

Unknown Poem by Burns Found



Robert Burns.

The following verses were recently found among some papers belonging to the late Mrs. Berrington, who died in 1885. During the great part of her life Mrs. Berrington lived in Monmouthshire at no great distance from Hiron Court, the home of Mrs. Currie, to whom, according to the indorsement on the manuscript, the verses were addressed by Burns. Mrs. Currie, who died in 1823, was the daughter of John Rusby of Tinwald Downs in Dumfriesshire. The copy from which the verses were printed in Macmillan's Magazine is in the early handwriting of the late Miss Eliza Waddington, whose family also lived in Monmouthshire:

O look na, young lassie, sae softly and sweetly!
O smile na, young lassie, sae sweetly on me!
Ther's nought waur to bear than the mild glance of pity
When grief swells the heart and the tear blins the e'e.

Just such was the glance of my bonnie lost Nancy,
Just such was the glance that once brightened her e'e;
But lost is the smile sae impressed on my fancy,
And canid is the heart that sae dear was to me.

Ika wee flow'ret we grieve ta see blighted,
Cow'ring and with'ring in frost nipplet plain;
The naist turn of spring shall awaken their beauty;
But ne'er can spring wauken my Nancy again.

And she was less fair than the flow'rs of the garden
Was she less sweet than the blossoms of May?
O, was na her cheek like the rose and the lily,
Like the sun's waving glance at the closing o' day?

And O sic a heart, sae gude and sae tender!
Weel was it fitted for beauty sae leal;
'Twas as pure as the dew in the bell o' the lily,
A wee glinting gem w' nought to conceal.

But the blush and the smile and the dark e'es mild glances,
I prized them the naist, they were love's kind return,
Yet far less the loss of sic beauty lamented,
'Twas the love that she bore me that gae me to mourn.

ARE MAXIMS MISLEADING?

Perhaps no maxims are so misleading to the judgment of those who implicitly believe them as those which assert what is absolutely true actually and very often false metaphorically. For instance, "Where there's smoke there's fire" and "Straws show which way the wind blows." If by smoke we understand scandal and gossip, then there is often a good deal of very nasty smoke and no fire at all. Neither, metaphorically speaking, do straws show which way the wind blows, for such are the cross-currents of character that you can seldom judge of its general trend by a trivial action. A man may save a penny and yet not be mean, or throw away a pound without being generous or even habitually extravagant.

Take, for instance, the common Yorkshire saying, "When in doubt do nought." How very seldom the principle herein contained can be applied with advantage. How many weak wills, we should like to know, has this pestilential little proverb contributed to paralyze? "All things happen to those that wait"—and so they do wait, till the only thing which is sure to happen to every one does happen, and they die. Could they but have realized that "he who hesitates is lost" contains far more truth than its opposite they might have done something in life. Not that this energetic assertion of an occasional fact is by any means a sure guide. Who is not familiar with the man who never hesitates before any decision and nearly always laments his precipitation, usually loud? Who has not got tired of imploring such a one to make the best of a bad job or of suppressing the obvious comment of "Was it told you so?" All the same, believers in a motto which spurs them into foolish action seem to do better in the race of life than those who rely upon one which preaches nothing but caution.

Garden Water Lilies.

At the farthest point of marshy ground you can some day excavate a little basin cemented to retain water, but a cheap way to obtain water lilies here would be to sink some old paraffin barrels. Saw them in half, burn out the oil, knock off the bottoms and sink them in the marshy soil, puddling the bottom well with clay, to which add old cow manure and fibrous loam and a sprinkling of charcoal. Above this foundation connect the barrels with small piping.

In each plant a water lily rhizome tied in the sod of good turf with a few pieces of charcoal and fill with water to the depth of two feet. If the barrels do not fill from the natural supply they must be kept full artificially. Outside the barrels make a handsome hold group of taller aquatics, such as calamus, epilobium, Guenera sagittaria, and especially Typha latifolia, the great bulrush. Plant these only on one side of the little pond, and even if there be not water enough for the lilies they will thrive. Pampas grass, I think, flourishes in similar hot, moist positions. A very little

And hasty people generally seem to arrive at their goal, in however bad condition.

Coin-Sorting Machines.

In banks, large stores, and ticket offices it is no small task to sort the different coins which go to make up the receipts of the business, and so John J. Hoey of New York city has designed a machine to perform this work expeditiously and accurately. The apparatus consists of a rotary barrel, having a continuous groove running around its face from end to end. This barrel is inclosed in a cylinder, having slots in the under side in line with the rings formed by the groove on the face of the roller, the length of the slots varying to correspond with the various coins, from the dime to the dollar. To put the machine in operation the miscellaneous coins are poured into the open top of the inclosing case and fed into the hopper at one end. As the coins fall downward the crank is turned to revolve the barrel, the coins working their way gradually along the groove, which feeds them towards the opposite end of the barrel. As soon as each coin reaches the slot in the cylinder corresponding to its size it drops through—the first dimes, then the pennies, nickels, quarters and halves. When the coin is all "ground up" the drawers are withdrawn from the machine and the different coins poured out for counting or storage.

Buildings in New York City.

Not only are the buildings lifting themselves to heaven, but they are, also, crowding their way down to the very ribs of the world. By a very retaining wall of pneumatic caissons, from which the workmen emerge half-trembling from the added pressure of twenty-five pounds to the square inch, the engineers of the addition to the mutual life building have pierced through forty feet of sifting sand, on

paraffin floated on the surface will destroy mosquito grubs.—Lippincott's Magazine.

Smuggling by Auto.

The bulky nature of motor cars offers special temptations to people who have no scruples about the rights of the petrol. Numerous have been the cases lately of attempts to dodge the officials at the gates of Paris. The reservoir of an automobile can be made to hold almost anything, and reports say that a lot of dutiable spirits is being got through free, so much so that the receipts have been falling off to an alarming extent. It appears that the chauffeurs are no longer to be dealt with with leniency, and examples will be made.

Largest of Sailing Vessels.

While there has been for years a steady decrease in the number of sailing vessels, French and German merchants have found it profitable to use very large vessels of this kind. A five-masted of 9,000 tons now being built at Rouen will be the largest sailing vessel in the world.

through thirty feet more of trap rock boiler, through the same layer of sand to the bed rock 100 feet below the street level. The original intention was to obtain solid foundation for the building, for the smallest sinking of any portion would throw the entire structure out of gear, says World's Work. The actual result is, indeed, that the building is founded upon a rock, and it is more. Five stories of space below ground will be ready for use, and quantities of machinery will be located there, leaving room for office and other rooms which can be rented. It is possible in the new city that many men will rush by subway to and from underground offices.

"Hawaii" the Official Term.

The United States postoffice department recognizes only the term "Hawaii" as being the official designation for the Hawaiian Islands, "Territory of Hawaii," "T. H.," or "Haw.," have no place in the official abbreviations for the new territory.

When the islands became a territory of the United States considerable speculation was had as to how letter-writers abroad should address their friends here, and many believed that "T. H." would about hit the mark. Chief Clerk Kenake states that when ordering stationery from Washington, he made out the forms, intending to use the letters "T. H.," but the stationery came back with the word "Hawaii" printed thereon. Rubber stamps also came to his office with this word, and thus it has become recognized in the business and official circles on the mainland to write the word "Hawaii" in full on envelopes for the islands. The word "Hawaii" does not mean the island of Hawaii in this sense. Letters addressed to Hilo, Hawaii or Mahukona, Hawaii, do not specifically designate the island of Hawaii, but come into the postoffice under the same terms as letters addressed to Honolulu, Hawaii. There were formerly two Waimeas, one on Hawaii and one on Kauai. The Waimea on the island of Hawaii has been changed to Kamuela, and the only Waimea now in existence, so far as the postoffice is concerned, is that on Kauai.

School Work in Kansas.

Miss Anna Sharpless is the name of the schoolm'am in district No. 81, in Montgomery county, Kansas. Miss Sharpless is described as a muscular young woman, weighing 160 pounds, and with courage enough to lead a regiment.

One day recently she set out to whip a big 18-year-old boy for refractory conduct. The boy knocked her down three times, but each time she came to the scratch for another round.

In their excitement the children rang the bell and one of the directors, who lived near by, came to the teacher's assistance. But about the time he had conquered the boy the boy's father came on the scene with a club and knocked the director senseless. Then others came and the father and son made off to their home, being later arrested on the charge of assault.

In giving an account of the affair, the Independence Reporter says: "Miss Sharpless restored order in the schoolroom and proceeded with the regular work until closing time. She is very nervous, and says she will teach that school if she has to be taken away a corpse."

Specific for Snake Bites.

Those who fear snakes or live where snakes are found will find comfort, says the New York Times, in the assurance of Dr. John H. Henry of Montgomery, N. Y., that sulphuric acid is a specific. Dr. Henry says: "The poison of animals and snakes is intensely alkaline and sulphuric acid taken internally and injected hypodermically, diluted or pure, in the fang puncture, immediately kills the poison. This discovery was given by a gentleman who says he has been bitten by snakes and insects over a hundred times. This gentleman takes a delight in keeping snakes in a room running all about. Six weeks ago he was bitten in the foot by his big rattler. He immediately used (hypodermically) the acid, and it did not swell or give him any trouble. He says he fears no poison of animal, snake or insect bites if he has his acid with him."

New Use for Mice.

Mice will hereafter be part of the equipment of the submarine boat Fulton on her trips below the surface of the water. They are expected to protect the crew from asphyxiation by detecting gas, by which they are affected twenty times more quickly than men. They are expected to give warning of its presence. The gas comes from the fumes of the engine. Half a dozen white mice have been secured.

Frisco's Many Telephones.

San Francisco leads the American cities in the number of telephones, there being an instrument to every sixteen persons. In Greater New York there is one to every forty-eight persons.

New Zealand's Island Telephones.

Another step in the realization of Mr. Seddon's dream of an island federation apart from the Australian Commonwealth, of which New Zealand should be the acknowledged center, was taken during the last month, when that statesman provided in his budget for a lower rate of taxation on goods imported into the Cook Islands, the only group which New Zealand has so far annexed—than on Australian goods, and declared that goods from New Zealand would ultimately be admitted free. In view of the determined effort of New Zealand to amalgamate with the Fiji group this action is regarded as an indication of the anti-commonwealth policy that would be adopted if Mr. Seddon's scheme were carried out.

Highest German Smokestack.

The highest smokestack in Germany has just been completed by the chemical works of Rheinau for the purpose of obviating the deleterious effects of the noxious gases upon the agricultural products of the vicinity. The height of the stack is 336 feet.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC EYE

LATE HEAD OF LONDON POLICE.

Colonel Sir Henry Smith, who has just resigned from his post of commissioner of London city police, had held that important place for eleven years, and is admitted to have been the best commissioner that ever filled the office. His resignation was due to the fact that the police committee of the common council of London refused to act on his recommendation for an increase in the force. Sir Henry has had several ugly experiences, due to the



small number of men at his command. The last affair of this kind was that of the return of the London volunteers, when the force was called upon to handle a crowd of drunken persons, several hundred thousand times greater in number than the police. This affair drew matters to a climax. Sir Henry demanded an immediate enlargement in the strength of the department. The council committee would not listen to his request, and he therefore resigned his post in disgust. Much feeling has been aroused in London by the council's sluggishness.

BEAUTIFUL AMERICAN SINGER.

Miss Bessie Abbott, who has just made a highly successful debut in grand opera in Paris, is a charming American girl about whose musical talents and training much mystery has been made abroad. It is said that she was found in America by Jean de Reszke, who brought her to Paris and placed her under the charge of M. Galliard. She is described as being very dark, quite pretty and an admirer.



able singer. The part in which she made her debut was Juliet in Gounod's "Romeo and Juliet."

Praise for the Zarina.

There is a most wonderful fascination about the zarina, and to English people she will always prove an object of interest, for was she not the granddaughter of our late queen? The Empress of Russia is an extremely beautiful woman, and we cannot but admire the way in which she, a mere girl, took up her position and its responsibilities in a foreign land, and at once made her presence felt at the court over which she reigned as empress consort, says Woman's Life. A devoted wife, she is hardly ever absent from her husband's side, and at the same time she is a model mother. It must be a terrible disappointment of interest for us who are not the imperial throne; nevertheless, it would be impossible to find a happier family party than the emperor and empress of Russia and their little daughters.

Two Similar Points of View.

There are few points of resemblance, it is said, between the English Archbishop Temple and Pope Leo XIII., but curiously similar remarks on a similar occasion are attributed to both. The pope, as was recently recounted, when told that a certain necessary task would kill a subordinate in six months, replied that he only wanted the worker for six months. And to Dr. Temple on one occasion a friend said he had been told by his doctor that he could live no more than two years if he undertook a certain piece of work. "Well," said the archbishop, "what does it matter what happens in two years if you do your duty now?"

Varied German Schools.

There are schools in Germany for farmers, gardeners, florists, fruit growers, foresters, blacksmiths, carpenters, machinists, cabinet-makers, bookkeepers, tailors, shoemakers, druggists; there are cooking schools, institutes for training servant girls, barbers and chiropodists. One can find a school in Germany for teaching anything one wants to know; and it is usually supported by the government and free to all comers, or perhaps only a nominal tuition is charged.

Berlin Bans Blinders.

The president of the Berlin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has issued a proclamation to the public urging them, in engaging cabs or wagons, to take only those drivers who do not follow the stupid and cruel custom of using blinders over the eyes of horses, which is the principal cause of shying.

Explorers have approached within 233 miles of the north pole, but the nearest approach to the south pole has been 772 miles.

Current News and Views

INCREASED COST OF LIVING.

The average cost of living has advanced nearly \$30 per capita within less than five years, according to a statistical comparison just issued by Dun's Review.

In July, 1897, the average cost of a year's supplies for one person was \$72.45. To-day it is \$101.37. Forty years ago it was \$20 greater, the exact figures in January, 1860, being \$121.75.

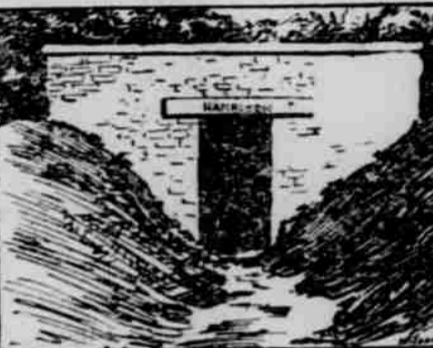
The present prices are higher than for many years, or since modern industrial, distributive and agricultural conditions were introduced.

During the period mentioned it has been found that while the price of labor fluctuated greatly, the average was \$1.50 a day, or about the rate prevailing to-day. This would indicate that the increased cost of living has not been met by an increase in ability to pay it.

But to offset this there must be taken into account present steady employment and larger opportunities for advancement. Existing conditions certainly do not bear out the bare statistical statements that the cost of living has so greatly advanced while wages have remained at an average.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

NEGLECT OF A NATION.

At North Bend, O.—the place where General William Henry Harrison lived at the time he was elected president—his ashes lie in a tomb which is in a state of neglect. That fact speaks but fully of the respect which the nation



shows for the memory of those who helped to make it great.

The insignificant tomb stands on a little knoll and overlooks the broad, tawny Ohio river, which there makes a wide sweep to the southward. An ideal location for the eternal home of one who loved the spot, even as dearly as he loved his country.

A dreary looking tomb it is at its best. No one could have planned an abode more architecturally severe. The cold, gray granite, damp and dank, peers from the ground like the rude formation for some house which was never built. Over the iron door of the vault—which is reached by a path through a small cut in the hillside—stands the legend "Harrison." The door itself seems imbedded in the stone wall, unpainted and rusty, and marked and marred with the scratchings of vandals. Names are scrawled across it—names of those who are unknown, and whom no one need know. A rusty iron lock, which might be smashed with one blow, is all that keeps the door fastened and prevents the vandals from further desecrating the abode of Harrison.

The path leading to the door is littered with rubbish and underbrush. Hosts of weeds mar the beauty of the green turf from which they spring. No one cares, or seems to care, how the spot looks. Forgotten—almost—the tomb stands as a monument.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

MONUMENT TO ROSA BONHEUR.

At Fontainebleau, France, a monument to Rosa Bonheur, the great



painter of animals, was recently unveiled, and is shown in accompanying picture. On the side panels of the pedestal are reproductions in bronze of some of the artist's works. A bas-relief portrait in bronze of Rosa Bonheur occupies one of the smaller panels, and a bronze branch lies beneath.

Nature and Art.

Senator Bailey of Texas has a face like a cherub. It is round and soft and full of color. One day in the corridor of the senate he was approached by a giggling young woman who asked rapturously: "Oh, senator, where in the world did you get your pretty pink complexion?" Bailey was embarrassed only for an instant. Looking her straight in the eye and tapping her lightly on her slightly rouged cheek, he very gravely asked: "Where in the city did you get yours?"

Physicians in Russia.

The number of male physicians in Russia is 14,784; that of female physicians is 624, but it will soon be larger as there were last year 869 female students in the Medical Institute for Women.

Production of Silk Plants.

Secretary Franklin Allen of the Silk Association of America states that the capacity of the present silk plants is sufficient to more than supply the domestic demand.

THE WEEKLY PANORAMA

FOR PICTURES TO READ.
Add to Your Knowledge of the Tempting Oyster.

THE ACCEPTED AUSTRALIAN FLAG.

The Australian Commonwealth government recently offered a prize for the best design for a federal or national Australian flag. No fewer than 30,000 designs were sent in. The prize of \$750 was divided among five competitors, who designed almost identical flags—viz: "The Union Jack on a blue or red ground, a six-pointed star representing the six Federated States of Australia immediately under the Union Jack, an arrow pointing direct to the center of St. George's



cross and of a size to occupy the major portion of one-quarter of the flag and the southern cross in the flag as being indicative of the sentiment of the Australian nation." To this design, adopted, the judges add: "Our desire has been to give to the people of our new-born nation a symbol that would be endearing and lasting in its effect."

OLDEST CHAPEL IN AMERICA.

The lovers of the antique and picturesque architecture of former centuries in the City of Mexico are pleased at the announcement that an ancient landmark, the little chapel of La Concepcion, is not to be destroyed. It has been variously claimed for this chapel that it marked the spot where Cuauhtemoc surrendered to Cortes, also that it was the first Catholic temple in which mass was said in the City of Mexico. A recent investigation of these points among the best authorities on ancient history of the capital did not establish them positively, but the little chapel is without doubt one of the earliest places of Christian worship built in the city by the Spaniards and probably in the whole of North America.

The chapel of La Concepcion now stands in the rather neglected little plaza of the same name, which is the public stand for the heavy carts and wagons licensed for hire. It is to be rescued for this unromantic surrounding, however, and a park laid out about it. The chapel will be given a few needed repairs and protected by a suitable railing. It has been proposed that



the new garden be called Jardin Hertzogabai, after Mexico's late minister of war.

Some Prodigious Memories.

Many of the greatest men have had phenomenal memories. Caesar knew the names of thousands of soldiers in his legions. A modern man of science often has a prodigious memory for special terminology. Prof. Asa Gray has said that he could at once recall the names of something like 25,000 plants; Prof. Theodore Gill can do the same for fishes. Our memory for mere words is itself much more extensive than is generally admitted. The average well-to-do child of two years of age has a vocabulary of some 500 words and its father may have the command of 20,000 more. The 10,000 verses of the Rig Veda have, for 3,000 years, been accurately preserved in the memories of the Brahmins. Not one Brahmin alone, but thousands can to-day recite it word for word. Thousands of Mohammedans, likewise, know the Koran by heart, as all learned Chinese know their classical books.

Municipal Golf Links.

There is a certain amount of irony, says a London paper, in the fact that the city corporation, which has hitherto been so averse to anything savouring of socialism, should be the first London authority to follow the example of Bourne-mouth in the establishment of municipal golf links. In future the golf links at Chingford, in Epping Forest, will be controlled by the city, and under the new regime it will be possible for all to indulge in this pastime at a merely nominal charge.

Found a New Field of Labor.

A girl in Colourous, O., Miss Alverda M. Stout, has carved out an entirely original career for herself. She has become a mechanical engineer and is recognized as among the most competent members of that craft. She is but 18 years old, but by her pluck and determination mastered the many difficulties which have necessarily confronted her in her new undertaking and won for herself the approval and friendship of the male engineers of her own and other cities.

Mixed the Vernacular.

A Hindoo baker's assistant in Bombay, on setting up in business for himself, bethought him of catering to the English community, as well as for the native one. With this end in view, accordingly, he had the following notification printed over his doorway: "Ram Bux solicits respectful patronage. He is a first-class British loafer."

The St. Lawrence river is only 775 miles long, but if the lake system be also taken into account its total length will exceed 2,000 miles.

This being the oyster season all information concerning that sea animal known to the illiterate as the "luscious bivalve" is in order. We know that oysters sometimes give people typhoid fever, taste strongly of oil if scooped up in the Staten Island Kill, are whitened and fattened for the New York market by being kept in fresh water and fed on corn meal; that their flavor is spoiled by the process and, in short, a lot of things about them which were, perhaps, just as well that we did not know. At present a discussion is going on as to how long an oyster lives—provided he is let live. Prof. Mebus, a German authority on the subject, says that the Schlemmer oysters, which they eat in North Germany are from seven to ten years old when they come into the market, and he has seen some which were between twenty-five and thirty years old, though he acknowledges that oysters over twenty-five years old are rare. Bertram in his "Harvest of the Sea" says that when an oyster is in its prime when it is five years old, Prof. S. P. Woodward asserts that an oyster on artificial ground does not arrive at maturity until it is between five and seven years old, but those grown in natural beds mature at the age of four. It is believed that an oyster, left to its natural chances, would be likely to arrive at an extreme old age. Fossil oyster shells have been found which were nine inches thick, from which it is computed that the oyster must have been more than a hundred years old at the time of its death. The age of an oyster is determined by the outside of its shell, the successive layers or plates overlapping each other, marking a year's growth each. Up to the time of the oyster's maturity these "shoots," as they technically are called, are regular, but after that period they become irregular and are piled one over the other so that they finally become more or less rounded and bulky and the age marks more confused.—New York Press.

SCENT THAT CLINGS.

Smoke of Cigars Worries the Bachelor Girl Quite a Lot.

"Talk about a grain of mustard scenting a room for twenty-five years," said the bachelor girl; "that's nothing to the way a whiff of tobacco smoke will make its presence known for ages without apparently diminishing in strength. My brother calls on me sometimes in the afternoons and when he goes he is, of course, accompanied by the inevitable cigar. He smokes during the interview, and I talk a very acceptable division of labor to both of us—and then he goes away and I air my sitting room thoroughly, as I suppose, that night, if purchase I have a visitor, 'Dear me,' he says, or whatever is the masculine equivalent for that expression, 'dear me, find the man! I smell tobacco smoke, so there must be one about here somewhere.' When I mention my brother he looks first incredulous and then suspicious. I've caught more than one of my callers furtively looking at my fingers to see if they showed any trace of nicotine, I suppose, and once or twice my opinion as to the relative merits of the different brands of cigarettes has been asked suddenly when I was off my guard, apparently to see whether I would commit myself. Evidently my kind friends suspect me of doing the smoking myself. There's plenty of it done among women, and what are known as 'nice' women, too; but it's a habit that I abhor. I never had a cigarette in my mouth, and still when someone notices the fragrance of tobacco about my rooms or my clothes, for both are impregnated, they seem convinced that I am a 'fend.' Last week when I took my winter hangings out of the cedar closet, I could smell last winter's tobacco smoke still lingering in their folds. I can't get it out. Air is of no avail. This winter my brother is going to be denied his cigars," said the bachelor girl. "I can't get the reputation of being a cigarette fiend just to make him comfortable, now can I? I hate to sacrifice him, but no doubt for the good of the family he'll be willing even to give up his perfects."—Baltimore News.

"John Doe" in England.

Forty-nine years ago died two near relatives—in the legal profession—of the celebrated "Mrs. Harris"—John Doe and Richard Roe. For centuries their connection with landed property has been extensive and peculiar. If Smith wished to eject Jones, Smith became John Doe, the plaintiff, and Jones was compelled to join in the legal comedy by becoming Richard Roe, the defendant. Those names were also inserted in criminal proceedings as pledges to prosecute. A curious incident happened at the trial, in 1728, of Louis Housart for the murder of his wife. Among other pleas in bar to and abatement of the proceedings, he pleaded "that there were no such persons as John Doe and Richard Roe." To this it was replied that there were two such persons in Middlesex, one a weaver, the other a soldier, and this fact was sworn to. This legal fiction was abolished on October 24, 1852.—London Chronicle.

Prairie Dogs Flourishing.

There is one North American animal that does not share the fate of becoming extinct which appears to threaten all the other beasts on this hemisphere. The exception is the prairie dog. Man has been so busy and successful in exterminating this little ground squirrel's natural enemies—the coyotes, badgers, ferrets, hawks, owls and eagles—that the prairie dog has multiplied marvelously and is certain vast grazing lands its mounts are so many and its consumption and ruin of herbage are so great that only half as many cattle can be pastured on them as formerly, when the beasts were kept down by other animals that fed on them.

The federal government and the state governments of Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Texas are spending lots of money now to find some means for exterminating the pest.