

amendments, yet that your amendment was entirely satisfactory. Your amendment does not in the slightest degree weaken or injure the Hepburn bill. It merely expresses what the friends of the bill have always asserted was implied by the terms of the bill. I may add that my own opinion was that your amendment in no way changed, whether by diminishing or enlarging, the scope of the court review as provided in the original Hepburn bill. It is also the opinion of the attorney general, of Mr. Root and of Mr. Taft. Their judgment is that the amendment merely

avoids the criticism that the Hepburn bill would be constitutionally invalid in not expressly providing the court review, which its supporters have always contended was plainly implied in the original language. The original Hepburn bill stated that the venue for certain actions was in certain courts; the amendment states that these courts shall have jurisdiction to consider such actions. To my mind it seems difficult to assert that this works any change whatever in the principle of the bill.

"Yours sincerely,
"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

"The Hero With a Past"

An old and mischievous idea has been rehabilitated in a few modern novels, one of them a book so good that it is a surprise to find an old foe lurking therein. In "Lady Baltimore," by Owen Wister, we find the old ideal of manhood restated by one of those delightful southern ladies whom it is a privilege to know.

"Virtue is our business; it is enough for a man to be brave," or words to that effect. And it is repeatedly asserted by the narrator and by the hero himself that John Mayrant was not "innocent." He makes a boast of his "past," whatever ugly shape it may have worn. For sin is ugly. It is sordid and unclean; a sign of a weak nature instead of a strong one. We recall a strain of this false logic in an earlier work of Mr. Wister's:

"In order to be a manly man, one must have had every lurid experience of life. I wish to depict a manly man; therefore, he must have lived at some time the picturesque life of a breaker of the moral law."

It is time for a protest against this weak and wicked fallacy. One might as well make a plea for murder as essential to a strong character! On the stage, in poem and novel and in the speech of too many otherwise intelligent people, a lie like this is reiterated. Mr. Wister's heroes get drunk, and are addicted to knocking people down to prove their right to the part of leading man—surely this is enough without hinting at other vices so near the level of the lowest brute who infests the dens of iniquity that a decent imagination sickens at thought of them. Mr. Wister's otherwise admirable "Virginian" when he is with the other cowboys "trolls some careless tavern catch, of Moll and Meg and strange experiences unmeet for ladies." There is a finer "Americanism" in the reply of a great soldier and statesman when some companion began a story with the preface: "As there are no ladies present," "I trust there are gentlemen present," and the story was

untold. That is the sort of true American hero, with physical and moral courage, self restraint and purity of lips and life. The Puritan has never lacked bravery when he has faced the cavalier in battle. There is no need to exploit the man with an evil past, in order to show examples of the highest kind of courage, virtue—virtue—used to mean just that. Most people have an entirely gratuitous horror of perfection. There is no danger of the best human nature we know attaining it. The severest test of the novelist is to make a good man or woman attractive—only the highest art can achieve the feat—but shall we, therefore, praise the inferior art because it falls short?

The hero will not be perfect, if he is drawn truly, though he may never have lain down in the sty, nor have fouled the whiteness of his soul with impure experiences. Our young men need to attune their ears to the bugle notes of "Sir Galahad" rather than listen to this discordant and decadent music—the hideous cry of lost souls, accepted as an invitation to become like them, and not as a wail of warning to keep free from the morass, in which they die an unclean death. "The Hero with a Past" ought to be as repulsive to a clean reader as any Becky Sharp or Paula Tanageray among heroines. "Virtue" is not the "business of women" solely, and if it has ever seemed to be so, it is time for a little reforming of literature and of life.—The Independent.

THE HARDEST BLOW

The Lincoln (Nebraska) News, a republican paper, says:

"If the president consents to any such amendment as is proposed he might as well abandon the whole fight. To concede what is given by that compromise (the Allison amendment) is to concede what the railroads have been fighting for, and it will mean a virtual defeat for the administration forces and for right and justice. The president has shown himself to be a great fighter along other lines of activity, and it will be no credit to his fame if he gives in to these corporation armies. In fact, it will be the hardest blow his prestige has yet sustained, and would disgust and dishearten the thousands who have been backing him up in the contest. The Allison amendment is fatal to the hopes of those who believe that congress could curb railroad greed and shackle railroad cunning. If congress confers upon federal courts the right to entertain and hear appeals from the fixing by the commission of what is a reasonable rate, the whole campaign has been a failure. The rate bill will be absolutely ineffective if by any hook or crook the railroads get the legal right to suspend the rates fixed by the commission. That means they will keep the case in court until shippers are bankrupted or tired out, and meanwhile will go on charging every shipper the old oppressive rate."

Your Heart

is a wonderful pump that works incessantly, averaging seventy 50-pound strokes a minute, and forcing from 30 to 30 pounds of blood throughout the body each minute.

The power that keeps this wonderful pump in motion is nerve-force, the energy furnished by the nerves.

Disease, over-exertion, fright, anxiety, alcohol, tobacco and other stimulants weaken these nerves, but the heart, instead of stopping, makes extraordinary efforts and causes heart strain.

Then comes shortness of breath, heart palpitation, dizziness, etc., because the nerves are too weak to furnish power. Take the only safe remedy.

Dr. Miles' Heart Cure

It feeds, strengthens and builds up the nerves and muscles of the heart so they can supply the necessary energy.

"Dr. Miles' Heart Cure is a marvelous remedy. I always use it when cardiac trouble is present. It meets the indications surely and completely."—C. F. P. BURCHMORE, M. D., 496 Mass. Ave., Boston, Mass.

The first bottle will benefit, if not, the druggist will return your money.



I am The Paint Man

Let Me Tell You the Price You Should Pay for Paint

See that house in the lower corner? It's an eight room cottage. I painted it complete in two colors, with trimmings, for \$9.00. I made the paint to order—shipped it without advance payment—paid all the freight—gave privilege of trying two gallons free—sold it on six months time—gave my 8 year guarantee backed by a \$50,000 bond. It was fresh

O. L. Chase Made-To-Order Paint

2 gals. free to try—6 months time to pay—all freight prepaid

The owner used the paint—wrote me he was tickled to death with the way it spread and the way it looked—recommended several of his neighbors to me—paid me for it at once. That's the way it goes—this is only one customer out of thousands. What do you know about paint anyway? As paint makers themselves disagree, who knows? I disagree with all paint makers. Other paint makers say, "Pay me—and then paint." I say, "Paint—and then pay me."—then you are sure to be satisfied. My Big Fresh Paint Book is Free—the finest Paint Book ever published—large samples of colors to choose from. Write for it today—now. I will write you a personal letter and tell you what you should pay for paint.

O. L. CHASE, The Paint Man,
Personal Office, Lincoln Missouri Trust Bldg.,
ST. LOUIS, MO.

I painted that house for \$9.00—2 coats. Send me your name and address on a postal and I'll tell you what the paint for your house will cost.



PIONEER GUARANTEED NURSERY STOCK AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

All stock guaranteed disease free and true to name.
Hart Pioneer Stock is pure bred and produces heavy crops.
Value received for every dollar sent us. No Agent's Commission.
WRITE FOR COMPLETE PRICE LIST. WE WILL SAVE YOU MONEY.
HART PIONEER NURSERIES, Established 1865. Fort Scott, Kan.

UNION PACIFIC

THE COLUMBIA RIVER Wonderland

With its incomparable scenery is best reached via the

UNION PACIFIC

Whose fast through daily trains run 200 miles in broad daylight along this matchless river.

An opportunity of visiting **YELLOWSTONE PARK en Route** The Short Line to

Portland AND THE NORTHWEST
Inquire of **E. B. SLOSSON, Gen. Agent**

VOLUME V OF

"THE COMMONER CONDENSED"

IS NOW READY FOR DELIVERY
A Political History and Reference Book for 1905

As its title indicates, this book is a condensed copy of The Commoner for one year. It is published annually and the different issues are designated as Volumes I, II, III, IV and V, corresponding to the volume numbers of The Commoner. The last issue is Volume V, and contains editorials which discuss questions of a permanent nature.

Every important subject in the world's politics is discussed in The Commoner at the time that subject is attracting general attention. Because of this The Commoner Condensed is valuable as a reference book and should occupy a place on the desk of every lawyer, editor, business man and other student of affairs.

Reference to The Commoner Condensed will enable the student to refresh his memory concerning any great political event in 1905. For instance, reference to the fifth volume of The Commoner Condensed will refresh the memory as to the details of:

- THE AGITATION OF RAILROAD RATE QUESTION.
- POPULAR APPEALS FOR GOVERNMENTAL REFORM.
- THE BATTLE FOR MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.
- THE EASTERN WAR AND THE REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA.
- SOME OF MR. BRYAN'S 1905 SPEECHES.
- SECRETARY TAFT'S FREE TRADE ORDER.
- THE GREAT BATTLE IN OHIO AND PENNSYLVANIA.
- DISCLOSURES BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMITTEE.

Octavos of about 480 Pages Each; Bound in Heavy Cloth, and will Make a Handsome and Valuable Addition to any Library.

To New or Renewing Subscribers

One Year's Subscription to The Commoner	}	BOTH \$1.50
The Commoner Condensed, Cloth Bound		
One Year's Subscription to The Commoner	}	BOTH \$1.25
The Commoner Condensed, Paper Cover		

To Subscribers who have already Paid the Current Year's Subscription
CLOTH BOUND, 50c. PAPER COVER, 25c. By Mail, Postage Paid.

These prices are for either Volume. If more than one volume is wanted, add to above prices 50c for each additional one in cloth binding, 25c for each additional one in paper cover. Volume I is out of print; Volumes II, III, IV and V are ready for prompt delivery.

Remittances MUST be Sent With Orders

ADDRESS, THE COMMONER, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.