

Government has gone into the business of building a \$300,000,000 waterway; it has for two years been engaged in investing \$30,000,000 in dams and ditches for irrigating large tracts in some sixteen states of the west."

IT IS pointed out that little complaint is heard of the practical operation of government managed utilities and the interstate commerce commissioner referred to, speaking of utilities under the control of the government, said: "For some reason or other, they are more responsive to the demands of the great majority than those which are managed in the interest of private capital. The world is smaller than it used to be. Electricity and steam, applied to transportation and communication, have brought the remote sections into close proximity one to another. Industrially and economically they are the same as the parish, the village, the town and the county were 100 years ago. Then the public road was owned and operated by the local government for the people. There is nothing new or radical in the proposition for communistic control and ownership of public utilities. The only thing new is the mechanical invention which has wiped out mere geographical distance." The census bureau is engaged in the compilation of a volume entitled "Wealth and Taxation," in which the valuation of railroad properties will be considered in one chapter. It is expected that it will contain some valuable statistics for those who are studying the problems of railway regulation and ownership.

A SIDE light on government ownership is thrown by a writer in the Boston Post who says: "A race is taking place in the building of the battleships Connecticut and Louisiana. The former is being constructed at the New York navy yard, and the latter at the works of the Newport News Shipbuilding company. The government's working day is eight hours, the private company's ten. The relative progress on the two vessels has been carefully watched, and the results are highly interesting. It is shown, for example, that on the hull of the ship Uncle Sam is building the average man accomplished as much every 10 minutes as the average man at Newport News did every 12 minutes and 25 seconds. In 10 hours the latter worked in only one-fifth of a pound

more than the former did in eight hours. The average production per man per hour on the Connecticut was 24.8 per cent greater than that of his competitor on the Louisiana. It appears that when the people feel the need they can, through their accredited agents, carry on an industrial establishment at as low a cost, and with as good results, as a private corporation. It is pretty safe to say that if they ever go in for government ownership on an extensive scale, they will feel the need. It will not take them long to realize that there can be no success without honesty and efficiency."

A STATISTICAL abstract of the growth of the United States for the year 1904 has been issued. According to the synopsis presented by the New York Commercial, it shows a remarkable growth during a single year. During the year, the population of the United States increased by 1,380,000. The estimated total for the entire given year of 1904 was 81,752,000. The amount of money in circulation increased by \$151,450,691, a gain of upward of \$2 per capita. The gain in gold circulation alone was more than \$28,000,000. The interest bearing debt of the nation decreased by more than \$19,000,000 and the interest payments decreased by more than \$1,360,000. The total deposits in banks increased by \$446,853,405 and the number of persons who deposited money in savings banks alone was 270,215 more in 1904 than in 1903. The imports decreased by about \$34,000,000. The exports to foreign countries increased by more than \$40,000,000. The total export of farm products amounted to \$853,643,073. This was a decrease from the previous year.

A MERICAN merchants sold goods in foreign countries to the amount of \$452,415,921. This represents an increase of \$47,000,000 over the previous year's record. The total value of farm animals in the United States in 1904 was \$3,006,580,737, an increase of more than \$8,000,000 in a year. The production of wool in 1904 amounted to 291,783,032 pounds, a gain of over 4,000,000 pounds in twelve months. The wheat crop was 85,000,000 bushels smaller than that of the year before, but the production reached 552,399,517 bushels. The corn crop was tremendous, the grand total of the 1904 harvest being 2,467,480,934 bushels, a gain

of 223,000,000 bushels over the crop of 1903. Of the railroads 4,595 miles were built in the last year. The number of passengers carried was more than 42,000,000 larger than in the year before, the grand total being 696,908,994. The total amount of freight carried by the railroads one mile was 171,290,310,685 tons, or over 15,000,000,000 tons more than in the year before.

ADMINISTRATION officials express great concern at the treasury deficit. A dispatch to the Denver News under date of Washington, April 27, says: "The excess of expenditures over receipts for the present fiscal year reached the surprising sum of \$30,118,434 today. At this time last year there was an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$2,412,005. There are only two months and one week of the fiscal year, and treasury officials now have no hope that this deficit will grow less. To say that they are disappointed and surprised at the situation is expressing it mildly. The deficit for the first three weeks of the month of April was \$5,640,295. It is not expected to be so large as this in May and June, but under present conditions it is thought that the deficit for the year will reach at least \$35,000,000. Meanwhile official junkets are going on at a rate never before known in the government's history. The eyes of the administration are just beginning to open to this fact."

THE announcement is made by the Army and Navy Journal "from the highest authority" that Major General John C. Bates has been selected to succeed General A. R. Chaffee when the latter retires for age on April 14, 1906. The Army and Navy Journal adds: "General Bates will serve in this capacity until his statutory retirement, August 26, 1906, and will then be succeeded by Major General Henry C. Corbin, who will serve as lieutenant general and chief of staff until his retirement, September 15, 1906. It is the present purpose to appoint Major General Arthur MacArthur as lieutenant general and chief of staff when General Corbin retires. General MacArthur will not retire until June 2, 1909. As we have already announced, Major Bates will come to Washington as assistant chief of staff upon the retirement on June 15 of Major General George L. Gillespie and the consequent promotion of Brigadier General George M. Randall.

"GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN"

Nan Patterson, the "Florodora" girl charged with the murder of "Caesar" Young, has been discharged. For the second time, a jury has failed to agree as to her guilt or innocence, and she will not be required to undergo another trial. The prosecution has doubtless concluded that it will be impossible to convict the defendant and so the state is to be saved additional expense, while the public is to be spared further recital of the details of this disgraceful affair.

But there was one satisfactory feature to the long drawn out trials. That was the devotion displayed by the distracted father toward his wayward daughter. When, during her first trial, Nan Patterson stepped from the witness stand after having passed through the ordeal of a relentless cross examination, the old man put his arm affectionately around his child and said: "You did splendidly little girl." When the jury returned with the report that it could not agree, the newspaper dispatches say:

The father of the accused, who has been by her side ever since the trial began and whose tender care and devotion to her has been the most touching of the trial, tried to comfort her, but his saddened face and mournful expression robbed the words he uttered of force and meaning as he said: "Don't worry little girl; it will come out all right yet."

Some one has said that the true test of love is the willingness to endure and suffer for another; that it is the suffering element that measures love, and that characters that are great must of necessity be characters that shall be willing, patient and strong to endure for others; that "to hold our nature in the willing service of another, is the divine idea of manhood." Unquestionably the average parent would success-

fully meet the test, even as it was met by the father of Nan Patterson. Children seldom appreciate the parent's love. Doubtless Nan Patterson has learned to appreciate it, just as many other wayward girls have learned it in the past, just as many other girls will learn it in the future.

No human pen can accurately describe that love. It is wonderfully elastic, and as child after child is born into the family, covers them all, giving the same portion to the newborn, while lessening none of that enjoyed by the others. The good mother who when asked which of her children she loved the best said "The one who is sick," pointed out in a happy way the only difference a parent can feel in his attitude toward his children. We love best "the one who is sick;" we love best the one who is crippled in body; we love best the one who has some weakness, for which he is not entirely responsible; we love best the one who has fallen, even though he fell as Nan Patterson fell, even though the doors of society be closed against him, even though all but the hope of heaven has been denied him.

"Don't worry, little girl, it will come out all right, yet," said Nan Patterson's father; and with all of her faults, she was his "little girl" then, she is his "little girl" now, and she will be his "little girl" until the end. The faithful father best remembers his daughter as she was when indeed a little girl. Although she has grown into womanhood there is always in the father's mind a portrait of the little girl in frocks; there is always a picture of the little innocent playing—or praying—at the mother's knee. That little girl may have met the world and been conquered by the world; her friends one by one may have turned from her; she may have fallen even as Nan Patterson fell; but at the critical moment the majesty of parental love asserts itself; "the divine idea of manhood" is manifested. At the critical moment the love of the parent for the child is supreme and arm in

arm the devoted father and the wayward daughter face a frowning world and walk together through the dark valley, the one loving as he always loved, the other appreciative of that majestic affection perhaps for the first time in her life.

All the world loves a lover; it smiles at the sweethearts gathered at the trysting place; it nods approval when the husband and wife grow day by day into a fonder and holier union; it admires the manly devotion of brother to sister; it respects the affection of friend for friend; it is inspired by the lovelight in the mother's eyes when she bends over the cradle of her babe. It must stand uncovered in the presence of that parental love exemplified in the Nan Patterson case; for that is the true reflection of the love shown by the Savior of men—that is the spirit which hovered over the manger at Bethlehem, made Gethsemane endurable and Calvary possible. "Greater love than this hath no man!"

Painters have sought to paint love upon canvas; poets have tried to picture it in verse; dramatists have endeavored to describe it in play. But it is not a thing to be shown in picture or in words. It was manifested in all its majesty when the Nazarene cried: "It is finished," and since then it has been shown in the palaces of the rich and in the hovels of the poor wherever a good parent's love for his child has been put to the test.

It is a pity that old man Patterson's "little girl" fell; it is a pity that the hearts of her parents were broken; it is a pity that the happiness of a good wife was wrecked by the folly of "Caesar" Young and the weakness of the girl who yielded; it is a pity that the public must be inflicted with the details of such a case. But it would be worth all the tears and all the grief and all the toil and trouble if the plain moral presented throughout this affair could be written indelibly upon the heart of every other man's "little girl" in all this wide, wide world.

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