

mencement exercises of the Stevens institute of technology at Hoboken, when out of 40 graduates only a dozen were present to receive their diplomas. This unprecedented condition of things was explained by President Morton on the ground that the demand for graduates to fill business positions this year had been the most urgent in the history of the institute, and that most of the absentees had been induced to leave the institute a week or more before commencement, in order that they might begin their professional duties at once. President Morton further stated that the whole of the 40 graduates could have secured positions at once if they had so desired. There is no gainsaying the significance of such facts as these, and as like conditions will produce like results, it is probable that before many years have elapsed, these young graduates will have risen to positions which are both responsible and remunerative.—National Live Stock Reporter.

"PARKING OUT" HIGHWAYS.

I have read with interest the views you have expressed concerning the proper and best widths for our highways, and your proposition to reduce them from sixty-six feet to thirty-three feet, and sell the marginal tract to the adjacent owners, and thereby create a fund for the constructing and maintaining of a road bed, etc., etc.

I feel a sense of delicacy in presuming to take issue with so able an exponent, and especially when your position is reinforced by the approval of such distinguished writers as Wells, of the Crete Vidette, et al. But to my mind the fathers did a very wise act when they established a sixty-six foot highway.

These roads have never, to my knowledge, proved to be too wide in a bad, snowy, drifting winter; neither have they in a hot summer day. That nearly all the road supervisors locate the gutter lines too far apart, no one will deny, and one of the things we most need is a law requiring that gutter lines shall be laid not to exceed twelve feet from the center of the road, and this done, we have a road between gutters of twenty-four feet, which is all we require. This done, we have twenty-one feet on either side from gutter to present line. Then require the adjoining owner to mow and keep clear of weeds the rod wide adjacent; and give him the use and benefit of this strip, conditioned that he complies with the law. He would very soon discover that it was for his interest to make this strip smooth and set it to grass which he could cut for hay along his lines, and it would inspire all to vie with each other as to who should have the most attractive appearance. Would you not prefer this "parking out" system to the vacat-

ing of this rod wide strip, which could be done, if you prefer (and I think you would) by planting this strip lying on the south and east side of the highway to trees, and offer a premium to the one who excelled in beautifying this strip to best advantage at the end of five years.

To vacate as you propose and require the adjoining land-owner to purchase same would, or might prove a hardship to say nothing about the expense and inconvenience he would be put to by moving his fence or replanting his hedge lines, all of which would needs be done in order to preserve a uniformity of appearance.

It's a better plan to let these old land marks and hedge lines stand as established, and advocate the "parking out" system in connection with your law establishing gutter lines twenty-four feet apart and thirty-three feet road-way. This done and our roads and drives will take on a more attractive appearance and in a way resemble the streets in the residence parts of our most beautiful cities, where the "parking out" system has been introduced and which has proved so popular and attractive to both the resident and transient visitors.

Very truly yours,

E. MCINTYRE.

Seward, Neb., August 4, 1901.

CONAN DOYLE ON SKELETONS.

"I heard Dr. Conan Doyle tell a good story during a trip I made to London last winter. He said that at a dinner party he had attended, the guests began discussing the daily discoveries made to the detriment of people occupying high stations in life and enjoying the confidence of the business world. Dr. Doyle said that it had always been his opinion that there was a skeleton in the closet of every man who had reached the age of 40. This led to a lot of discussion, some of the guests resenting the idea that there was no one who had not in the past something that were better concealed.

"As a result of the controversy, Dr. Doyle said, it was suggested that his views as to family skeletons be put to the test. The diners selected a man of their acquaintance whom all knew only as an upright christian gentleman, whose word was accepted as quickly as his bond, and who stood with the highest in every respect. We wrote a telegram, saying: All is discovered; flee at once, to this pillar of society," said Dr. Doyle, "and sent it. He disappeared the next day and has never been heard from since."

POLITICAL NOTES.

"As regards the manifestations of machine government that are visible to the public, the republican machine of Philadelphia is as defiant of honesty and justice as the democratic machine of

New York," the Pittsburgh Dispatch (Rep.) says: "It may even be a little more so, owing to the knowledge that it has the advantage of having the legislature behind it."

"Those who are trying to lead the democratic party back to rational views on public questions ought not to lead it through the mud," advises the Indianapolis News, (Ind.). "Gormon is a man without convictions and wholly devoid of political morality. It is much to be regretted that he is again in control of the democratic party in Maryland. For his prominence will discredit the organization and weaken the tendency toward sound and clean politics."

The Indianapolis Sentinel (Dem.) tells Mr. Bryan that it is his friend and admirer, and has always believed in him. But it "warns him in all kindness that the rank and file of the democratic party—the boys in the trenches—the men who go to the primaries are tired of the fatuous bourbonism which would link the party to the corpse of an issue which, however vital at one time, has been killed by the logic of events and buried under a thrice-repeated avalanche of popular disapproval."

Orders have gone out from the republican machine headquarters in Philadelphia that if any division leader who holds an office under the city administration does not return a majority for the republican candidates, he will lose his place after election. Ward leaders have imparted the orders to the workers, with the injunction that no excuse will be accepted, with the result, as reported by the Ledger, that place-holders have become panic-stricken in an endeavor to throw the responsibility on each other for the conditions that exist in their divisions.

"If Alabama, South Carolina, Louisiana, and other states of the 'black belt', which really have a negro problem with which to deal do not desire to force congress to act under the fourteenth amendment, they will promptly show in a practical way that they do not countenance so inexcusable an abuse of the patience of the republican party," warns the St. Paul Pioneer Press. "If partisan advantage is to be taken of the leniency of the republican majority, and if Union veterans are to be discriminated against, there is likely to be a sudden end to the arrangement which makes the vote of every southern democrat from four to six times more effective in the electoral college and in congress than is the vote of a northern republican."

"If the business men of the West accept Tillman as a fair type of South Carolinian, which they are, by reason of his political eminence, entitled to do, they are scarcely likely to undertake cultivation of trade with this section or to invest their capital in southern enterprises, holding the fear of lawlessness and savagery which Tillman inculcates," complains the Charlotte (N. C.) Observer (Dem.). "A curious sort of ambassador, indeed, is this wild man who has gone into the West to speak for South Carolina."