business head upon her shoulders has invented a new feature for church fairs called the advertising spread. Business houses and firms are visited and requested to send in their advertisements printed upon a twelve-inch square of white cotton cloth. These are taken in hand by the young ladies of the church and the printed lettering entirely covered with the Kensington stitch in colored silks. The squares are then sewed together after the manner of a patchwork quilt, the border neatly finished off with lace and ribbon, and the completed spread hung up in some conspicuous part of the fair hall so that he who runs may read. For this privilege the advertiser is not taxed at certain fixed rates per word or line, but is modestly requested to contribute whatever amount his pocket-book and bump of benevolence may admit of, the result being generally more satisfactory to the fair organizers of the fair than to the contributor, who has at least the consolation of feeling that he has been fleeced in a good cause.—New York World.

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**  
Is carefully prepared from Sarsaparilla, Pandalium, Mandrake, Dock, Pipsissewa, Juniper Berries, and other well-known and valuable vegetable remedies, by a peculiar combination, proportion, and process, giving to Hood's Sarsaparilla curative power not possessed by other medicines. It effects remarkable cures where others fail.

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Is the best blood purifier. It cures Scrofula, Salt Rheum, Boils, Pimples, all Humors, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Sick Headache, Indigestion, General Debility, Catarrh, Rheumatism, Kidney and Liver complaints; overcomes that Tired Feeling, creates an appetite, builds up the system.

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**  
Has met unequalled success at home. Such is its popularity in Lowell, Mass., where it is made, that Lowell druggists sell more of Hood's Sarsaparilla than all other sarsaparillas or blood purifiers. The same success is extending all over the country.

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Is peculiar in its strength and economy. It is the only preparation of which can truly be said "100 Doses One Dollar." A bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla taken according to directions, will last a month.

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Is peculiar in the confidence it gains among all classes of people. Where it is once used it becomes a favorite family remedy. Do not be induced to buy other preparations. Be sure to get the Peculiar Medicine.

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**  
Sold by druggists. \$1.00 per bottle. Prepared by C. L. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass. 100 Doses One Dollar

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Astoria, October 10th, 1889.

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