## The Commoner.

hardly afford to pass by any of them. Burma is the home of Buddhism, and one can learn more of the worship of Buddha here than anywhere else. The yellow-robed priest with his beggingbowl is everywhere present.

I have already discussed India and Egypt somewhat in detail, and no traveler need be urged to visit these countries. Palestine, however, is skipped by so many travelers that I may be pardoned a word of advice. Of all the countries which we visited none interested us more than the Holy Land, and no member of a Christian church can afford to visit southern Europe or pass through the Suez canal without seeing that portion of Asia which is immortalized by Bible history. The ruins at Balbec, in some respects the most remarkable in the world, attract many to Beyrout, Damascus and the Lebanons, but the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem and the Jordan have lessons for the tourist of far greater importance than can be derived from the ruins of heathen temples.

If the reader lacks either time, inclination or means for a trip around the world, he will find one of the shorter trips to Europe only second in interest and value. The Mediterranean trip is a very popular one. This, according to its length, permits a visit to Gibraltar, Alexandria, Cairo, Palestine, Constantinople, Greece and Italy. From Gibraltar it is a short trip to Granada, Cordova and Madrid, and our own experience leads me to commend this trip to the traveler. At Cairo and Constantinople the Orient comes nearest to Europe and America, and the difference between the Orient and the western world is so striking that no one visiting southern Europe should miss the Nile and the Bosphorus. One can spend weeks, and even months about the shores of the Mediterranean; Africa, Asia Minor and Europe all touch upon this great inland sea. Without leaving its shores one can study the most opposite types which the human race has produced and at the same time study the history of the oldest periods known to man. Egypt should be visited before the end of March, while April is the best month for a trip to Palestine.

In Italy alone one could occupy a winter. Rome, the center of the Catholic world and the home of the Caesars, is a most fascinating city. There are no mosaics like those of St. Peters and fow galleries equal to those of the vatican, while masterpieces of sculptors and painters are to be found on every hand. The old Roman forum is the mecca of the student, and the Coliseum is still a wonder, defying as it has the storms of nearly two thousand years. At Naples one sees Vesuvius and lava beds formed but a few months ago. At one place the stream of lava poured through an archway and hardened as it cooled. When we were there the lava was like stone and could with difficulty be broken. At Florence one sees the best specimens of modern sculpture, and at Milan he visits one of the most famous of the Buropean cathedrals.

Venice is in a class by itself. No other city rivals it in uniqueness. Its streets are canals, and gondolas are the vehicles in which potentate, priest and plebeian ride. It draws visitors from all over the world and sends them away after a short visit glad that they came and equally glad to escape from the dampness of the place.

If one desires a summer trip, he can find few journeys more delightful than those through Switzerland and along the Rhine. Lakes, rivers and mountains—these are to be found in abundance, with cities enough to supply the population and hotels to accommodate the tourists. If one would combine pleasure with instruction, he can profitably employ considerable time in visiting the German universities at Heidelburg and Leipsic and the art galleries at Dresden and Munich. The cathedral at Cologne, it may be added, is by many preferred to the cathedral at Milan.

The northern portions of Europe are even more inviting to the summer tourist than Switzerland or the Rhine. The lakes of Ireland and Scotland and the seacoast resorts of England and Holland give rest and recuperation to multitudes every year. If I were going to suggest a summer

Leave New York early in June, land at Liverpool, cross over to Newcastle and take a steamer
for Bergen, Norway. A week can be spent delightfully in the fjords and on the lakes in the
neighborhood of Bergen. Such a combination of
deep water and rugged mountain sides, rushing
streams and crystal lakes is hard to find. Then
let the tourist proceed to Trondhjem, the ancient
pital, where King Haakon was recently crowned.

Trondhjem, the traveler can reach the

Arctic Circle in a little more than a day. While a day's stay is sufficient in the land of the midnight sun if the sky is clear, it is better to allow one's self two or three days' leeway as it is often cloudy in this latitude and at this time of the year. The midnight sun must be seen to be appreciated. No description can do it justice. To pass from day to day with no intervening night, to watch the sun linger for awhile in the north near the horizon and then begin a new day's work without a moment's sleep gives one a sensation not soon forgotten. A railroad across Norway brings Christiana within a day's ride of Trondhjem, and from Christiana to Stockholm is another day.

Stockholm is sure to charm the visitor. It is a beautiful town beautifully situated; it stands where the waters of the lakes and the ocean meet. Several days can be spent in Stockholm to advantage, and then one is prepared for the boat ride to St. Petersburg, one of the rarest experiences that one can find in travel. The boat wends its way through islands almost the entire distance.

A week's stay in St. Petersburg will give an opportunity for an inspection of the capital of the greatest of the nations measured by territory, and one of the greatest measured by population. Here one has a chance to learn something of the Greek church with its splendid cathedrals, rivalling the cathedrals of the Roman Catholic church. Moscow is even more distinctly Russian than St. Petersburg, and the art gallery there surpasses the one at St. Petersburg in its collection of the works of Russian artists. Tolstoy's summer home is not far from Moscow, and many take advantage of the trip to see the greatest of living philosophers.

The ride from St. Petersburg to Moscow and from Moscow to Warsaw gives a very good view of the interior of Russia, and one can stop off at almost any place and learn something of the village life of the Russian peasant. Several days can be occupied in Berlin, and other points of interest can be easily reached from Germany's capital. Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark, is only half a day's ride distant. Hanover, Hamburg, Brussels, Amsterdam and The Hague are all within easy reach. In Germany one has an opportunity to learn a great deal about forestry, agriculture and landscape gardening. The parks, groves, shady drives and boulevards furnish the American traveler with many suggestions while the battle field of Waterloo and the lowlands of Holland will ever be interesting to the student of history.

The tour can be completed by a visit to Paris and London. The social season in the latter city ends early in August with the adjournment of parliament. In three months' time one can make this northern trip and return with a fund of information about the countries and their peoples which could never be collected from books. It is not an expensive trip even for first class travel, and the accommodations furnished by the steamers and the railroads for second class passengers are such that one can reduce his expenses considerably without discomfort.

But let me add, in conclusion, that one does not have to leave America to find places of interest and that no one can justify a trip abroad until he has become acquainted with his own country. Europe has no summer resorts that surpass the cities on the St. Lawrence, on our northern lakes and in the mountains of the west. In America one can have every variety from salt-sea bathing to mountain climbing, with fishing thrown in. In natural scenery there is nothing in Europe which surpasses the Niagara, Yellowstone Park, and the Yosemite Valley. of California. There are no agricultural views which surpass those in the valleys on the Ohio, the Mississippi and the Missouri, and for a restful winter trip Hawaii, Mexico and Cuba offer attractions that are unexcelled. While the Western Hemisphere is not so old in its civilization, the only advantage that the Orient and Europe can furnish is in their variety of races, customs and religions. In natural scenery America satisfies all expectations. Nothing but the Himalayas offer more sublime heights, and the earth has no other chasm equal to the Grand Canyon of Arizona. After one has seen the wonders of America and the possibilities of its soil, its institutions and its people, he can go abroad with the assurance that he will return, more widely informed, it is true, but more intensely American than before. There is no country like ours, whether it be measured by the bountiful gifts of the Creator or by the works of man. In all that goes to make a nation

great materially, commercially, intellectually, politically and morally, our country has no peer. The American, returning to his own shores, feels like thanking Scott for expressing so felicitously the traveler's sentiments:

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead Who never to himself hath said, This is my own, my native land; Whose heart hath ne'er within him burn'd As home his footsteps he hath turn'd From wandering on a foreign strand? If such there breathe, go, mark him well; For him no minstrel raptures swell; High though his titles, proud his name, Boundless his wealth as wish can claim,-Despite those titles, power and pelf, The wretch, concentred all in self, Living, shall forfeit fair renown, And, doubly dying, shall go down To the vile dust from whence he sprung, Unwept, unhonor'd, and unsung." Copyright.

## A DIVIDED HOUSE

The irresistible conflict in the republican party is well illustrated by the speeches of Senator Beveridge and Vice President Fairbanks. The senator is a reformer; the vice president is a "standpatter." Senator Beveridge is out ringing a bell and shouting: "Wake up, you are in danger;" Vice President Fairbanks carries a bottle of chloroform and whispers: "Sleep on; all is well." And yet they live in the same state and both call themselves republicans.

## SOUND DOCTRINE

J. K. Rudyard of North Port, Long Island, writes to the New York World as follows: "Mr. Bryan says 'No man who is financially connected with a corporation that is seeking privileges ought to act as a member of a political organization, because he can not represent his corporation and the people at the same time. He cannot serve the party while he is seeking to promote the financial interests of the corporation with which he is connected.' This is sound doctrine and cannot be criticised without being first misstated. Men who earn their living by doing the legitimate work of corporations do not class themselves with those to whose participation in party management Mr. Bryan objects, nor imagine that his objection applies to them. They know that privileges inflate franchise values and diminish wages. They do not 'consider themselves read out of the democratic party.' They desire only equal rights, and, as they are neither fools nor knaves, they can not be formed into a force of political despotism."

## MAY BE AN ARGUMENT

A. B. Stickney, president of the Chicago Great Western railroad, recently made a statement showing a deplorable condition in railroad affairs. And no less authority than the Wall Street Journal says: "If it would be possible to reform such conditions as this in no other way, these facts might furnish a convincing argument in favor of government ownership." The Journal expresses the opinion, however, that the condition can be remedied by regulation, and it says that Mr. Stickney deserves the thanks of the entire public for the disclosure.

In his statement Mr. Stickney declared that there is neither order, method, nor system in the making of schedules; that "it is impossible to convey any adequate understanding of the utterly hopeless condition of the present schedules;" that the publication of more than eight thousand separate schedules "affords opportunity for the same dexterous manipulation of schedules which is practiced by the three card monte gang with cards;" that "no railway ever attempted to comply with the law; that hundreds of swindling schedules have been and are being filed, rebates in the form of overcharge being thereby paid, and only the interstate commerce commission can stop them from being filed; and finally, that "most of the two and one-half million schedules that have been filed with the interstate com merce commission are illegal."

A college professor writes a magazine article to prove that men of his profession should receive not less than \$15,000 a year. If we paid them that much how could we employ the king pin pitchers and the champion swatsmen for our baseball teams?