

the ice for corrupt negotiations. The railroads give no passes without expecting some kind of advantage or opportunity to secure advantage in return. Even their newspaper passes are made to yield rich returns. Journalistic favor is often useful and when paid for with passes it is marvelously cheap.

Judson Grenell, of Detroit, author of that very lucid book, "Economic Tangles," and who has been for many years intelligently active in editorial work, has undertaken an important mission abroad. Intending to make an extended trip across the water, he is arranging to supply a chain of American newspapers with letters comparing industrial conditions in this country with those in Great Britain, France, Italy and other European countries. Few newspaper men are as well qualified as Mr. Grenell for such a work. Not only is he exceptionally well-equipped by years of reading, observation, investigation and study with reference to industrial subjects, but he has extraordinary ability as a lucid and interesting writer. Mr. Grenell's "Economic Tangles" is a model of clear thinking and verbal simplicity. The work he is now about to do is one that is much needed. Although foreign letters on industrial subjects are not uncommon, they are as a rule dreadful "fakes." Most of them might be written at home with the aid of an encyclopedia and a statistical library, while others are more picturesque than truthful. Mr. Grenell's work may be depended upon for intelligent selection, accuracy of data, and genuine local color.

When Carroll D. Wright declared in a lecture at Buffalo on the 19th that "the decalogue is as good a labor platform as any," he may have been playing to churchly galleries and boxes. Some parts of the decalogue are not exactly industrial. Yet it is quite true that other parts, if divested of paganistic interpretations, would make the best possi-

ble labor platform. "Six days shalt thou labor," would be a good principle to insist upon, unpopular as it would be with the elegant leisure classes. And "thou shalt not steal," would be the best of all for labor purposes. Let stealing cease—stealing of all kinds, institutional and legal plundering as well as petty larceny—and the labor problem would be solved. There would be no chattel slavery, no economic slavery, no monopoly, no interferences of any kind with industry, if the commandment against stealing were faithfully observed.

In the award of The Hague arbitration tribunal in the Venezuelan case there seems to be some sort of echo of Hood's "Haunted House" refrain:

O'er all there hung a shadow and a fear,  
A sense of mystery the spirit daunted,  
And said as plain as whisper in the ear  
The place is haunted.

The award of this peace tribunal is overshadowed by a fateful recognition of that fundamental law of warfare, that "he may take who has the power and he may keep who can." To decide in favor of the nations that resorted to arms, simply because they resorted to arms, and against those that trusted to the methods of peace, certainly suggests "as plain as whisper in the ear," that The Hague tribunal is haunted by the war spectre. There is much force, to be sure, in Wayne MacVeagh's remark that the particular decision is of no importance, the important thing being the fact that eleven nations have come together in arbitration. Nevertheless a precedent has been made not only in favor of arbitration, but also in favor of resorting to war in order to be in good position for securing favorable awards.

"Would you object to stating how you made your first thousand dollars?" said the heart-to-heart interviewer.

"No," answered Senator Sorghum; "but in discussing this matter I want you to draw the line strictly at the first thousand."—Washington Star.

## JUDICIAL USURPATION.

The development of government by injunction\* is as important as the smothering of an incipient blaze in the neighborhood of a powder magazine.

A court of equity could to-day extend its very strong arm to sell at auction the citizen's goods who is arrested and fined for contempt, without giving rise to anything more than the sensation of a surprise party to the conservative portion of the people. At the extremes of the social scale there would be different opinions as to the civic righteousness of the principle involved. Those who sympathize with the man who is overwhelmed by the opening of the flood gates of justice will say it is right to resist such usurpation of the taxing power, linked with imprisonment for debt. Those at the other extreme would commend the exhibition of nerve and dignity on the part of the official; and could with a clear conscience say that the injunctive process, in the language of Lord Bacon concerning the star chamber, is a sage and beneficent institution. The first named conviction spreads the more rapidly because it is natural for a thing to grow from the ground up.

We are too much inclined to think of the ordinary judge as living in a valley of dry bones. Some talented attorney comes into court and speaks the judge fair: "Breathe me now the breath of life into this long bone, so that my master may become the Samson of society."

All the time the smiling attorney is pleading the cause of abstract justice he has the pass of

\*An injunction was granted by a Boston judge on the 12th of February, 1904, which was thus described by the news dispatches of that date: "Justice Loring, of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, has invented a new method of dealing with sympathetic strikes. It is an injunction against the paying of strike benefits by union men in such cases. The injunction, which is a temporary one, was issued to-day against the International Pressmen and Assistants' union. The pressmen have been threatening a sympathetic strike in connection with the contest of the job compositors of this city against members of the United Typothetae of America. By the terms of the injunction they are restrained from bringing about this action. That clause of the injunction referring to strike benefits prohibits their payment to those who have already left their work out of sympathy for the strikers rather than because of any individual grievance against their employers. The striking book and job printers are also enjoined from inciting the pressmen and feeders to leave their present employ."