

happy or miserable according as he has the might to maintain himself and survives in his environment.

Let it not be forgotten that the "brotherhood of man" is a myth; that today we all live according to our ability to meet the life wants of others; that an intelligent utilitarianism, a full appreciation that if we want to live well, if we desire to be happy, we must diligently study how to play the other fellow's game, and that in so far as we supply him with trump cards to maintain his life, so we shall fill our own pack. The winning ace in this game of life is the might or ability to make others play our game by playing theirs with a full hand of ability. Then and only then, so and only so, have we a right to life, and liberty, and happiness according to the universal and all pervading condition—the survival of the fit.

FRANK S. BILLINGS.

Grafton, Mass.

LOVE THE FARM AND FARM HOME.

"The only drawback to any intelligent country community enjoying educational and refining privileges is lack of coöperation between the farmers themselves," writes Mrs. John B. Sims, of "Entertaining in the Country," in the July Ladies' Home Journal. "Whenever a farming community realize that in themselves lie the means of educating their sons and daughters to love the farm and farm home, and that because one does not have the privileges of the town or large city there is no reason why he should stagnate either mentally or socially, they will have solved the problem of how to live happily and contentedly on a farm."

AN EARLY WEAPON.

Through the kindness of Mr. J. G. Kees there has been placed in the Nebraska City Public Library a piece of artillery which compels the wonder and amazement of even the oldest settlers, who knew something about guns themselves at one time. They all say they never saw anything like it in the heavens above nor in the earth beneath; on the plains, *ni in Maremma*. They are ready to certify that its like exists not in the possession of the wildest of wild Indians, though the most extraordinary arms are found in their assortments; they have been collecting them for a hundred years, and they never discard them until they blow up.

This gun was found by Mr. Kees among the effects of a tenant of his, who he thinks had at some time served in the British army. It is something over a foot long and weighs three pounds and a half. It is made with a revolving cylinder, which carries no less than nine shots; it is meant to carry powder and ball and be discharged by means of a percussion cap, and has a

ramming apparatus attached, which is on the left side of the barrel, instead of underneath, as in the old army Colt's. Its crowning glory is a good-sized shotgun barrel, which occupies the center of the immense cylinder and projects beneath the other barrel; with this, while the fortunate possessor was regaling his adversary with his nine bullets, he could surprise him between times with a charge of small shot; this could not fail to throw him off his guard and put him at a disadvantage.

The weapon is of French manufacture, for it bears the following legend upon the top of its upper barrel: "Système Lemat, Bte, S. G. D. G., Paris;" signifying, apparently, that one Lemat invented it, that he took out a patent upon it, and that the French government declined to become responsible for its operation. It is not necessarily of very great antiquity, for revolvers not differing essentially from it in principle were used in great numbers throughout the Civil War; as the French have usually been a few years ahead of us in such matters, it probably dates from somewhere in the 50's.

THE CYCLONE TRUST.

"I wish," said a thoughtful citizen of Oakland, "that The Enquirer would call the attention of the promoters of trusts to these cyclones which are disturbing a large portion of the country. There is no regularity about them, and nobody can calculate their movements. I think all cyclones should be combined, in order to have them under perfect control. It would be better for the country to have one big vacuum than to have a thousand small ones traveling around—it would do more good and less harm. Of course, I wouldn't expect William J. Bryan or Governor Sayers of Texas to agree to this; they are opposed to monopoly in all its forms, and couldn't see any good in a cyclone trust. They would want the cyclone competition to go on, no matter who gets hurt. But reasonable people don't look at it in that way, and if The Enquirer will only advocate it, I think the trust will be a go."

The Street Talker promised to submit the idea to the readers of The Enquirer.—Oakland (Calif.) Enquirer.

THE REPUBLICAN GOLD POLICY.

It is the purpose of the republican party to abolish the option of redeeming government notes in either gold or silver, and make them explicitly payable in gold. Gold, as the standard would then be beyond the caprice of a base-money president, or of a base-money congress if an honest money president were in office. Nothing but the concurrent adverse action of congress and the president would then be able to subvert the gold standard. The election of either a democratic congress or a demo-

cratic president in 1900 is, of course, to the last degree improbable. It is the duty of statesmanship, however, to provide against accidents or possibilities. The passage of a law establishing the gold standard explicitly would be a service to the country worthy of the republican party. It would be a splendid supplement to its gold declaration in the St. Louis convention of 1896, and, as then, it would bring it hundreds of thousands of new votes.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat (repub.)

CHICAGO'S PARKS.

(Mr. Peter B. Wight in the July Pall Mall Magazine.)

It is the parks and boulevards that have been the most potent factors in Chicago's architectural development, which has been essentially in the direction of residential building. The wisest men that ever ruled the destinies of Chicago were those who devised this great scheme before the city was too large to find any obstacles to its economical fulfilment. Thirty years ago there were those among this busy throng of money-makers and speculators who were able to see the needs of the future, and who dedicated to posterity more acres of parks than any other city in the world can boast of. They not only laid out many open spaces, but provided boulevards and parkways between them. Like others, who "builded better than they knew," they sought only to provide drives and building sites, but little reckoned that these boulevards in time would become the absolutely necessary means of communication, other than by traction lines, between the three divisions of the city. For, while the whole system of parks and most of the drives have been completed, the boulevards are only about to be connected across the rivers in response to the demands of the people. When this is done, one may make a circuit of the whole city by horse, wheel, or automobile through thirty continuous miles of boulevards and parks. These are now becoming the attractive building sites, and will be the inspiration of the architecture of the future.

A BICYCLE STORY.

The bicycle tourist is in Yosemite valley this year in great force, three Stanford professors being among the persons who rode in on their wheels. It was not always thus, for the stage-drivers on the Raymond route tell a story of an old-timer who had never seen a bicycle till a few years ago. One day he was down at Wawona, talking to Henry Washburn, when a wheelman hove in sight in the distance. In excitement the old fellow shouted: "Mr. Washburn, Mr. Washburn! There has been another accident on the road! Here comes a man riding on the hind wheels of the stage!"—Oakland (Calif.) Enquirer.