

all the way from London. Charles Rothschilds is the second son of the lord of that name and the story presented the more or less interesting statement that this rich son of a rich sire prides himself on having "the largest collection of fleas that was ever brought together." Recently a number of polar explorers brought young Rothschilds a number of fleas that live on animals within the Arctic circle. Young Rothschilds was reported, in this cablegram, as having been very enthusiastic on the subject of fleas. He boasted: "I have fleas from every corner of the world, over ten thousand different varieties. Whenever an expedition is about to start for a foreign land I engage one of the party to collect specimens of fleas from every species of mammal and bird in the country. The variety is endless and it affords me as great delight as any of my relatives derive from securing a great masterpiece of art." Mr. Baer, the coal baron, might use this instance as proof of his claim that people of immense wealth are the "trustees of God." Who may doubt the divinity of young Rothschilds' trusteeship for instance? Humanity is to derive so much benefit from the use to which this trustee has put his wealth that it is indeed strange that any one would question the fact of young Rothschilds' appointment as trustee.

KING LEOPOLD OF BELGIUM MAY BE forced to abdicate because of a strong prejudice toward him on the part of his people. This prejudice has been stirred by Leopold's treatment of his two daughters, both of whom are referred to as excellent women. When the queen died recently and one of these daughters came to kneel at her mother's bier, the king refused to receive his child and this latest act served to intensify the popular prejudice. It seems also to be a fact, strange and interesting, that Leopold is not at all disturbed by the threat that he will be forced to abdicate; nor will he be displeased when the crown is wrested from him. He is an immensely wealthy man and it is said will be pleased to leave the country over which he has reigned and grown rich in order to enjoy his fortune in another land. Another report has it, however, that the king is anxious that his favorite nephew, Prince Albert, will be permitted to succeed him and that if this desire be not gratified the king will resist the attempt to dispossess him. At the same time there appears to be growing with the popular prejudice against the king a sentiment in favor of the establishment of a republic, and interesting times are looked for in Belgium in the near future.

A TERRIBLE COMMOTION IS ON IN LONDON and all because King Edward visited Andrew Carnegie in spite of the fact that Carnegie had never been presented at court. It is said that after the king had been shown about Skibo castle and observed the works of improvement thereon he expressed his keen regret that he did not possess the wealth of a Carnegie. If Edward had emigrated to the United States at an early age he might have become a tariff baron like Carnegie; and so far as wealth and power are concerned, there is little comparison between a European king and an American tariff baron.

AN INTERESTING AND FAIR PARAPHRASE of Mr. Roosevelt's Cincinnati speech is presented by the New York Times. The Times points out that some of the republican leaders who at one time looked on Mr. Roosevelt as a "trouble hunter" are, since his speech at Cincinnati, praising him for his "conservatism." The Times declares that "this is based chiefly on the very emphatic manner in which the president made it plain that he had no intention of advocating the only practical present curb on the evils attending the trusts—namely, the withdrawal from them of the favors of the tariff. But without this most recent demonstration of his purpose not to interfere with the idol of his party there does not seem to have been anything in the propositions of Mr. Roosevelt that need alarm the most timid of the politicians. After giving effect to all the qualifications on which he insists there is not much left to his speeches. Take his latest and most carefully elaborated utterance at Cincinnati. Suppose that he had contented himself with a statement in substance as follows: 'No one knows exactly how to tell them apart. I do not know good ones and there are bad ones. I do not know exactly how to tell the mapart. I do not know precisely what the evils of the bad ones are. Whatever they may be, congress has not now the power to remedy them. I do not know exactly what definite power it ought to have, but the only way to give it is by an amendment to the constitution, the nature of which cannot be stated in advance. But it will take a great while to get the amendment, and we can have time to study it out. All I can say is that we must act with the great-

est firmness and caution, courage and deliberation, do nothing until we are sure we are right, and do it without hesitation.'" And the Times submits: "Would not that be in reality all that he did say in his speech at Cincinnati or in the speeches that have preceded it? As we have paraphrased his utterances they seem nonsensical. But is the paraphrase unfair or incomplete?"

THE STORY OF ONE WOMAN'S SUCCESSFUL struggle is told by Success for October: A few years ago Miss Rosa Weiss was poor but also ambitious. Now she is an M. D. and has a lucrative practice. She asked her brother to send her to college. He told her that he could not afford to do that; but, giving her five cents, jestingly said to her, "Go on that!" She saw wonderful possibilities in that nickel. With it she bought a yard of calico from which she made a sun-bonnet. Selling the sun-bonnet for 25 cents, she bought material for bonnets and aprons. In this way several dollars were realized. Her brother, pleased with her thriftiness, gave her some land, which she planted to sweet potatoes, cultivating it with the assistance of a small boy. The products of the first year brought her \$40. Later she entered a state educational institution, where she remained until she graduated with honor. During the course she received some assistance from an aid society, all of which was repaid. Miss Weiss entered the Medical College at Baltimore, Md., where she paid her tuition by nursing, and was graduated from there with honor. She is now a practising physician in Meridian, Miss., near her former home, and her income is a good one.

THE LATE PREMIER OF ENGLAND, LORD Salisbury, is reported as being seriously ill, and this report has aroused anew interest in the man who shaped England's policies for so many years. It is significant that in the case of many public men, the older they grow the more sympathy they excite and the less hostility they evoke. A few years ago no man was more bitterly denounced by the radicals and liberals of England than Salisbury; and no man more bitter of tongue than he in returning their denunciation. And yet as time passed these bitter utterances have ceased to find a place in Lord Salisbury's speeches, and his most determined opponents have grown to respect and admire him. This is partly due to the general conviction that the peer is first and foremost a man, loyal and devoted to his country, and of the highest character in his private life.

THE PROGRESS OF THE ANTHRACITE COAL strike is watched with great interest throughout the country, and many plans have been discussed as the best means of settling it. Judge John Gibbons of the circuit court of Cook county, Illinois, is responsible for the view that it would be an exercise of lawful authority for the state to compel the owners of the coal mines to operate the mines for the benefit of the public, or else for the state to take possession of the mines and operate them through lessees. Judge Gibbons is recognized as an authority on constitutional law, and gave the above opinion when asked if there was any lawful way to compel the coal operators to open up the mines. Elaborating on this opinion, Judge Gibbons declared that the right to acquire and hold property is regulated by human law which cannot derogate from the natural law, and this law prevails over all positive laws of property. In this connection, the jurist cited the emancipation of the slaves who had been held under a vested right in this country, created by common consent, guaranteed by the constitution and consecrated by a century's legislation, but notwithstanding all this, had to give way to a higher law. Drawing a comparison between this case and that in which the coal operators are concerned, the jurist held that as the coal fields were necessary for the common good, they therefore cannot lawfully be appropriated by any one man or set of men to the exclusion of the whole people.

THROUGHOUT THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD marked changes and improvements are taking place. A report comes from Germany that the reorganization of the German textile industries along American lines is proceeding on a comprehensive scale, and that the system of highly developed division of labor is gradually being introduced in the leading factories of Saxony and Prussia. The introduction of this system has resulted in cheapening production and increasing wages. It is said that these changes are due to the interest felt by German merchants and manufacturers in the industrial progress of the United States.

AN INTERESTING STORY RELATING TO Henry Clay is told through the Louisville Courier-Journal by a citizen of Chicago. Accord-

ing to this story a man was once being tried for murder, and his case looked hopeless indeed. He had, without any seeming provocation, murdered one of his neighbors in cold blood. Not a lawyer in the county would touch the case. It looked bad enough to ruin the reputation of any barrister. The man, as a last extremity, appealed to Mr. Clay to take the case for him. Every one thought that Clay would certainly refuse. But when the celebrated lawyer looked into the matter his fighting blood was roused, and, to the great surprise of all, he accepted. Then came a trial the like of which I have never seen. Clay slowly carried on the case, and it looked more and more hopeless. The only ground of defense the prisoner had was that the murdered man had looked at him with such a fierce, murderous look that out of self-defense he had struck first. A ripple passed through the jury at this evidence. The time came for Clay to make his defense. It was settled in the minds of the spectators that the man was guilty of murder in the first degree. Clay calmly proceeded, laid all the proofs before them in his masterly way. Then, just as he was about to conclude, he played his last master card. "Gentlemen of the jury," he said, assuming the fiercest, blackest look and carrying the most undying hatred in it that I have ever seen, "gentlemen, if a man should look at you like this, what would you do?" That was all he said, but that was enough. The jury was startled, and some even quailed in their seats. The judge moved uneasily on his bench. After fifteen minutes the jury filed slowly back with a "Not guilty, your honor." The victory was complete. When Clay was congratulated on his easy victory, he said: "It was not so easy as you think. I spent days and days in my room before the mirror practising that look. It took more hard work to give that look than to investigate the most obtuse case."

THE CLAIM THAT SCIENTIFIC MEN ARE apt to live long and that mental industry is an aid to attaining a healthy old age is dealt with by "Modern Society." This publication points out that four of the men recently seated at the council table of the London Iron and Steel Institute were more than eighty years of age. It is explained: "Sir Lowthian Bell is in his eighty-seventh year, and still carries his extraordinary experience of British iron and coal as lightly as other men carry the gardenia in their buttonhole. Sir Bernard Samuelson is eighty-two. Time has left deeper marks on his figure and visage, it is true, but he is still hale and hearty. Sir John Alleyne stands as square and sturdy today as he did when at the head of the great Midland iron foundries which rolled the girders for all our earlier ironclads and ocean liners and cast the huge iron skeleton of the St. Pancras Railway station. The fourth octogenarian is an American, Mr. John Fritz of Bethlehem, United States. He openly preaches the doctrine that applied science gives men healthy activity of brain, and supplies that salt and savor of life which we all need to render our life worth living."

AN INTERESTING COMPARISON AS TO THE number of millionaires in Great Britain and the United States is made by the New York Times. It would appear from the official income tax returns just issued in England that there are only fifteen millionaires in Great Britain and one in Ireland. These sixteen persons make the sum total of the individuals in that country who enjoy incomes of over 50,000 pounds, and this is about the "millionaire" level. This information is acquired, as stated above, by means of the official income tax list and in that country, as in this, the great majority of the taxes are borne by those least able to do so.

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN OF BELGIUM, Marie Henriette, has brought to light many incidents which serve to impress the genuine nobility of this unhappy woman. She has long been known as "The Queen of Sorrows," a title well earned by the many severe trials through which she has passed. Marie Henriette was born on August 23, 1836, and has been queen of Belgium since December 10, 1865. The first great sorrow came to the queen in the death of her son at the age of 10 years. For many years the king and queen lived virtually a life of separation, and to this unhappiness was added the escapades of her children and tragedies in the lives of those near to her. Notwithstanding all these misfortunes, the queen has always sought to lessen her sorrow by devoting her energies to works of charity, and she was beloved and respected by her people.