

provide in substance "that no corporation shall issue stocks or bonds except for an equivalent in money paid, or labor done, or property actually received and applied to the purposes for which such corporation was created; and neither labor nor property shall be received in payment of stocks or bonds at a greater value than the market price at the time such labor was done or property delivered; and all fictitious increase of stock or indebtedness shall be void." Idaho, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Kentucky are some of the states whose laws provide "that all fictitious increase or issue of stock or indebtedness by railroad corporations shall be void."

As practically all of the great railroad corporations are chartered under state laws which provide "that railroad companies are public highways and common carriers," and "that the fictitious issues of stocks and bonds are void," the threatened crisis causes Wall street and the railroad companies to be insistent upon a policy which will privilege common carriers to surrender their present charters and take out a new lease on life under a federal incorporation act. Millions of dollars already have been spent in making a valuation of the physical property of common carriers and the expenditure of such enormous sums would not have received the approval of the public unless the public had been assured of some worthwhile results.

The people have a right to expect and the carriers have a right to apprehend that the democratic party

will use the valuation of the common carriers as a means of eliminating the fictitious and fraudulent issues of stock and bonds. The platform upon which President Wilson was elected in 1912 declared:

"We pledge our party to secure the interstate commerce commission the power to value the physical property of the railroads."

The Presidential Campaign Book on page 275 declared: "That there were nine billion 500 millions of water in the stocks and bonds of the railroad companies." Other extracts from the article contained in the Campaign book read as follows:

"Reference to railroad over-capitalization has about the same effect upon railroad presidents as a red flag has upon an angry bull. No other charge has drawn from them such instant and fiery denial."

"Who gets all this money? The railroad presidents would have you believe the widows and orphans are the chief beneficiaries. That is buncombe, burlesque and rot! The Morgans, Harrimans, Hills, Vanderbilts, Rockefellers and men of their stamp are the real plum pickers."

Thus read some of the extracts from the Campaign Book of 1912 which is stamped with the approval and signature of the present President of the United States.

As an evidence of how the chief representative of the common carriers views the adjustment of stocks and bonds issued by common carriers to the real value of railroad companies, I quote the following from the testimony of Colonel Thom, found in Part 7, page 399, Hearings Before the Joint Sub-committee

tee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, issued December 2, 1916:

"Now, I say the reason why you can not adopt the capitalization to value unless it is done already by the correspondence between the two is because you would be undertaking a task which would result in the financial ruin of the world. You would be trying to take hold of values which had been bought and had been distributed among the innocent, investing public and trying to affect those values, and you can not do it by the power of government without an upheaval that it is not in the power of government to stem."

Thus the real purpose of a federal incorporation act is exposed; and while these fictitious stocks and bonds have been issued in plain violation of the fundamental laws of the states under which the carriers operated, an argument as old as the imperial republic of Rome is advanced in defense of the lawless policy of common carriers.

There was an old Licinian law in the days of the imperial republic of Rome which required that the lands of Italy should be cultivated by free labor and not by slaves; and that no one should own over 500 jugera (acres) of land. Under the influence of plutocracy it had not been enforced. All attempts to restore the law had been defeated by the combined power of the privileged class. Tiberius, one of the Gracchi, was elected a tribune of the people and he set about to revive the Licinian law. The arguments favoring its restoration were unanswerable except in this particular, to-wit: The law had been allowed to become a dead letter and its restoration would

work hardships on the present owners of the land. The patricians argued, "We have inherited these lands from our fathers and grandfathers." The great Roman tribune, Tiberius, answered, "Your fathers and grandfathers never owned them."

When it became evident, however, that the privileged class were about to lose they became desperate and resorted to their usual tactics of bribery. They suborned Octavius, one of the tribunes, to veto the measure proposed by his colleagues. Thus it always has been that the privileged class seem to have no conscience on the subject of their privilege. History does not record one single instance in which plutocracy entrenched by precedent or custom have ever voluntarily made restitution to society of the rights which they have despoiled.

The iron jaws of greed once clinched upon a privilege never relax until loosened by the resistless power of the people.

IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN

A party of tourists were examining the curios in a little shop on a back street in a certain European city. The aged dealer, desirous of making a sale, picked up an ancient-looking sword and said:

"You see, my friends, this most wonderful sword; this is the sword that Balaam killed the ass with."

"But," said one, "Balaam didn't kill the ass; he only wished for a sword that he might kill her."

"Well," said the dealer, "this is the one he wished for."—The Christian Herald.

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If you have tried most everything else, come to me. Where others fail is where I have my greatest success. Send attached coupon today and I will send you free, my illustrated book on Rupture and its cure, showing my Appliance and giving you prices and names of many people who have tried it and were cured. It is instant relief when all others fail. Remember, I use no salves, no harness, no lies. I send on trial to prove what I say is true. You are the judge, and once having seen my illustrated book and read it you will be as enthusiastic as my hundreds of patients whose letters you can also read. Fill out free coupon below and mail today. It's well worth your time whether you try my Appliance or not.

OTHERS FAILED BUT THE APPLIANCE CURED

Mr. C. E. Brooks, Marshall, Michigan.
Dear Sir:—Your Appliance did all you claim for the little boy, and more, for it cured him sound and well. We let him wear it for about a year in all, although it cured him in 3 months after he had begun to wear it. We had tried several other remedies and got no relief, and I shall certainly recommend it to friends, for we surely owe it to you.
Yours respectfully, WM. PATTERSON.
No. 717 S. Main St., Akron, O.

BAD CASE CURED AT THE AGE OF 76

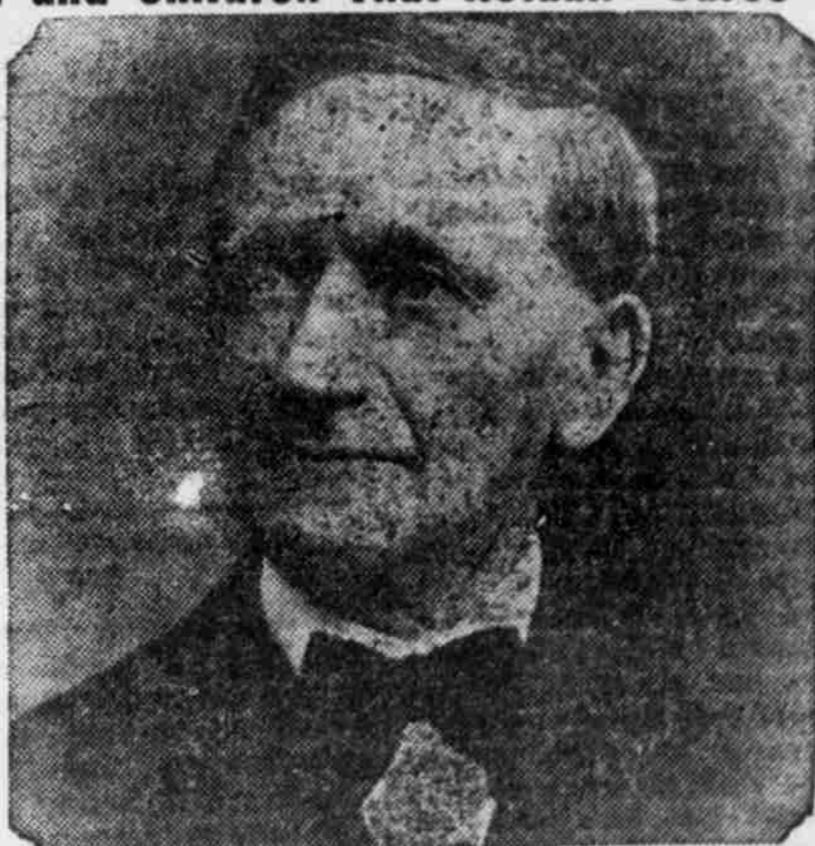
Mr. C. E. Brooks, Marshall, Michigan.
Dear Sir:—I began using your Appliance for the cure of Rupture (I had a pretty bad case) I think, in May, 1905. On November 20, 1905, I quit using it. Since that time I have not needed or used it. I am well of rupture and rank myself among those cured by the Brooks Discovery, which, considering my age, 76 years, I regard as remarkable.
Very sincerely yours,
High Point, N. C. SAM A. HOOVER.

CHILD CURED IN FOUR MONTHS

21 Jansen St., Dubuque, Iowa.
Mr. C. E. Brooks, Marshall, Michigan.
Dear Sir:—The baby's rupture is altogether cured, thanks to your Appliance, and we are so thankful to you. If we could only have known of it sooner our little boy would not have had to suffer near as much as he did. He wore your brace a little over four months and has not worn it now for six weeks.
Yours very truly, ANDREW EGGENBERGER.

PENNSYLVANIA MAN THANKFUL

Mr. C. E. Brooks, Marshall, Michigan.
Dear Sir:—Perhaps it will interest you to know that I have been ruptured years and have always had trouble with it till I got your Appliance. It is



C. E. Brooks, inventor of the Appliance, who cured himself and has been curing others for over 30 years. If ruptured, write him today at Marshall, Mich.

very easy to wear, fits neat and snug, and is not in the way at any time, day or night. In fact, at times I did not know I had it on; it just adapted itself to the shape of the body and seemed to be part of the body, as it clung to the spot, no matter what position I was in.

It would be a veritable God-send to the unfortunate who suffer from rupture if all could procure the Brooks Rupture Appliance and wear it. They would certainly never regret it.

My rupture is now all healed up and nothing ever did it but your appliance. Whenever the opportunity presents itself I will say a good word for your Appliance, and also the honorable way in which you deal with ruptured people. It is a pleasure to recommend a good thing among your friends or strangers. I am,
Yours very sincerely,
80 Spring St., Bethlehem, Pa. JAMES A BRITTON.

TEN REASONS WHY

- You Should Get **BROOKS RUPTURE APPLIANCE**
1. It is absolutely the only Appliance of the kind on the market today, and in it are embodied the principle that inventors have sought after for years.
 2. The Appliance for retaining the rupture cannot be thrown out of position.
 3. Being an air cushion of soft rubber it clings closely to the body, yet never blisters or causes irritation.
 4. Unlike the ordinary so-called pads, used in other trusses, it is not cumbersome or ungainly.
 5. It is small, soft and pliable, and positively can not be detected through the clothing.
 6. The soft, pliable bands holding the Appliance do not give one the unpleasant sensation of wearing a harness.
 7. There is nothing about it to get foul, and when it becomes soiled it can be washed without injuring it in the least.
 8. There are no metal springs in the Appliance to torture one by cutting and bruising the flesh.
 9. All of the material of which the Appliances are made is of the very best that money can buy, making it a durable and safe Appliance to wear.
 10. My reputation for honesty and fair dealing is so thoroughly established by an experience of over thirty years of dealing with the public, and my prices are so reasonable, my terms so fair, that there certainly should be no hesitancy in sending free coupon today.

REMEMBER

I send my Appliance on trial to prove what I say is true. You are to be the judge. Fill out free coupon below and mail today.

FREE Information Coupon

Mr. C. E. Brooks, 193 State St., Marshall, Mich.
Please send me by mail in plain wrapper, your illustrated book and full information about your Appliance for the cure of rupture.

Name

City

R. F. D. State