"Light of Asia" Just Now is the Burmese Rival of the Standard Oil





RIAM, Burms, 1910 - (Special Correspondence of The Bee.)wriam promises to become the real light of Asia. The Burmans are Buddhists and they worship the prophet whom Edwin Arnold has called the light of the continent. In this awakening of Asia in the twentieth century they want a material rather than a spiritual light, and for that they are looking to Syriam. The place lies on the Iramadi between Rangoon and the sea and it is the site of the refineries of the Burma Oil company.

At present the all trusts of the world are fighting for Asia. Our Standard Oil company has practically monopolized Japan, Rorea and a large part of China-It has its stations on every river and its agents in every large city. The Russian petroleum companies are furnishing the illumination for Siberia and the lands cast and south of the Caspian sea, while the Dutch East Indies, Siam and a large part of China are supplied by the oil fields of Sumatra and Borneo. Down here in Burma the people are using oil from the wells along the Irawadi river. They have monopolized Burma, and are pushing their trade among the millions of India.

Standard Crowded Out.

the far east. All along the west coast of Twinsayo, if a family had no descendants In order to make the most of their time the Pacific the storage tanks of the Stand- it could sell only to other members of the they blindfold their eyes before descendamong the big features of every large port, was decidedly close. and connected with them are great fac- The Yenangyang had their own rules as tories where tin cans are made and the to the digging and sale of the oil. These petroleum is put up for shipment over the continued in force until a little over half steamers at San Francisco and pumped out baw's great predecessor, imreduced the into tanks which hold tens of thousands monopoly system by which the oil was sold of barrels at Shanghal, Tientsin and even to him alone, the same families proat Hankow on the Yangtse Kinng, the lat- ducing it. ter port being 606 miles in the interior of

Here on the Irawadi there are similar pany. I can see at least two score or so n where I am writing. Each tank will hold 1,000,000 gallons of oil, and altogether they contain a supply which could furnish one gallon to every man, woman and child in the United States and leave some to

Burma's Oil Fleet.

The Burma Oil company has its own fleat af tank steamers. These have a capacity of 500,000 gallons each, and are intended for shipping petroleum to other paris of the world. It has also oil barges of 1,000,000 gallons each for bringing the crude being buried.

East Indian Monopoly. Rurma has the third largest oil trust of

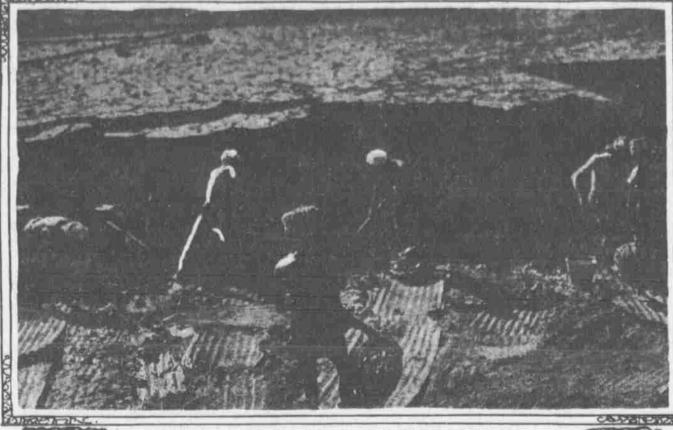
Russia, and after that Burma. The output of the Burmese company is now about for something like \$30,000,000.

of the Standard, and the value equals only piece and then I'll sit down and let you obstinate reply. one-thirtieth that of the United States give a demonstration. The fellow agreed, product. The oil business here, however, and I went on. I hadn't gone far when he furnish the house,' said the old man. 'Son as far as modern methods are concerned, got up again. "S all right," said he, 'you I'm proud of you. I didn't believe such is only in its infancy, and the possibilities win; needn't go no further. "-Cleveland constancy existed." are enormous. It is just twenty-three Leader. years since the first oil wells were drilled, although the people had been using oil gathered in other ways for a generation before. It was along back in 1887 that the at a dinner in New York the difference American system of getting oil was intro- between romanticism and realism in ficduced, and now the fields are spotted with tion: derricks. Americans have been brought "To make my meaning clearer," he in to superintend the sinking of the wells, and seventy such men are now employed

in the earlier stages of the drilling the oil was found at a depth of 500 feet, but recent wells have gone down several thousand feet, and many of those now producing are 1,000 or 2,000 feet deep. There are but few flowing wells and the average capacity is far under that of the United States. We have many wells which yield 100 and more barrels daily. The average well in Burma yields about fourteen bar-

reis, and many less. Since the beginning of the drilling the production has steadily increased. In 1820 production has stone gallons. Eight years hary theatrical landlady is told by J. L. it was only 4,000,000 gallons. Eight years Shine. One Saturday evening he had a later it was 20,000,000, and in 1902 it rose to The following year the output was 20,000,000 more, and in 1908 the oil sages for their Sunday's breakfast. There raised approximated 150,000,000 gallons. On were eight to the pound, but when they is now found on the islands off the coast arrived at the table there were only five. of this country and new fields are being Thereupon the landlady was called in to discovered in the hills of the interior. So account for the missing links. discovered in the nime of the product comes from "Madam," said Mr. Shine severely. "I troubles of the original ancestor: far the most of the property of the wells being sunk gave you eight sausages last night; here "Adam had eaten the elaborate report two parameters after the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer "Adam had eaten the elaborate repart simeon Ford. New York's after timeer t space between. The most of the oil seems other three?" to lie below the margins of the ravines.

World's First Oil Trust. strange to find that the first oil



MINING FOR RUBIES



THE LABOR OF THE OIL MILLS IS EAST INDIANS

quadrupled in the last year or so. The

with a view to finding new oil territory. Where Rubles Come From. Next to coal oil, the biggest monopoly in Burma is in rubles. This country produces the minest of such stones and furnishes the most of the world's supply. The

industry is in the hands of the Burma-Ruby Mines company, which is operating in the Mogak valley, about ninety miles from Mandalay. There is a region there 4,000 feet above the sea, covering from fifty to 100 square miles, which has produced more and better rubles than any other place upon earth. At times it yields as much as \$500,000 worth of rubles a year, and about ten years ago a single stone was found, weighing seventy-seven carats, which sold for more than \$100,000. The fine ruby is more valuable than a that one the color of pigeon's blood, weigh-

diamond of the same weight. It is estimated ing five carats, will sell for ten times the value of a five-carat diamond, and that the price will increase with the size. A ruby which weighed eleven carts was recently sold in England for \$25,000, whereas a diamond that size would not bring more than \$5,000. The largest ruby known is one than come from Tibet. It weighed 2,000 carats, but it was not of the first quality, Some of the best stones of this kind are owned by native Indian rajahs, who conjewels.

The demand for rubles is greatly affected by the times. The panic of 1907 caused a slump in the market. All sorts of precious stones went down and for months the London demand for Burman rubles entirely ceased. The company then curtailed its production by stopping night work, and it

In the Mogok Mines.

I understand the output of the present machinery is now worked by waterpower, rubles the sorting is done by foreigners, and the stones are classified by them. The best go to London, which is the chief ruby market, while those of a lower grade are auctioned off to the local dealers about the mines. The latter are great gamblers, and will run up the prices if they think Among the rubles are found spinels, stones which look much like the true ruby, but which are not. The jewels are tested by a The conductor and director were both exglass through which the ruby shows two different colors if viewed from different directions, whereas the spinel and garnet show but one. The rubles are found in a Dennis Hanks was a nephew of Nancy matrix in the rocks, and also in the clay. Hanks, the mother of Lincoln. He had Connected with them are often sapphires, acquired a crude education before his blue, yellow and green, as well as garnets and spinels.

in Paris, Ill. "I reckoned it would no Next to the ruby, the jade stones of amount to much, but I says, 'Go ahead,' Burma are of great value. They are mined and before long he went ahead and knowed in the northern part of the country and are brought to Bhame, on the Irawadi above Dennis Hanks moved from Kentucky Mandaley, and are there sold to the with Lincoln and the other members of Chinese. The Chinese prize jade almost as the family to Indiana and thence to Illi- highly as pearls, rubies or diamonds. They nois. They settled first in Coles county, look upon the stone as emblematic of most Illinois, afterward in Macon county, where of the virtues, and use it much as we use Miss Nancy Hanks (a daughter of Dennis the term pure gold. A fine girl is a jade books wunst, but I could never do nothin' the beautiful Mrs. Langtry after all. Be. Hanks and a woman of fine degree), was girl, a beautiful hand a jade hand and a tween every course and all through the born. She married in Decatur, Ill., P. L. jade foot is one which is always on time. speeches Tom kept winking and nodding Shoaff, who published and edited the first Nearly every well-to-do Chinese girl has lade earrings and bracelets, and many have While doing local editorial work on the jade hair pins and brooches. In Burma, jade is often used for ear plugs as well as

The jade found in northern Burma is of 'Was that you?' he roared, 'nodding went to Washington, D. C., when Presi- a beautiful green, which is greatly desired. house. Mind you, Dennis was just as the property of a tribe known as the plain and unassuming as his cousin Abe Kachins, and its right to mining it has after a series of forced marches had been for several hundred thousand dollars a year, and in weight it aggregates something like 150 tons. The mining is still done collects the government duty of 1314 per

Mining tade is more like quarrying than Lincoln's watch, which he proudly showed and by Rangoon to China selling for some-

Asia. The petroleum business of Burma trust, but others still compote, working the about 100 square miles. has always been a monopoly. It was in old way. Their oll comes from wells which During my stay at Syriam I have gone the laborers and the scenes outside the permission to build its own tanks at the country, from which most of the petroleum debris out in buckets. mouth of the river. This was refused, still comes. Generations ago these families When the oil strata is reached they wait scattered throughout the United States. and as a result our oil must be shipped had taken possession of the oil fields, and for the well to fill and then raise the here in tin cases. This makes it too costly had so fixed it that no one outside their petroleum in buckets, which are filled by in competition with the native product, and own members could dig for petroleum or men lowered in rope slings to the bottom. it cannot inaugurate the machinery of dis- own an oil well. The families were known There is much gas in the wells and the tribution such as it has in other parts of as Yoya, and their chiefs were called miners can stay below but a few minutes.

The oil is pumped into tank a century ago, when King Mindon, Thi-

Among the Miners.

reach the bottom, thus keeping their eyes the stones and earth which fall upon them from the sides of the shaft. Their product

Burma's Oil Refineries.

The Burmese Oil company has to pay a put in.

BURMA'S BIG REFINERIES AT SYRIAM ON THE IRRAWADDY

existence long before our Pennsylvania are seldom more than 250 feet deep. They through the refineries. The managers plant.

acres or more. They are situated on the banks of the Irawadi, about sixteen miles flows off into the cold pipes. As it strikes women and boys are employed, the chilfrom its mouth. The river is full of silt and it has built up a great sand bank just opposite the landing so that ships cannot

royalty to the government, but it is largely I went through the works with the super- and as thick as an elephant's leg. Such a almost as many departments as the Stand- South Africa. The stones are run over

trust of the world was founded in 9 away did. Some have been bought out by the best of its present oil fields cover only to my photographing the refineries, ale at a shrine will add much to one's chance though he allowed me to take snapshots of of reaching Nirvana.

These people have crowded the Standard oil was discovered, being then in the hands break the rock by dropping a pointed lump claim that they are the largest of the I shall not attempt to describe the pro-Oil company out of their market. It tried of twenty-four families who belonged to of iron, weighing about 150 pounds, upon world, saying that they surpass any owned cesses, except to say that enormous fur. It is nearly all English, although there are sider them among the most beautiful of to come in and asked the government's two villages located in the Yenangyang oil it again and again, and then carrying the by the Standard Oil company, which does naces are kept hot with oil fires and that some Yankee inventions employed. The its business in smaller institutions widely the boilers above them have pipes to catch institution has can-making factories, and the vapor as the oil boils. Refining the oil is run into the cans on the premises. The works here at Syriam cover 100 petroleum is much like distilling whisky. The crude oil is heated to a vapor which gether East Indian. About 6,000 men,

> Wax Candles for Buddha. they can make but little more than fair and carrying it away in baskets on their Buddha. Any one who can burn a candle or more of these tanks, each marked 1,000,- troduced modern methods. Its pumping heads. The deposits of the Irawadi are so before a shrine acquires merit, and the 000 gallons. rapidly filling the bed of the river that bigger the candle the greater the merit. This oil trust has other refineries at and the same power generates and stores jetties similar to those we have at the For this reason, the candles are of all Dunuesdaw, on the opposite bank of the electricity, so that the mills work day and mouth of the Mississippi will probably be sizes, from wax matches to great, round, Irawadi, and it is steadily adding to its night. Much of the machinery is similar tapering cylinders six and a half feet tall works. It makes its own barges and has to that used in the diamond mines of

Machinery and Labor.

The labor of the milis is almost alto-

them this condenses and runs off as pure oil. dren ranging in age from 10 years upward. I saw little Hindus who should have been in school packing candles, carrying heavy In the meantime, the residue is carried loads and doing all sorts of work. They cut the wages of the men from 32 to 24 They are combined families; so that the corporation ing. tearing off the bandages when they come close except at high tide. The silt is from boiler to boiler, until the oil has been labored with all their might, and their might, and their might, and their might, and their might. so great that the little lake, inside the won. A part of what is left is turned into wages were a few cents a day. We rode clared. The times are now better and all in focus for immediate work. They use hats works, used as a water supply, has to be wax, and in the end there is a product about through the works on a trolley car the mines are again working. of palm leaves to protect their heads from dug out to a depth of six or eight feet which is made into a coke superior to that pushed by four Hindus, and before leaving every year. I saw hundreds of coolies ex- from coal. The wax is used chiefly for took a ride on a big automobile in and cavating this now dry lake. They were candles, which are made here in great out among the great tanks where the oil is sold to the trust, and at such rates that taking out dirt which looked like cement, quantities, to be used in the worship of is stored. There are something like forty year will be large. The monopoly has in-

Lincoln and Dennis Hanks.

"Abe was determined to try for some-

thing." Hanks said to the writer one day

counsin Abe had a chance to learn.

more than me."

and just as kind hearted.

A young soldier from Coles county who

Dennis Hanks in relating his experience

mighty soon.' That porter says, 'Well,

whom I seen through the open door in a

tanks, but they belong to the British and I understand that many of those families protected by the administration and there intendent, a Scotchman named Bishop. I candle brings about \$10, or 30 rupees. It and I understand that the oil prices are pulsators, which separate the heavier are the property of the Burms Ou com- are still taking out oil as their forefathers is little chance for outside competition. The had my camera with me, but he objected will burn fifteen hours, and if consumed rising and that the value of the field has gravel from the lighter. In taking out the hoice Selections from the Story Teller's Pack

Demanding an impossible.

triumphant. The conversation veered round

them receits begun in the same way with

cookery books.-Dundee Advertiser.

inch of ground in that continent.

Putting It Clearly.

Lord Hardwicke spent ten of his early

from state politics to cooking.

What was the hitch?"

manded.

of New York recently told this

story in a speech: "I was up in Rockland county petroleum down the Irawadi from the na. hotel. All the farmers were there and all politics. tive oil fields up country. These are sit- the village children. I was asked to make Syriam. The pipes are already as far as you for the toastmaster to ask me to He instanced the case of a Groton lad. Rangoon, and within a few months they speak. I am notorious as the worst public At first the pipes were laid on the surface reputation extends from one end of the of the ground, but they were affected by state to the other. I have no rival whatthe changes of temperature, and are now ever when it comes-' I was interrupted

" 'Gentlemen,' said he, 'I take 'ception to Rurma has the third largest oil trust of the world. The Standard comes first, then what this here man says. He ain't the home to Groton. worst public speaker in the state. I am. You all know it, an' I want it made a mat- he said. 150,000,000 gallons per annum and it sells ter of record that I took 'ception.' 'Well, my friend, saly I, suppose we leave it to want to marry? the old man shouted. This is only one-eightieth of the output guests. You sit down while I say my

A Big Contract. Winston Churchill, the novelist, described

ended. "I will take the case of a young man and girl-sweethearts. The young man, a romanticist said pussionately to the girl.

purpose to surround you with every comfort, and to anticipate and grant your every wish," The girl, a realist, smiled faintly as

she answered: " Oh, Jack, how good of you; and all on \$3 a week, too," "-Success.

Remarkable Shrinkage. A good story of a specimen of the ordinary theatrical landlady is told by J. L. fellow actor purchased a pound of sau- one of the two."-Boston Transcrips.

The lady of the house smiled an inno-

do shgink in cooking." Which information seasoning of the fish and entree, and finally do 1, unlike poor Tom Angus, have gained more modestly than the man in the blue a stone may have a valuable center. SSEMBLYMAN John C. Hackett had to suffice.-Dundee Advertiser.

Change Docan't Altar.

last summer and there was a lawyer, "was praising the other day the lettuce. banquet given at a country change for the better that had come over

"Changes," he said smilling, "always uated about 270 miles in the interior, and a speech. 'Now,' said I, with the usual occurred with the passage of time, but too back yard,' she replied sweetly. pipe lines are now being laid from them to apologetic manner. It is not fair to often they were changes for the worse. "This lad, from New York, where he will be running into the refineries here. speaker in the state of New York. My was working, sent word to his father that he wanted to get married. But his father ters."-Newark Star, sent word back that he was too young to marry. He must wait a year, If, however, by a lanky Ill-clad individual, who had end, he might then marry and welcome, he was still of the same mind at the year's and the old man would furnish the house. "Ah the year's end the son came back

> 'I guess I'll get married now, father, "You don't really, after a whole year

"'Yes, I do. I certainly do,' was the "Well, marry you shall, then, and I'll

'Thanks, father,' said the youth. 'But I forgot to tell you that it isn't the same got no further."

girl."-Rochester Herald. Cooling Off a Prize Winner.

Another sample of the late Dr. William of human beings as displayed by authors of Everett's caustic repartee: "I always experienced a sense of deep obligation to you whenever I meet you or

hear of you," said George Babbitt to Dr Everett one morning when they found years in America engaged in mining engithemselves pacing the deck of an ocean heering. As a fact, he knows almost every "Darling, it shall be my life's one steamer together. "Why no?" piped the doctor "Because," said Mr. Babbitt, "I recall ful yarn of how he once chanced upon a Mr. Armour had an opportunity to give at the White house said: "I went up there that I was once so fortunate as to win the resident of a sleepy hamlet down south. Boylston prize for oratory at Harvard, and

you were chairman of the board of judges." remember it perfectly well," rejoined the brusque doctor. "The judges were five in number. At the conclusion of the speaking we retired to consider the merits of the constetants. It was moved that you be awarded a first prize. On the motion the vote was three to two in you favor. I was

The Troubles of Adam.

Rev. Dr. Charles Townsend of Orange was one of the speakers at the Park Pres. was born, or was you born before you was byterian Church Mea's club banquet re- livin' here? Now tell him."-M. A. P. cently and told this story of one of the

dication that he relimbed every morael.

He complimented her upon the dainty

What's that?" "Native-native of this place?" At this moment there appeared at the open door of the cabin the man's wife. Closely surveying Lord Hardwicke, she observed: "Ain't you got no sense, Bill? He means was you livin' hers when you

The question was repeated.

languidly.

A Tragedy of Whiskers.

whiskers: "I have shaved off my whiskers and it cont smile, mingled with pity, and replied: manner in which the bluepoints were makes me look younger. People now eye "Well, you see, sir, sausages always served, the flavor of the pures of pea, the me more appreciatively than they used to

reached a delicious salad. Adam paused, by this facial chance, and with a worried look on his face he "Tom Angus was an architect of Tomb-"Who are you?" was asked the director demanded of Eve where she found the in- stone. When they expected Mrs. Langtry "Armour is my name," he answered. "Senator Ben Conger," said an Albany stedients. She enumerated all except the in Tombstone Tom was appointed to decorate the railway station and the streets, cused.

> and after the the mayor had congratulated Why, they were lying on a bush in the him, he said: Well, Mr. Mayor, since you like my 'Well, those were my best Sunday work introduce me to Mrs. Langtry at the trousers,' sobbed Adam, adding, 'Ah, woe banquet, will you?' is man,' which was corrupted into 'woman,'

"'Where did you get those leaves?' he He did so, and he made a good job of it,

" 'Sure I will,' said the mayor, 'but you the term by which we know Eve's daugh- must knock that spinach off your chin first, Mrs. Langtry is a tady and she could never stand for a rusty alfalfa field like yours." 'But,' stammered Tom, 'but, Mr. Mayor, Two old settlers sat smoking in their the king-

cabin, far away in the backwoods. No "'Cut down the alfalfa crop,' the mayor woman's hand had ever desecrated that interrupted, and I'll introduce you. Vice sanctum, and grime reigned supreme and versa,' he added, very decidedly, 'So Tom removed his rich whiskers, and that night among the banqueters his white,

'Yaas,' said the elder of the two, with nude chin was a conspicuous object. a drawl: "I did get one o' them there cook "But the mayor didn't introduce him to "How was that?" inquired the other. to his honor, but it was to no purpose. He newspaper in that town,

"Wani," was the answer, "every one o' didn't get introduced. "And the next day, after Mrs. Langtry Gazette the writer and old man Hanks, the same words. Every one of 'em started was gone, the mayor, when Tom reproached as we called him, had frequent chais, and for rings and other jewelry. off with, take a clean dish'-and I never him, gave a loud laugh. And he slowly replaced his old black clay and winking all last night? By Jove, I dent Abraham Lincoln occupied the White The stone has always been regarded as pipe in his mouth and fell to ruminating didn't recognized you. Tem, without your

sadly on the narrow outlook of the world whiskers!" "-Philadelphia Record. Practises As He Preaches.

Charles W. Armour, the millionaire placed on picket duty in the presence of pucker, practices what he preaches. He the enemy fell asleep. Dennia Hanks has made it a rule that none of his thou- was sent on to Washington to intercede by natives, but it is under a lessee, who sands of employes shall excuse themselves for the young soldier, who had been courtfrom jury service on the plea that work martialled and sentenced to be shot, Of these days his lordship telis a delight. Interferes.

his men a practical lesson in good citizen- to see Abe and a porter at the door said. 'Are you a native of this place?" asked ship. He was called to serve on a jury in 'What do you want?' I says, 'I want to Lord Hardwicke, striking up a conversa- the circuit court of Kansas City. On mon- see Abe Lincoln.' 'Have you a card?' he day mothing at 8:80 o'clock, fifteen minutes says to me. I says, 'No, man, I ain't got "Am I what?" exclaimed the other before veriremen are required to report, he no card. I want to see Abs Lincoln presented himself at the jurymen's waiting particular business and I want to see him in open quarries. The stones here are of

> Every day during the week he did not fall to report. He was never late and never once asked to be excused. Though his yearly income equals a king's ransom, for the sum of \$2 a day he spent the week working for Jackson county.

Mr. Armour was called to serve in a Metropolitan damage suit to be tried in Abe was cousins and old friends." Judge W. O. Thomas' division of the circuit

lawyer for the plaintiff. Two hands went up.

"I am a conductor," said one. "I am a director," said another, even News,

when he told this true story.-Indianophia thing like \$200,000

in one of these chats Dennis told why he

never been called in question by the native kings. The amount now produced sells cent on all taken out.

How Jude is Quarried.

anything else. Some of the stones, and often the best, are obtained as pebbles, but there are mines where the jade rock lies different grades, varying in quality. Some you will have to wait.' Just then Abe, of the smaller pieces are worth their weight in gold, and little bits fit for a ring back room writin' at a desk looked up setting will sell in China for \$160 or more. and seen me and says, 'Why, hello, Dennis, On the other hand, there are enormous how are you? Come right in. Then you blocks worth nothing and tons which canought to seen that porter git away from not be worked by the poor cools of the that door. I don't believe he meant no natives. The mining is exceedingly primiharm, but he did not know that me and tive. The rocks are cracked by be fires upon them. They are then broken Dennis Hanks received a pardon for the spart by crowbars and wedges and shaped Coles county young soldler (though Abe up with hammers into the siges fit for Simeon Ford. New York's after-dinner "Are any of you in any way connected Lincoln had the soldier boy come to Wash- transportation. The average export value royally sutertained and presented with Abs which is annually shipped down the Irawadi

FRANK G. CARPENTER.