

This poor fellow's garden, however, was a great success. A carefully-kept account shows a return of \$75, a part of which (\$6) has been used to buy a larger and better house, in which they are spending the winter, and he now feels confident of getting a start again if he can get a garden next season.

THE RED CROSS IN OUR MIDST.

The increase of charity organizations, which is so prominent a feature at the present day, is cause for sorrow rather than for rejoicing. The multiplication of free hospitals, of one-cent meal stands, of soup kitchens, of charity wood yards, of fresh air funds, and all the countless schemes for benefiting the poor that are now in full play among us, are but multiplied evidences of the diseased and out-of-joint condition of the body politic.

These organizations are very like the Red Cross societies, whose members follow in the wake of contending armies in the field to mitigate the horrors of war. Such societies are not wanted in times of peace, only when war opens is there call for their services. And when in times of war they issue calls for more volunteers it simply means that the horrors of war are increasing.

So, too, with charity organizations. Their very existence is a sign that a state of industrial, social, fratricidal war exists, and their multiplication is a sign that the ravages of this war and the devastation that follows in the wake of its struggles are becoming more and more appalling.—The New Earth.

THE CHARACTER OF THE REACTIONARY PARTY IN GERMANY.

The agrarian protectionists not only wish to annul the commercial treaties, because these hinder them from raising the protective duties on agricultural imports (these duties are by no means low—for instance, 35 marks per ton on rye or wheat), but the extreme members of the party advocate the abolition of the gold standard and the adoption of a so-called bimetallic—in reality a silver—standard. The most rabid among them oppose the cutting of canals, because foreign produce would thus enter Germany on cheaper terms. In short, the agrarian protectionists oppose the natural evolution of all economic progress. They are the natural allies of all the reactionary elements in Germany, the worst enemies of material progress and of political development in consequence.

I must point out another circumstance deserving attention. The old Prussian feudal aristocracy (Junkerthum), forming the pith and marrow of

the agrarian movement, has never been well off; but for the last twenty years they have suffered from the competition with the whole world, which is felt so keenly in all old countries, in the reduction of the rent of land. They have sunk deeper and deeper into debt, while the standard of material comfort has risen throughout all classes in Germany. The "Junker" has long since given up the hope of making both ends meet by his own industry, and while endeavoring to raise the rent of land by various kinds of protective measures, he is really at the same time struggling for bread and butter and upholding a tradition of political supremacy.

No government can really satisfy these claims, and hence each in turn is compelled, sooner or later, to oppose the agrarian movement. However, considering the strong influence the Prussian "Junker" exerts in the army, in the ranks of government officials, and at court, practical statesmen deem it advisable to avoid any open rupture with the pack of famished wolves. * * *

* But all skirmishes are only so many pauses on the eve of the great political struggle which must one day be undertaken with the "Junkers," that old Prussian remnant of feudalism, economically and politically an anachronism in modern society. The fate of the "Junker" was sealed, notwithstanding any partial successes, ever since Germany began her mighty march forward on the lines of industrial progress. Not all the dust cast up by our petty party wrangling can conceal the magnitude of those wider issues which have been really raised by the rapid industrial development of the country.

All our political parties are undergoing a process of change, and it is only a question of time when they will make room for larger groups. The two most interesting phenomena in the field of German politics are the inevitable decay of the old Prussian landed aristocracy (Junkerthum) on the one hand, and the ascendancy of social democracy on the other. Both these phenomena are intimately connected with the evolution of Germany as an agricultural country into a modern industrial state. Both phenomena are products of natural development which certainly are calculated to bring about political crises, but they do not threaten the existence of the German empire. The German nation is sound at heart and in vigorous health. There is every reason for a German to look forward with hopeful trust not only to the economic, but also to the political development of his country in the future.—Theodor Barth, in *The Review of Reviews*.

LINCOLN'S PERSONALITY.

Lincoln's heterogeneity was manifest even to the exterior senses, and was emphasized upon close study. He was six feet four inches tall, but his short trunk—torso in the classic phrase—was out of all relation and harmony with his long legs and arms. Had all else been in keeping with his diminutive trunk, he would have been a passable dwarf; had his abnormal legs been joined to a homogeneous body, he would have passed for a moderate giant. His great antagonist, Douglas, was 14 inches his inferior in stature when they stood together, a difference which was reduced to four when they sat. As a phrenological example, Lincoln's head was not a complete success; it was not only too small for so big a man, his hat measuring but $7\frac{1}{4}$, but the forehead was comparatively narrow and retreating, and thus the organs of causality and comparison, which, by the test of his exemplified talent, should have been unusually large, were, contrariwise, abnormally small. It is but just to the so-called science of phrenology to say that, as might be expected, his organs of combativeness, firmness, benevolence, secretiveness, adhesiveness and approbateness were large; while those of self-esteem, hope, reverence, destructiveness and acquisitiveness were small.

His countenance, when animated with the inspiration of social contact or the simplest agreeable emotion of any sort, possessed a magnetism and gave evidence of a bonhomie which were indefinable, and which could never be forgotten by those who had felt the charm.

He had

A most bewildering smile; there was a glance
Of such playfulness and innocence
That, as you looked, a pleasant feeling
Came
Over the heart, as when you had heard a sound
Of cheerful music.

Awkward and ungainly as he manifestly was, there nevertheless was in his tout ensemble an indefinable something that commanded respect.

His attire was homespun, faded and negligé, much like that of an Illinois farmer in his second-best, or market-day, suit. His clothes did not fit him. His baggage while on circuit did not occupy much over a square foot of space; he carried hardly the necessary appliances of civilized life. In his daily walk and conversation, and about the commonplace matters of social economy, he was artless, unsophisticated and unassimilated; no man of his social rank and experiences ever wore his

rusticity and guilelessness so persistently. Literally he was

Of manners gentle, of affections mild;
In wit a man, simplicity a child.

In his exterior affairs he had no method, system or order. He had no library of any sort, law or other, at any time. He had no clerk, stenographer or typewriter; no letter-copying book, no scrap or commonplace book, no diary, no index rerum, no cash or account book, no daybook, journal or ledger. When he received money for law practice he gave his partner his share at the time, or wrapped it in a bit of paper, awaiting an opportunity to divide. Even when he was president, when he wanted to preserve an official memorandum of any kind, he noted it on a card, and put it in a drawer or, mayhap, in his vest pocket. But in his mental processes and operations he had a most complete method, system and order; while outside of his mind all was anarchy and confusion, inside all was symmetry and precision. His mind was his workshop; he had little need of an office or pen, ink and paper; he could perform his chief labor by self-inspection and reflection.

His daily life at home was of the simplest order; no working man or day laborer exhibited less style or pretensions. Imagine a lawyer and politician of his rank going out on the commons every evening, searching for, driving up and milking his cow, cleaning out his stable, grooming his horse, chopping and carrying wood for the kitchen fire, and going regularly to the grocery and carrying home the supplies. And yet he did all these things habitually, not from any desire of ostentation or by reason of eccentricity, but from motives of the strictest utility—and this even on the evening of May 18, 1860, and afterwards, when the telegraph from Maine to California and from Minnesota to Florida was vocal with his, as the unique and honored name. His disinclination to employ a clerk, errand boy or servant arose from his unfamiliarity with petty enterprise, and from his secretiveness, self-reliance and desire of independence. Indeed, self-dependence and mental isolation were among the very strongest elements of his character.—Henry C. Whitney, in *Arena*.

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE COMMERCE OF THE GREAT LAKES.

The latest government records show us that of the world's tonnage, 18,240,000 tons, the total American tonnage is 4,769,020 tons, and of this 1,483,068 tons are to be credited to the lakes. This last season's building is another sur-

prise to us. The great lakes have had 116,937 tons of new vessels launched upon them, while the total output of the entire seaboard, Atlantic, Pacific and the gulf included, was only 115,296 tons.

People who have never been near the lakes find it hard to realize that such mighty vessels as the new steel steamer Robert Fulton are built for that traffic. She is 440 feet long and, in a 14-foot draft, carries 4,260 tons, at a speed of ten miles an hour when towing a consort of like tonnage. Think of the freight one of these ships will carry. The Empire City left Duluth one day last summer with a cargo of 205,445 bushels of wheat. This means 308 carloads, or eight trainloads, aggregating two miles in length, or, in other words, the product of 13,696 acres; and it cost but \$4,640 to transport this cargo to Buffalo! Later the George Stephenson left Chicago with 323,000 bushels of oats, on a 16-foot draft.

Imagine the territory tributary to those inland seas. More than half of the entire continent depends upon them for cheap transportation. Sixteen states, all of Canada and over three-quarters of the Japan-China oriental trade are levied upon for lake freight. One-quarter of our people derive direct benefits from this traffic. It taps our great western country, whose corn crop alone outvalues the world's output of gold; a country that raises 300,000,000 bushels of wheat a year, or, all told, 90,000,000 tons of cereals, and will yield up over 15,000,000 tons of iron ore this season!

Chicago alone shipped 89,000,000 bushels of grain by the lakes last year, and, great railroad center that she is, ships more tons eastward every week by water than she does by rail. Her port does an annual business of 13,000,000 tons. The Lake Erie ports shipped over 8,940,000 tons of coal last year, mostly westward, and the western ports returned the vessels east, laden with 9,657,921 tons of iron ore.

One-eighth of the entire commerce of the United States passes through the "Soo" canal, whose traffic aggregates 7,000,000 tons greater than that passing through the Suez canal and represents one-sixtieth of the entire commerce of the world! The wonderful canal systems of England, Ireland and Scotland that yield a revenue of \$100,000,000 yearly carry only 36,000,000 tons. The Nicaragua canal when completed, and at a cost of nearly \$200,000,000, can carry only 6,000,000 tons.

There are over 100,000 entries and clearances per year of vessels at the great lake ports. The commerce of the lower lake ports alone equals that of the Mediterranean, which is always cited as most marvelous. New York can show but a little over one-quarter so many. Liverpool has a trifle over a third, and the entire seaboard of the United States, Atlantic, Pacific and

gulf, has less than two-thirds as many. Our American railroads, which cost over \$10,000,000,000 to equip, carry only four times more freight than do the lakes during the season.—The Cosmopolitan.

GOD'S MEMORY.

Saint Francis was himself God's remembrance of the poor.
Hast thou considered, O my soul, this truth,
And all the benediction which it brings,
That God needs man? For helpless babe that clings,
He needs a mother's tender care. In sooth,
Her love is utterance of the Divine.
He needeth friends to bring heart close to heart;
He needeth lovers, when he would impart
Some touch of Heavenly rapture or a sign
Of what shall be hereafter. So take heed
That thy own life shall stand—an open door
'Twixt God and man—to comfort and restore.
See that thou close it not to any need.
Be thou God's memory, or, dearer still,
His sweet forgetfulness of wrong and ill.

—Ella F. Mosby.

THE CORONATION OF WILHELMINA OF HOLLAND.

Unless the unforeseen happens, unless imbroglions arise between the powers of Europe, or diplomacy takes some new turn on the questions vexing the continent, one of the greatest events of the coming fall will be the installing of the young queen of the Netherlands, Wilhemina, which is to take place in the Nieuwe Kerk (New Church) in Amsterdam, at midnight, on September 6. The ceremonial, it is true, will not have a tittle of the brilliancy that marked the recent coronation of Russia's czar; it will be simple and without display; and yet there will be much that is curious and interesting in its details. No public act of coronation is to be performed, and there will be no investiture of royal power. Simply, before the combined houses of the stats general, the parliament of Holland, with the president of the upper house at her right hand, the queen will take the oath to maintain the constitution and guard the liberty of her subjects; the president of the upper house will follow with an oath of homage, and each of the 140 and more legislators assembled will swear fealty and faith before his new sovereign.

For seven years all Holland has been waiting for this event, watching its miniature queen, a child of but ten years when her father, William III., died, grow into her present attractive