MYNHEER JOE.

BY ST. GEORGE RATHBORNE. ******

CHAPTER XIII.

[Continuon.]
The two boats seem to be about the point of speed, as they conwe to seep the same relative dis-ace apart. Perhaps, in a genuine a, with a wind like this, their craft gain the advantage by "blanket-" the other and cutting off her supof wind, but this will not pay unpresent conditions.

Although Joe has made the condirty he really leaves the selection of ground to his rival, having only lated that it shall be among the Affie that He above Cairo.

Sandy and Mr. Grimes stand to other near the bow of the vessel, lisning to the music of the water as her prow cuts through the tide of the Mile like a knife, curling the foamy suds on either side and hurling them back in rolls.

Both of them are duly impressed with all their romantic surroundings, and the war correspondent is jotting down ideas in his mind that will be called upon to supply space in some forthcoming article. At the same time \$4 is evident be has something worrying him. .

Mr. Grimes is quick to notice such things, as he has made a business of reading taces. "What's wrong, Bandy?" he asks ab-

ruptly, as he removes his cigar to flip the ashes from the end with his dex-Remous little finger. "Who said so? How did you know?

Hang it, Mr. Grimes, you read men as would books. You may have buried yourself out in Colorado-you took good care to study human nature."

"Then you confess you are bothered, my, boy?" continued the other, stead-

"Well, yes, I've been wondering. Top see, we know this baron is a sly "Admitted."

"And not to be trusted out of sight." Ordinarily I should not dare to put my life in his charge. You're right,

"Well, we've let him select the spot For the affair. How can we tell but what he may spring some shrewd game on us. Can you promise that ander dahabeah has not half a dozen hired assassins on board, ready to anmihilate us in case the baron feels the

Mr. Grimes laughs, and there is reassurance in his manner that speaks For Itself.

"Sandy give over worrying. I be-Meve the strongest proof we can have that the baron means no treachery is his astonishing confidence in himself, He has fought duels before and believes himself invincible. Hence it seems a pichic, a walk-over to him." "Very true, very true, sir, but you

must admit there is a chance that-"Always 'that,' my boy, but you also Sorget something of interest - our-"What are we here for?" as a member from the South asked in a Republican convention. If Joe can take care of the baron, surely we will be able to look after his friends, be

"Well spoken, Mr. Grimes. My mind is already clear on that point. I believe we will come out of this thing with flying colors. My trouble has wanished even as the smoke of this eight fades into space."

Sandy is himself again, and that means a cheery friend, a faithful comrade, one whom Mynheer Joe could not better were he to search the globe

As the daylight grows stronger the moon wanes in power; it is no longer a strife between the two as to which must win, for Luna is already out of the battle.

Cairo is left far behind upon the east bank and, looking back, they can see the first shafts of sunlight glinting from her numerous domes, although the mighty god of day has not yet shown his smiling face to those upon the Hiver Nile.

It is a strange spectacle, and one that appeals to the artistic in their matures, but all of them are very famillar with the scene, so that the desert, the pyramids, the city of the four hundred mosques, its queer people and the storied Nile itself—all these things do not appear so strange to their eyes as would be the case were they newcomers to the land of Egypt.

Besides, their mission is of such a nature that their thoughts are bound to stray to it from time to time-when men are bent on an errand of a deadly character they are not expected to taugh and joke as if going to a wed-

"Come back to the cabin, Sandy. I think we would be wise to examine our firearms. Nothing like making sure that everything is in working order. These hyenas and jackals of the Sesert strike with amazing quickness when they do show up. Come!"

His words are significant, and his sompanion has no difficulty in understanding. Together they pass the sailers squatted about on the forward Seck, after their usual manner when ot at work. These fellows are arabs, and not the best-looking chaps Mr. Grimes has set eyes on. He gives sandy a nudge, but this wideawake sewspaper man has already noted the

"Fine collection of buzzards, ent Must say the captain has looked far and wide to find a game set. They'd fight, too, I reckon," he whispers.

They find Mynheer Joe lying upon the roof of the cabin, a pillow under his head, which the captain of the boat has brought out, and to all appearauces enjoying his cigar.

Together they enter the cabin. Upon the table is seen a quaint flagon and a glass. Mynheer Joe moves toward , but he finds the hand of Mr. Grimes

"Not allowed, my friend. Heaven knows what sort of drug there might

be in this. If you must steady your nerves And he produces a small flask from one of his pockets. But Joe shakes his head.

"That isn't in my line, sir, though I thank you all the same. I've seldom found a time when my nerves needed strengthening by such artificial means. though I confess that my life was unce saved by a small amount of liquor. The fellow drank it who was left to execute me, and got into such a mandlin condition that I easily overpowered him and made my escape. Except as medicine I have no use for the stuff."

A minute later all of them are busily engaged in examining their revolvers, which are found to be in good condition.

"Take charge of mine, Mr. Grimes," remarks Joe, who, of course, cannot be thus burdened when about to enter upon an engagement that will require all his agility.

"With pleasure, sir, and should the occasion arise for using it, I trust you will find that I can make each shot count almost as well as yourself. By the way. Joe, you didn't forget to bring the rubber footholds I borrowed from the professor?"

"Never fear; I have them. The baron will not get his work in through a slip on my part, if I can belp it," returns Joe, touching a pocket of his blouse, where a small package of some sort is hidden.

Presently they pass outside again to find that the sun has arisen and a new day begun. They keep a short distance from the shore in order to catch the full benefit c: the breeze, but every palm stands out in bold relief.

The scene is such as can be gazed upon any day along the lower Nile, and yet one never tires of looking upon it. Numerous sails dot the broad river, some beating down, while many fly before the breeze. A string of camels forming a caravan can be noticed above the bank, doubtless bound for the far-off cities, between which and Cairo quite a trade is carried on

in this way. Here some travelers on dunkeys can be seen, making an early start for the pyramids. Now and then slaves are discovered at work with the poles and buckets known as a shedoof, and which primitive method of engineering in the way of lifting water from a lower level is still practiced in the land where they carry on agriculture just as their forefathers did two thousand years back.

An occasional windmill is seen where some house nestles on the bank, but this is generally the property of foreigners. Upon the river freight canglas are met with, heading to or from Cairo. Those boats which have the fair wind are supposed to keep out of the way of others, but the reis in command of their craft seems to be in something of a daredevel spirit this morning. He swings the dahabeah in so close to one of the heavier craft that he comes within an ace of having the sandal trailing behind sunk.

The sun is now almost half an hour When will the boats come to land? Surely there is no need of traveling a great distance from old Cairo in order to discover a good dueling

Perhaps the baron has a particular spot in view. He may even have been a principal in some affair of honor that has culminated in a meeting up the Nile, and his success at that time inspires him to select the same rendezvous again.

Our friends show no impatience whatever they may feel. Sandy, looking ahead, directs the attention of his

comrades to a point. "Like as not we're atming for that. can see rows of tombs in the rocks back of it. Such a place would make an admirable spot for the duello. Remember the old stories I've read of steamers on the Mississippi stopping to let a couple of passengers fight on some sand-bar, and the spectators burying one of 'em there. This puts me in mind of it. Where could you find a better place to dispose of the unfortunate victim than in one of those empty rock tombs? Capital idea! Jove; I'll improve on this sulject when I write it up, see if I don't?" Sandy gets no further, as he feels a grip on his arm, and, turning, sees Mr. Grimes making expressive grimsees intended to warn I m that he is treading on dangerous ground. Myn-

all affected, but treats the matter as a auge joke. "I think, for my part, I prefer being ouried in a modern cemetery, and I authorise you, my friends, in case the worst comes, to see that my poor remains are taken care of. In my pocket will be found a letter addressed to cou. Mr. Grimes, concerning the little natter we were speaking about last aight. You can let the person most interested see it. There-I am done. have made my peace, but I want ooth of you to understand that it is not Mynheer Joe's intention to drop before the sworu of the Russian. I hope to snow him how an American can uphold the honor of his flag even

peer Joe, however, does not seem at

at the sword's point." Confident words, these, but they express the feelings of the man. It is young men woo their wives absolutely partly this assurance concerning his without words, but to the sound of own powers that has brought Mynheer Joe safely through numerous deadly perils in the past.

Fear will never paralyze his arm when face to face with danger, not can an antagonist expect to reap any playing his favorite instrument. As benefit from such a source.

By this time they see that Sandy was not far out of the way when he marked this point as the scene of their expected debarkation. The leading dahabeah makes a graceful sweep and comes about at the point, landing at a rock that seems especially adapt-

ad for such business. Now it is their turn; the old reis

Not an inch out of the way, they ade the wind out of the balls, and the boat brings up gently alongside the other, to which it it at once se-The baron and his party can al-ready be seen upon the swore. Under his arm the Frenchman carries a long, slender package, without doubt the swords which are destined to occupy so prominent a place in the coming event. There is a third member of the party, the man snown as Colonel Tay-

carries a surgeon's case in his hand. When our friends join them words are passed between. The principals how in a perfunctory way, but Mynheer Joe smiles in a careless manner

lor, and also a short individual who

that must set the Russian duelist to

thinking. They do not need to go far away: the ground is right there among the rock tombs, but it is advisable to move on a little for several reasons. It is not their intention to have the sailors on board the boats witness the affair. and just beyond the rocks they are apt to find a spot where the sun will not throw his fierce rays into the eyes of either, causing a momentary blindness that may prove fatal. So they walkalong two and two, Mr. Grimes bringing up the rear.

In five minutes they come to a pause, and the French officer sweeps his arm around with a dramatic gesture, say-

"Behold, gentlemen! The ground selected for the duello!"

CHAPTER XIV.

A LITTLE ARPAIR AMONG THE MORESTAN HILLS.

No one can reasonably offer any objection to the selection of the ground, since it is level enough for all practical purposes, and certainly so isolated that there does not seem to be any danger of interruption. The association with the strange tombs hewn in solid rock ages ago, by the Egyptians, might make some men nervous, but it does not appear to have any such effect upon either of the two who have met here to face each other in a combat for honor.

Mr. Grimes, in company with the French officer, goes over the ground step by step and announces that he is perfectly satisfied with the location chosen. It certainly cannot be improved upon, and might not be equaled,

so they are well content as it is. "Now for the weapons," says the American, whose business-like methods cause the other to suppose he has figured in duels before.

The French officer has heard of desperate affrays bappening in the South and the West. How is he to know that the participators in these scrimmages ste, as a general thing, the very lowest scum of society, and that Southern gentlemen, as a rule, have given up their former allgiance to the code as a settler for all difficulties?

Picking up the package, he unrolls it. Within, wrapped in chumois skin, lie two handsomely made swords, of delicate but magnificent appearance. These be draws from their separate scabbards and holds toward the Amer-

"Select which one you please," be says, quietly. Mr. Grimes crooks his finger, and when Joe, who is watching, sees this,

he comes at once to the side of his "Try these blades," says his second. curtly.

The explorer takes one up, and makes a few movements with it. "Careful, the baron's looking at you," whispers his mentor just then,

and Joe sweeps the air no more with the blade. He bends it double over his knee, allowing it to fly back again. Then the second sword is also put through its paces. Mynheer Joe's face is a study, for he finds it a pleasure to

handle such weapons as these. "How does monsicur find them?" asks the Frenchman, cagerly. "Superb-beyond comparison!"

plies Joe. "Which do you choose, monsieur?" [To be Continued.]

Big Coal Fields. There are 5400 square miles of coal fields in Great Britain.

Kate Sanborn Queries. After speaking of vast piles of de-

caying carcasses of the berons, slain for their plumes and the thousands of young birds left to starve, all for the sake of securing the plumes for women's hats, Mr. Scott says: "I wish clearly to emphasize the fact that I do not blame the women who use these decorations, for men are the responsible parties. No woman ever wore a decoration of any kind, much less the feather of a bird, for her own pleasure, or to attract the attention of other women. The object for which women wear decorations is to en hance their attractiveness and beauty to men, not to themselves, or to each other. And as long as men care to have women's hats decorated with feathers and express their approval by admiration bestower just so long will the custom endure."

Does Mr. Scott know women as well as he does birds?—From her arti 'e in National Magazine.

Wooing Done by Muste. Among the Yao Midos, one or the

many Burmese-Tartar people, the music. On the first day of winter they have a great feast, at which all the marriageable girls gather and listen to the music made by the bachelors, who sit under the "desire tree," each the maiden he loves passes him the youth plays louder and more feelingly. If the girl ignores him and passes on he knows that she will have none of him; if she steps up to him and lays a flower upon the instrument he jumps up, grasps her by the hand, taking care not to drop the flower, and they go away together.

harder Parketter There is one thing that must not be overlooked in the beeping of poultry, and that is that if there are a dozen hene in a yard all may not be strong and in the most favorable condition for producing young. There are twelve different individuals to study, twelve different shapes, sisse, capacities, preferences, peculiarities and twelve methods to learn in management. Though apparently alike, some hens will produce vigorous effspring, while others will not. Nearly all failures may be traced back to the parent stock, for they are the foundations Won which everything resta.

The Temple On Tomato plants should be transplanted once or twice before being set in the field. The safe rule for setting along the latitude of Boston is in June. Deep soil, thoroughly worked and liberally manured, will suit tomatoes. Cultivation should be thorough and no weeds allowed to grow. Some kinds need the support of a trellis or a mulch of straw to keep the fruit off the ground and prevent rotting, but the stocky kinds, like Dwarf Champion, need no support. When trans-

The Poultry Yard.

The above illustration gives a crear idea of a cheap and comfortable coop for the brood of chicks, just hatched. Lathes serve the purpose well for the coop, and the roosting box may be made of any convenient material. The principal points to consider are



COOP FOR CHICKS.

warmth and quiet, and as thus arranged, both can be had ensily. After the first few days the chick will run out through the slats, though the hen cannot. The coop should be moved around every few days, so that the ground may not become soiled. During the early, wet months the coop should be placed under a shed, where it is dry, but later always out under the shade trees.

Lightweight Animals. As a factor incidental to the demands of the market for lightweight animals. lows Homestead mentions that young animals may be finished at a much lower cost per 100 pounds than older ones. For example, a steer finished at the age of twenty-four months or thereabout, is much more profitable to his owner than if carried six months or a year longer. The same is a hog weigh close to 300 pounds in profit than if the hogs are carried six months longer.

Corn as Fodder. sown in the row, with rows four feet plish the same end as if the swarm had Buch fodder should never be stacked colony with a laying queen. in the fields, as its quality will be injured by exposure to sun and rains, stand and a super of section boxes be duenced by the period of growth at contains all the field bees, and has no contain a large proportion of water, to store a good quantity of honey in and if cut too late it will lose its the sections. succulency. Experiments indicate ere in the "milky stage," and just beginning to blaze.

Care of Colt's Teeth. Many of the more common digestive troubles of the horse are directly trace- on the bottom of the combs. able to some imperfection of the teeth. Neglect of these often leads to imperfect mastication, impoverished condition, irritability, digestive disturbances and eye derangements. When dentition goes on regularly the colt gets sixteen new teeth, eight in each jaw, between its second and third years. Therefore, the mouth thould be often and carefully examined at this period, and all irregularities adjusted. If the colt's system seems to be in a languid condition, this will retard dentition and should be remeoats.-Prairie Farmer.

Large Flocks. It requires plenty of capital to enter largely into the poultry business, but when the start is made with a few the capital increases every year through the increase of the flock. When a small flock is kept, there is no expense charged for labor, but the item of labor is the most costly of all when large flocks are managed. No one can enter the poultry business and make a success of the venture who delegates the important duties to another. There are too many risks to incur. The successful man must begin at the bottom, and as the business grows he must grow with it, by having a thorough knowledge of all detail. which he may gain by being in daily contact through the several years of work and observation.

Transplanting. Young plants should not be moved until the seed leaves give place to the true leaves, which is usually when the plant is about two inches high. They

vance and the rows marked. One mea goes shead and distributes the plants and another follows and sets them, pressing down the sell firmly upon the goots. If the plants are rather large, the poil dry and no rain falling, the leaves of the young plants should be clipped back about one-haif.

Feeding Corn to Host While the majority of farmers whe have a range for their bogs during the summer cut off the corn supply almost entirely, it is questionable if this is the best plan. On the other hand, it will not do to feed corn entirely. In feeding corn to pigs the best results come when given to them once a day, or if they have skim milk or middlings once

Gluten meal may take the place of the middlings if desired; it will do quite as much good and is cheaper. There is no question about the value of corn at the fattening period, but mistakes are sometimes made here in feeding the hog too long; that is, after t has reached about the top notch for market. Corn fed beyond that period is simply wasted.

a day.

Marks of a Good Cow.

While there are many fine points in the makeup of a good dairy cow which are not mentioned here, says the Indianapolis News, the following may be considered as being the points most easily distinguishable and which, if they exist in a cow, are probably assoplanted, the tomatoes should be at ciated with the other good points not least two inches high, but should not so readily seen. A good dairy cow be so far forward as to be he blosshould have a broad mouth, thin lips; broad, open nostrils, space short from nose to eyes, but broad between the eyes; large eyes and long from eyes to horn and narrow between horns; a good, round, full barrel, large teats and loose skin on the udder. These points in a cow indicate an animal of good disposition with sound organs, good nerves and a capacity for turning the food given her into good, rich milk. Look over the herd and see how they average up to this description.

> Feeding Sows and Pigs.
> While there are many honest differences of opinion as to whether the pig should be fed while sucking, those who have tried both ways are inclined to believe that the pigs may be fed as cheaply through the sow as from the feed trough. If this plan is attempted, however, common sense must be used, and the sow given enough to supply the pigs as well as to keep her own vitality in the best possible condition. If she is expected to nourish the pige and herself as well on the ordinary quantity given her when she has no young, the result will be runty pigs,

and a broken down mother. It may be stated without dispute that the sow who is worn out and useless for breeding purposes when three or four years old is the victim of improper feeding when with young. If you are not inclined to feed the sow with the young liberally then the sooner the pigs are introduced to the trough, the better for them and their mother.

The Busy Bee

If the bees swarm out more ta once, and continue to swarm out and also decidedly true in the case of hogs. go back, and repeat this performance Men are realizing that they can make for a day or two, the probabilities are that the queen is unable to fly. Durnine months, and that this being true, ing this period the bees are only wastthey are able to sell it at a greater ing their time and gathering little or no honey.

We suggest swarming them artific fally at once, by shaking nearly all the bees and the queen from the combs Fut in a good crop of fodder corn, into an empty hive. This will accomapart, so as to cultivate it. Do not cut clustered on a tree and then been carthe fodder until the cars begin to glaze, ried to the hive. You will, no doubt, when it may be put in a silo or cut find several queen cells in the combs lown, cured and stored in the barn. of brood, which will aurnish the new

The swarm should occupy the old The value of fodder is greatly in placed on the hive. Since the swarm which it is cut. If cut too soon it will brood to care for at the start, it is able

If you wish to know if a colony is that the proper time is when the ears preparing to swarm, by building queen cells, or if you wish to cut out cells from a colony that has swarmed. instead of taking out each frame, set the hive up on end, and kneel down in front of it. Most of the cells are

A Bandy Fire Pot.

Next to having an old stove in an old our building for the purpose of heating water or cooking food, the fire pot shown in the illustration is the best thing of the kind that can be put in operation at small expense. Don't bother your wife by using the kitchen stove to heat water, but have a fireplace of your own. Obtain three heavy poles, set them as shown and bind together at the top with a bolt. To the fied by extra feeding, especially of middle pole fasten, with a bolt, an old clevis, to which the chains holding



FIRE POT ARRANGEMENT.

the pot can be hooked. To accomplish this easily have the hooks of good size with long necks, so that they are not likely to slip off.

These poles may be erected for permanent use, or they may be set up and when not in use taken down, folded up, the pot detached and the whole thing taken away. To obtain the best should be then moved where they will results a firebox should be built of have more room without crowding. bricks. It need not be more than eight They should be given air enough to or nine inches square, but the size is secure a moderate stocky growth. governed by the size of the pot used. Transplant to the field after the weath. The advantage of this firebox is that er becomes settled, and in the case of the fire may be more readily built in it tender plants, when there is no dan- than, on the open ground; it may be ger of frost. Cloudy or rainy weather kept together and the heat will be is preferred when transplanting. The thrown up directly under the pot. Try



PLANT LICE.

Many plants are subject to attacks of green lice. This is especially true of cabbage, kale, Brussels sprouts and other members of this family. Kerosene emulsion is an exectiv remedy when it can be used.

ALWAYS A CAUSE.

The growing of trees, whether fo. fruit or shade, is an important matter. and the trees deserve a rich soil and care and fertilizer. If a tree dies or becomes diseased there is a cause which should be discovered, and some remedy applied.—Home and Farme

ASHES FOR ORCHARD. One of the difficulties in buying woo. ashes, either for use in the orchard of on the meadows, is that so much is or the market that is far from pure, it is not safe to buy them in large quanti ties without first having an analysis of

their potash coutents. If one can be assure 1 of their value in that respect it is safe to go shead. but even then wood ashes are expen sive for orchard fertilizing. An excel lent fertilizer for the orchard is composed of 300 pounds of fine ground bone, 150 pounds of muriate of potest and fifty pounds of nitrate of soils using the quantity named on an acre This combines the essential plant foods in the proper pronortions needed by the average orchard set on fairly good

GRASS POISONING TREES.

Horticulturists and fruit-growers have long known that grasses are injurious to young apple trees, but if seems that they were wrong in attributing the injury to interference with the air, the water and the food supply of the trees. Carefully-conducted experiments and observations at the Woodburn experimental fruit farm, in England, have shown, how ever, that there is some direct or in direct product of grass growth that has an active poisonous effect on the roots of the trees. It is also suggested that the so-called exhaustion of the soil by certain plants preventing the subsequent growth of other plants ir the same ground, may be due really to some poisonous product left by the first plants. This report comes from ine Duke of Bedford and Mr. Spene-Pickering.

CATALPA TREES VALUABLE.

Much has been written regarding the need of renewing the forests of this country and the auggestion made that farmers might help along this good work by setting several acres in some good forest tree. While it is generally best to set trees . some class native to the soil, the catalpa is becoming popular for general planting be cause of its hardiness and rather quick growth. Mistakes have been made, however, in setting the wrong variety, for it was been demonstrated that catalpa speciosa is easily propagated, is hardy, grows straight and the wood is much more valuable than catalpa bignonoides, of which so many trees have been set and proved disap-

pointing. Catalpas may be readily grown from seed and transplanted when about two years old, when they should be set in rows eight feet apart and not less than four feet apart in the row. Farmers can not hand down to posterity any better legacy than a wood lot of liberal size and they may do it so singli expense.

MEASURING A TREE.

The woodcutter of New England has a very ingenious way of measuring the height of a tree. He cuts a stick that, when placed upright before him, will reach exactly the centre of his eyes. Then he lies down on the ground at such a distance from the tree that the top of the stick, when placed upright against the soles of his feet, will be in line with his eyes and the top of the tree.

In other words, he forms a right. angled triangle, of which his extended body, from his eyes to the sole of his feet, is the base, the upright stick the altitude and the distance from his eyes to the top of the stick the hypothenuse. There must be, therefore, a similar



distance from his eyes to the base of the tree, fro " his eyes to the top of the tree, and of the height of the tree itself. As the base and the altitude of this triangle are equal, it follows that the height of the tree is the same as the distance from his eyes to Its base.

This homely but perfectly satisfactory method is sometimes used to determine the height of a factory smokestack, when, for instance, it becomes necessary to make certain alterations to secure greater or less draught, the dimensions of the stack being an important factor in such a case. Of course the architect's plans would give the information, but they are not always accessible.

Brazil's Population.

The population of Brazil is 16,000. 000, of which 1,500,000 are Italians, 1,000,000 Portuguese, 250,000 Germans, 4000 English, 400 Americans, and about 20,000 of various other nationalities. The average number of immigrants is about 3000 a year, the Italians predominating; the German immigration is about 200 a year.

street Arab, is in use in Chicago



Quoted Approvingly.

The Omaha Bee quotes approvingly Senator Latimer's statement that "The Government must stimulate and aid the people in the work. It is the history of road development in every country," but adds: "It is unlikely that there will be any action taken in the matter by the present Congress, or at any rate at this session; but if the agricultural interests of the country earnestly espouse the public roads cause it will certainly in time receive from . Congress the consideration to which its obvious importance entitles it." The Tacoma News estimates that the passage of the Brownlow bill would result in the construction of between 6000 and 7500 miles of splendid roads, and the News thinks that there should be no need for argument in favor of the measure since its merits are so plain and the need for better roads so great. "While the United States has more miles of railway than all the other countries of the globe combined, it is a lamentable fact that we have the poorest wagon roads of any civilised country. The Federal Govern-ment has aided the construction of trans-continental railroads, and has expended hundreds of millions of dollars in river and harbor improvements. but has done nothing to aid the improvement of roads. It is justly argued that the Federal Government may now fairly lend its aid to the Commonwealths in the improvement . of wagon roads throughout . " Thited

The Principle the Same.

The fundamental principle on which the State aid plan rests is that the public highways are for the use and benefit of the whole people, and that all should, therefore, share in the cost of their improvement. From State aid to National aid is but a single step. Both embody the same principle. It is an interesting fact that the people of the States where State aid laws are in force are enthusiastically in favor of taking "Uncle Sam" into the general scheme of co-operation. The State Highway Commissioners of New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Vermont are outspoken advocates of National aid, and the New York Legislature has memorialized Congress to enact the Brownlow bill. If National gid would accomplish for the whole country what State aid is doing where adopted it certain's c serves serious consideration.

Miles is For Good Roads.

At the second session of the National and International Good Roads Convention, in St. Louis, the principal speaker was General Nelson A. Miles, who declared himself to be thoroughly in sympathy with the movement for better roads. He recommended that 5000 men in the army be used in times of peace as an engineering corps to locate the best and most feasible roads and co-operate with the survey. ors of various States. He said that the Government would be vastly benefited by such a plan when it became necessary to use such roads. The preliminary work of surveying could be done by the army, he said, and the work then left to the State to be carried to completion. General Miles said he would have introduced in

gress a resolution or bill to this effect. Auto Puture Seen by Mr. Post. A broad, well paved highway across the continent is foreseen by Augustus Post, of New York, President of the American Automobile Association. At a luncheon given in his honor by John Farson, at the Chicago Automobile Club, he said: "The automobile will do what the bicycle failed to accomplish. Within a few years there will be well paved highways across the continent. and with branches to St. Louis and New Orleans. Men will have automobiles built for the accommodation of their families and friends, with buffets, dining and sleeping rooms, and observation decks. But before this comes there must be good highways. The automobile agitation and the newspapers will give the West a similar system of highways."-New, York

Federal Aid.

Times.

There is a widespread demand in this country for Government aid in the movement to improve the public roads. and it would not surprise the close observer to see Congress meet the popular clamor and give it the glad hand, with perhaps a reasonable appropriation besides. There is no reason why the Government should withhold aid from the good roads movement. So long as the public money is spent on rivers, harbors, canals and other avenues of commerce, why should it not be likewise spent on the public roads, or at least the roads designated and sed as postal roads?—Atlanta Journal

The Colors of Pollage.

The colorings of variegated foliage plants cannot be intensified by the use of colored glass. A curious Belgian horticulturist, after a long series of experiments, concludes that brilliant light favors high coloration of foliage. Trees and shrubs with golden leaves, when poorly illuminated-that is, through either blue or red glassbecame green, or in some cases blanched. In no case did the colored glass have a beneficial effect, most plants, after a month's exposure, putting forth smaller leaves, less vivid in coloring. In some cases a very apparent stunting of the plant's growth was observable.

The Great Wheat Belt. Kansas now stands at the head of

the wheat raising States, with Minnesota, California, Washington, Nebraska, Texas and Iowa next in order. Even as recently as ten or twelve years rgo it was the States cast of the Mississippi that grew the most wheat: now it is the States west of it. Oklahoma raises more wheat than Illinois. and South Dakota two and a half An electrical bootblack, which is times as much as Ohio. Strange to field where the plants are to be set this simple fire armingement and see more rapid and effective that the say. Minnesota is the only one of the big wheat States that has flour mills.