LIVE CHU

almage Makes a
e Suggestions.

says: if we could have all the
from little ones gathered toge
an- a scene of hunger and w
rite: and rags and sin and t
the darkness! If we could see
live. tle feet on the broad road to d
tion, which through Christian ch
h"— ought to be pressing the na
path of life; if we could hear
voices in blasphemy, which ought
be singing the praises of God;
could see those little hearts
at that age ought not to be
with one unclean thought, becom
the sewers for every abomination
we could see those suffering
ones sacrificed on the altar of
iniquitous passion, and
with fire from the laver of the
we would recoil, crying out,
aunt thou dream of hell!"
Oh, what a tremendous
there is in iniquity when uneduc
and unrestrained and unblanche
ges on concentrating and deepe
and widening and gathering mo
tum until it swings ahead wi
very triumph of desolation, dro
ing like surges, scorching like fla

CRUSHING LIKE ROCKS.

What are you going to do with
abandoned population of the stre
Will you gather them in
churches? It is not the will of
Heavenly Father that one of t
little ones should perish. If
have ten respectable children in
class, gather in ten that are not
spectable. If in your Bible c
there be twenty young men who h
come from Christian homes and
gant surroundings, let those tw
young men go out and gather
twenty more of the young men of
city who are lost to society.

Another characteristic of a
church is one with appropriate a
fice. Because Christ was b
a manger is no reason why
should worship him in a barn.
the churches of Jesus Christ be
only comfortable but ornate.
church of Jesus Christ ought to
a great family circle, the pulpit o
the fireplace around which they
gathered in sweet and domestic co
munion. A live church must hav
commodious, comfortable, and
apted building. "How amiable
thy Tabernacles, O Lord of Host
would rather be a doorkeeper in
house of my God than to dwell
the tents of wickedness."

Again, the characteristic of a
church must be that it is a s
saving church. It must be the g
pel of Christ. "Oh," say some p
ple, "the gospel of Christ allows
a small swing for man's faculti
and some men have left the minis
with that idea." Why, there is
field on earth so grand as th
which is open before the gospel m
istry. It has been my ambiti
and I believe it has been yours,
their people, in these years of
ministry, to have this

A SOUL-SAVING CHURCH,

and we never yet threw out the g
fet net but we drew in a great m
titude. They have come, a hund
at a time, and two hundred at
time, and three hundred and fifty
a time, and I expect the day will
pear when in some service there
be three thousand souls accept
the offers of eternal life. I wish
could tell you some circumstan
that have come under my obser
tion, proving the fact that God
blessed the prayers of his dear p
ple in behalf of souls immortal.

Others in different parts of
land are living the Christian
and upholding the Christian st
dard, and we shall meet them w
the toils of life are over, in
great harvest home. O men and
men immortal, hear this call
sovereign mercy. All the offers
the gospel are extended to
"without money and without pric
and you are conscious of the f
that these opportunities will s
be gone forever. The conductor
a railtrain was telling me a
weeks ago, of the fact that he w
one night, standing by his train
a side track, his train hav
switched off so that the expr
train might dart past unhinder
He said while he stood there in
darkness beside his train on the s
track, he heard the thunder of
express in the distance. Then
saw the flash of the headlight.
train came on with fearful veloci
nearer and nearer, until after awh
when it came very near, by the fl
of the head light, he saw that
switchman had not attended to
duty—either through intoxication
indifference—and that train un
something was done immediate
would rush on the sidetrack
dash the other train to atoms.
shouted to the switchman: "Set
the switch!" and with one str
the switch went back and the
press thundered on. O men and
men, going toward the eternal wo
swift as the years, swift as
months, swift as the days, swift
the hours, swift as the second
on what track are you going
night? Toward light or darkn
Toward victory or defeat? Tow
heaven or hell? Set up
switch! Cry aloud to God.
is the day of Salvation."

WHERE SINGLENESS IS

We speak of single blessedness
And talk of married life;
But what a sad awakening
A girl becomes a wife!

In fancy, she can see the pat
With roses richly strewn;
No thorns, of course, lie
neath—
"'Tis one long honeymoon."

Make no mistake, dear gir
Would live quiet, happy
"Where singleness is bliss,
most
Folly to be wives."

The Man Who Knows.

NOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAP-

S.—Miss Wetherell is abducted
Nikola who demands as ransom
her father £150,000 and a mys-
s Chinese stick. Mr. Wethe-
and her lover, Richard Hatteras,
mpt a coup to release her but
betrayed. Hatteras finds she
been carried to Pipa Lannu. A
t is equipped and pursuit com-
es.

CHAPTER V.

o those who have had no experi-
e of the South Pacific the con-
ntly recurring beauties of our
age would have seemed like a
taste of Heaven itself. From
ney, until the Loyalty Group lay
nd us, we had one long spell of
isite weather. By night under
winking stars, and by day in the
m sunlight, our trim little craft
ghed her way across smooth
, and our only occupation was
promenade or loaf about the
ks and to speculate as to the re-
s of the expedition upon which we
embarked.

aving sighted the Isle of Pines
turned our bows almost due
th and headed for the New Heb-
s. Every hour our patience was
wing greater. In less than two
s, all being well, we should be at
destination, and twenty-four
rs after that, if our fortune
ved in the ascendant, we ought
be on our way back with Phyllis
our possession once more. And
t this would mean to me I can
y leave you to guess.

ne morning, just as the faint
line of the coast of Ancityum was
ring up over the horizon ahead,
therell and I chanced to be sit-
g in the bows. The sea was as
ooth as glass, and the tinkling of
water around the little vessel's
e as she turned it off in snowy
es from either bow, was the only
nd to be heard. As usual the
nversation; after wandering into
her topics, came back to the sub-
nearest our hearts. This led us
make a few remarks anent Nikola
his character. There was one
ing I had always noticed when the
came under discussion and
at, was the dread Wetherell had of
. My curiosity had long been ex-
d as to its meaning, and, having
opportunity now, I could not
p asking him for an explanation.
You want to know how it is that
am so frightened of Nikola?" he
ed, knocking the ash off his cigar
the upturned fluke of the anchor
ngside him. "Well, to give you
reason will necessitate tell-
you a story. I don't mind
at all, but what I am
is that you may be incli
bt its probability. I must con-
it is certainly more like the plot
a Wilkie Collins novel than a bit
sober reality. However, if you
nt to hear it you shall."

I should like above all
gs," I replied, making myself
fortable and taking another ci-
from my pocket. "I have been
ging to ask you about it for some
past, but could not quite scare
my courage."

Well, in the first place," Mr.
therell said, "you must under-
d that before I became a Minis-
of the Crown, or indeed a Mem-
of Parliament, at all, I was a
rister with a fairly remunerativ
ctice. That was before my wife's
th and when Phyllis was at
ool. Up to the time I am going
tell you about I had taken part
no very sensational case. But my
portunity for earning notoriety
s, though I did not know it, near
hand. One day I was briefed to
fend a man accused of the murder
a Chinaman aboard a Sydney ves-
on a voyage to Shanghai. At
st there seemed to be no doubt at
as to his guilt, but by a singular
ance, with the details of which I
ll not bore you I hit upon a
eme which got him off. I re-
mber the man perfectly, and a
er fellow he was, half-witted, I
ought, and at the time of the trial
thin an ace of dying of consump-
n. His gratitude was the more
thetic because he had not the
ercwithal to pay me. However,
made it up to me in another way,
d that's where my real story com-
ences.

One wet night, a couple of
nths or so after the trial, I was
ting in the drawing-room listening
my wife's music, when a servant
ered to tell me that a woman
nted to see me. I went into
e passage to find waiting there a
ll buxom lass of about five-and-
enty years of age. She was poorly
essed, but in a great state of ex-
cement.

"Are you Mr. Wetherell?" she
id, the gentleman as defended
hina Pete in the trial the other
y?"

"I am," I answered. "What can
do for you? I hope China Pete
not in trouble again?"

"He's in a worse trouble this
me, sir," said the woman. "He's
gin', and he sent me to fetch you to
m before he goes."

"But what does he want me
?" I asked rather suspiciously.

"I'm sure I dunno," was the
's reply. "But he's been calling
you all this blessed day: 'Send
Mr. Wetherell! send for Mr.
therell!'" So off I came, when
got back from work, to fetch you.
you're comin', sir, you'd best be
ck, for he won't last till mornin'."

"Very well, I'll come with you
once," I said, taking a mackin-
h down from a peg as I spoke.
en, having told my wife not to sit
for me, I followed my strange
essenger out of the house and down
to the city.

For nearly an hour we walked
and on, plunging deeper into the
er quarter of the town. All
ough the march my guide main-
ed a rigid silence, walking a few
ds ahead, and only recognizing
fact that I was following her by
king in a certain direction when-
ever we arrived at cross thoroughfares or interlacing lanes.

"At last we arrived at the street she wanted. At the corner she came suddenly to a standstill, and putting her two first fingers into her mouth blew a shrill whistle, after the fashion of street boys. A moment later a shock-headed urchin about ten years old made his appearance from a dark alley and came towards us. The woman said something to him, which I did not catch, and then turning sharply to her left hand beckoned to me to follow her. This I did, but not without a feeling of wonderment as to what the upshot of it all would be.

"From the street itself we passed by way of a vallainous alley, into a large courtyard, where brooded a silence like that of death. Indeed, a more weird and desolate place I don't remember ever to have met with. Not a soul was to be seen, and though it was surrounded by houses, only two feeble lights showed themselves. Towards one of these my guide made her way, stopping on the threshold. Upon a panel she rapped with her fingers, and as she did so a window on the first floor opened, and the same boy we had met in the street looked out.

"'How many? inquired the woman who had brought me, in a loud whisper.

"'None now,' replied the boy; 'but there's been a power of Chinkies hereabouts all the evenin', an' 'arf an hour ago there was a gent in a cloak.'

"Without waiting to hear any more the woman entered the house and I followed close on her heels. The adventure was clearly coming to a head now.

"When the door had been closed behind us the boy appeared at the top of a flight of stairs with a lighted candle. We accordingly ascended to him, and having done so made our way towards a door at the end of an abominably dirty landing. At intervals I could hear the sound of coughing coming from a room at the end. My companion, however, bade me stop, while she went herself into the room, shutting the door after her. I was left alone with the boy, who immediately took me under his protection, and for my undivided benefit performed a series of highly meritorious acrobatic performances upon the feeble banisters, to his own danger, but apparent satisfaction. Suddenly, just as he was about to commence what promised to be the most successful item in his repertoire, he paused, lay flat on his stomach upon the floor, and craned his head over the side, where, once banisters had been, and, gazed into the half dark well below. All was quiet as the grave. Then, without warning, an almond-eyed, pigtailed head appeared on the stairs and looked up. Before I could say anything to stop him, the youth had divested himself of one slipper, taken it in his right hand, leaned over a bit farther, and struck the ascending Celestial a severe blow on the mouth with the heel of it. There was the noise of a hasty descent and the banging of the street door a moment later, then all was still again, and the youngster turned to me.

"'That was Ah Chong,' he said confidentially. 'He's the sixth Chinkie I've landed that way since dark.'

"This important piece of information he closed with a double-jointed oath of remarkable atrocity, and, having done so, would have recommenced the performance of acrobatic feats had I not stopped him by asking the reason of his action. He looked at me with a grin, and said,—

"'I dunno, but all I cares is that China Pete in there gives me a sprat (sixpence) for every Chinkie what I keeps out of the 'ouse. He's a rum one is China Pete; an' can't he cough—my word!'

"I was about to put another question when the door opened and the girl who had brought me to the house beckoned me into the room. I entered and she left me alone with the occupant.

"Of all the filthy places I have ever seen—and I have had the ill-luck to discover a good many in my time—that one eclipsed them all. The room was at most ten feet long by seven wide, had a window at the far end, and the door, through which I had entered, opposite it. The bed-place was stretched between the door and the window, and was a horrible exhibition. On it, propped up by pillows and evidently in the last stage of collapse, was the man called China Pete, whom I had last seen walking out of the dock at the Supreme Court a couple of months before. When we were alone together he pointed to a box near the bed and signified that I should seat myself. I did so, at the same time taking occasion to express my sorrow at finding him in this lamentable condition. He made no reply to my civilities, but after a little pause, found strength enough to whisper, 'See if there's anybody at the door.' I went across, opened the door and looked into the passage, but save the boy, who was now sitting on the top step of the stairs at the other end, there was not a soul in sight. I told him this, and having again closed the door, sat down on the box and waited for him to speak.

"'You did me a good turn, Mr. Wetherell, over that trial,' the invalid said at last, 'and I couldn't make it worth your while.'

"'Oh, you mustn't let that worry you,' I answered soothingly. 'You would have paid me if you had been able.'

"'Perhaps I should, perhaps I shouldn't, anyhow I didn't and I want to make it up to you now. Look under my pillow and bring out what you'll find there.'

"I did as he directed me and brought to light a queer little wooden stick about three and a half inches long, made of some heavy timber and covered all over with Chinese inscriptions; at one end was a tiny bit of heavy gold cord much tarnished. I gave it to him and he looked at it fondly.

"'Do you know the value of this little stick?' he asked after a while.

"'I have no possible notion,' I replied.

"'Make a guess,' he said.

"To humour him I guessed five pounds. He laughed with scorn.

"'Five pounds! ye gods! Why, as a bit of stick it's not worth five pence, but for what it really is there is not money enough in the world to purchase it. If I could get about again I would make myself the richest and most powerful man on earth with it. If you could only guess one particle of the danger I've been through to get it you would die of astonishment. And the sarcasm of it all is that now I've got it I can't make use of it. On six different occasions the priests of the Llamaserai in Peking have tried to murder me to get hold of it. I brought it down from the centre of China disguised as a wandering beggar. That business connected with the murder of the Chinaman on board the ship, against which you defended me, was on account of it. And now I lie here dying like a dog, with the key to over ten millions in my hand. Nikola has tried for five years to obtain it, without success however. He little dreams I've got it after all. If he did I'd be a dead man by this time.'

"'Who is this Nikola then?' I asked.

"'Dr. Nikola? Well, he's Nikola, and that's all I can tell you. If you're a wise man you'll want to know no more. Ask the Chinese mothers nursing their almond-eyed spawn in Peking who he is; ask the Japanese, ask the Malays; the Hindoos, the Burmese, the coal porters in Port Said, the Buddhist priests of Ceylon; ask the King of Corea, the men up in Thibet, the Spanish priests in Manilla, or the Sultan of Borneo, the ministers of Siam, or the French in Saigon—they'll all know Dr. Nikola and his cat, and take my word for it, they fear him.'

"I looked at the little stick in my hand and wondered if the man had gone mad.

"'What do you wish me to do with this?' I asked.

"'Take it away with you,' he answered, 'and guard it with your life, and when you have occasion, use it. Remember you have in your hand what will raise a million men and the equivalent of over ten mil—'

"At this point a violent fit of coughing seized him and nearly tore him to pieces. I lifted him up a little in the bed, but before I could take my hands away a stream of blood had gushed from his lips. Like a flash of thought I ran to the door to call the girl, the boy on the stairs re-echoed my shout, and in less time than it takes to tell the woman was in the room. But we were too late,—China Pete was dead.

"After giving her all the money I had about me to pay for the funeral, I bade her good-bye, and with the little stick in my pocket returned to my home. Once there I sat myself down in my study, took my legacy out of my pocket and carefully examined it. As to its peculiar power and value, as described to me by the dead man, I hardly knew what to think. My own private opinion was that China Pete was not sane at the time he told me. And yet, how was I to account for the affray with the Chinaman on the boat, and the evident desire the Celestials in Sydney had to obtain information concerning it? After half an hour's consideration of it I locked it up in a drawer of my safe and went upstairs to bed.

"Next day China Pete was buried, and by the end of the month I had well nigh forgotten that he had ever existed, and had hardly thought of his queer little gift, which still reposed in the upper drawer of my safe. But I was to hear more of it later on.

"One night, about a month after my coming into possession of the stick, my wife and I were entertaining a few friends at dinner. The ladies had retired to the drawing-room and I was sitting with the gentlemen at the table over our wine. Curiously enough we had just been discussing the main aspects of the politics of the East when a maid-servant entered to say that a gentleman had called, and would be glad to know if he might have an interview with me on important business. I replied to the effect that I was engaged, and told her to ask him if he would call again in the morning. The servant left the room only to return with the information that the man would be leaving Sydney shortly after daylight, but that if I would see him later on in the evening he would endeavor to return. I therefore told the girl to say I would see him about eleven o'clock, and then dismissed the matter from my mind.

To Be Continued.

WRITER AND READER.

A good and perhaps an old story comes from the Persian. A man went to a professional scribe, and asked him to write a letter.

I cannot, said the scribe, I have a pain in my foot.

A pain in your foot? What has that to do with it? I don't want to send you anywhere.

No, sir, said the man, but whenever I write a letter for anyone I am always sent for to read it, because no one else can make it out.

FOR THOSE IN LOVE.

Cupid's darts make many Mrs.
He laughs at locksmiths, but the bulldog or a barbed wire fence is another matter.
Man was made to mourn, and woman to see that he does so.

HIS MAJESTY'S DOCTORS.

ABOUT MEN WHO GUARD THE KING'S HEALTH.

Sir William H. Broadbent is Chief Medical Adviser—Sir James Reid the Queen's Doctor.

"Long live the King!" is the universal sentiment, and such are His Majesty's health and constitution that there is every prospect of the loyal wish being gratified. But, of course, the King is only human and is subject to all human ills just as other people are, and it is interesting therefore to observe His Majesty at such times and to see what precautions he takes.

In the first place, His Majesty only very recently chose the doctors that he preferred should attend upon him in his new and exalted capacity. The selections he made are of some interest and significance. The late Queen had always a resident physician in attendance upon her — Sir James Reid — but King Edward has no need for such constant medical service, and dislikes anything of this kind which is not absolutely necessary. Consequently he has determined to content himself with what are known as "Physicians in Ordinary," this description being really anything but an ordinary one, for it signifies the highest appointment possible.

His Majesty has followed the old Royal rule, and has appointed three of these to be his medical body-guard. Three are chosen principally so that in a crisis there should always be a preponderance of opinion on one side or the other.

One of the three is Sir William H. Broadbent, who has attended upon His Majesty whenever necessary during the last nine years, and has for that period been his

CHIEF MEDICAL ADVISER.

Sir William is a favorite with His Majesty, and it was for his medical services to the Royal Family that he was awarded his baronetcy some years ago. The King has in many ways shown his great regard for him. Sir William, who lives in Brook Street, London, and has a large practice among the most fashionable people of the West End, is an all-round physician, but has made a special study of irregularities of the pulse and heart.

Another of the three is Sir James Reid, who was, as has been said, for many years Queen Victoria's resident doctor, and who was so much liked by the King when Prince of Wales that he was even then made one of his physicians. An advantage which Sir James possesses is that he received the greater part of his training under the famous Sir William Jenner, and since he was quite a young man has been exclusively in attendance upon the Royal Family. Therefore he knows the King's constitution and the peculiarities which it has inherited and developed as well as he does his own. As a doctor, Sir James is chiefly remarkable for his extreme silence and reticence, notwithstanding the fact that he is the soul of courtesy. His demeanour in the sick room is cheerful, but business-like to a degree, and he never wastes words, while he never speaks outside of the illnesses of one member of the Royal Family not even to another unless a very intimate relative indeed. This alone serves to make him well liked by the King, who has, when at all indisposed, quite a morbid horror about the circumstance being publicly discussed.

THE OTHER KING'S DOCTOR

and one of whom His Majesty is extremely fond, is Sir Francis Laking, who holds the distinction of being the first medical man to accompany the King on his travels since his accession. He was chosen to go with the King on his recent trip to Germany, when His Majesty, whose nerves had been put to a severe strain by preceding events, really needed a doctor's counsel. Sir Francis has always been an exceptional favorite with the King by reason of his extremely bright and lively manner, which an eminent authority declared was in itself as good as half-a-dozen bottles of medicine and a surgical operation. His principle is to interest everybody who calls upon him in some way that will take their thoughts away from themselves, and therefore he keeps in his rooms an enormous collection of curios, which he talks about in turn. He is a great collector. As a doctor he is noted for having few "cranks" and he tells those who ask him that the best system of life from a health point of view is to do what you like best, so long as it is sensible. He is a great believer, however, in "conservation of energy," and says that people wear themselves out too quickly nowadays. He holds that people who have to work for fifty weeks in the year would do better to spend their holiday in bed than rush off to the Continent.

The son of Sir Francis has inherited his father's taste for curiosities, and is an acknowledged expert in old furniture, and such-like, so that the King frequently sought his advice and assistance in alterations which have recently been made at the Royal residences.

These three, to all intents and purposes, comprise the whole of

THE KING'S MEDICAL STAFF,

but it may surprise most people to know that besides them there are no fewer than thirty other appointments of one kind and another connected with it. They are in most cases honorary.

There are five Physicians Extraordinary, one Physician to the Household, an honorary Sergeant-Surgeon, three honorary Surgeons in Ordinary, a Surgeon to the Household, a Surgeon Apothecary, an honorary Surgeon Oculist and an honorary Surgeon Dentist, a Dentist to the Household, an honorary Anaesthetist, and a Chemist and Druggist, whilst special honorary appointments are made to apply only to Windsor, Sandringham, Scotland and Ireland. Thus is the maintenance of the King's health provided for to the utmost degree.

His Majesty has only been seriously ill once in his life, but is regarded as an excellent patient from the medical point of view, in that he always looks upon the brightest side of things and refuses to lay himself up for any trifling feeling of indisposition. His Majesty goes about his business as usual when some other people would confine themselves to their rooms. His constitution is good and he looks after it well, and whenever he feels a little out of sorts he prefers to have people about him who will laugh and joke, and not those who make long faces and advise him that he "must really be more careful."

CENSUS OF CONSUMPTIVES.

New York State Department of Health is about to take the census of all persons in the State suffering from consumption. This is a part of a scheme for systematically fighting the disease. There are about 13,000 deaths a year due to consumption in New York State.

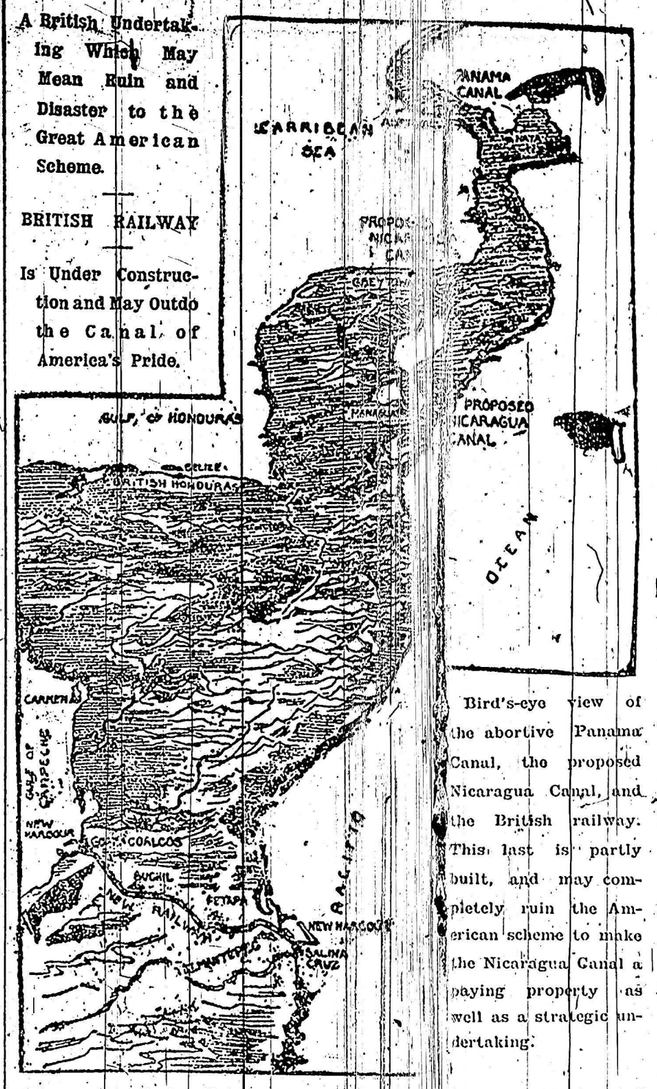
The combined exports and imports of the United Kingdom were valued at £815,000,000 last year, those of Germany 472 millions, of Italy 105 millions.

FOILING THE UNITED STATES NICARAGUA CANAL SCHEME.

A British Undertaking Which May Mean Ruin and Disaster to the Great American Scheme.

BRITISH RAILWAY

Is Under Construction and May Outdo the Canal of America's Pride.



Bird's-eye view of the abortive Panama Canal, the proposed Nicaragua Canal, and the British railway. This last is partly built, and may completely ruin the American scheme to make the Nicaragua Canal a paying property as well as a strategic undertaking.

The people of the United States are most pertinacious in their efforts to build up the Nicaragua Canal, with or without the consent of England. They will probably get their canal, and with it a fine property from the strategic point of view, but their blissful idea of combining strategy with money profits is likely to be exploded. For British enterprise is taking care that whatever money there is to be made in that part of the world shall fall into British pockets.

The world has heard a great deal about the Panama and Nicaragua canal schemes, but little about a third undertaking which is being quietly pushed forward by an English firm interested in the development of Mexico.

There are now three competitors in the race to connect the Atlantic and the Pacific. The Panama project is hampered by various causes, and Nicaragua is more or less in the air. But what may be described as the English scheme is well on the way towards fulfilment, and will, it is anticipated, be ready for work years before either of the canals.

The scheme consists of the building, or rather the rebuilding, of a railway across the narrowest part of Mexico, from Santa Crux to Coazacoalcos. At both termini great harbors will be constructed. The town of Salina Crux will be removed to make room for a harbor capable of affording anchorage for the largest vessels. The whole undertaking is being carried out by Messrs. S. Pearson, of Victoria St., London. Some 2,000 men are at present employed on the work under the personal direction of Sir Weetman Pearson, Bart.

The idea is to render the Nicaragua and Panama Canal schemes practically useless. Indeed, if it were not for the fact that the United States wishes to secure safe and speedy sea communication with her new colonies, the Nicaragua project would now probably be abandoned.

Mr. J. Meldrum, the foreign representative of Messrs. Pearson, who has just returned to London from Mexico, explained to a representative of the press the advantages claimed for the new scheme over the two canals.

"By our scheme we save over the carrying of goods from the Gulf ports to the west coast. In other words, our route will be shorter by four days. We shall be able to put cargo from a vessel on the east coast alongside a vessel on the west coast within twelve hours at a cost not exceeding $5 a ton.

"Each of the two canal schemes will cost far from $200,000,000. To get a return of 4 per cent. on that would mean a net revenue of $8,000,000 and gross revenue of probably over $15,000,000. To obtain that return a charge of about $7 a ton would have to be made. As our scheme will not cost more than $25,000,000; therefore we shall be able to carry cargo at a much cheaper rate than either canal."

"The existing railway is more or less of a temporary nature, and Sir Weetman has leased the line from the Mexican Government for fifty years. The new line will be strong enough to bear the heaviest traffic. A 132 mile branch line, of which have been built, or will be completed, this work, together with the dredging of the harbours, will be completed in less than three years time.

"It is characteristic of Japan's newborn enterprise that immediately her merchants heard of the scheme they arranged to put on a line of steamers from Japan to Salina Crux. Messrs. Pearson's concession includes permission to start a special line of steamers in connection with the railway.

"Nearly the whole of the land on both sides of the railway has been bought up.

"The scheme itself," said Mr. Meldrum, "is essentially a British one. The machinery, the bridges, and the locomotives are, with a few exceptions, come from this country."

Strangely ignorant though the average Englishman is of the resources and possibilities of Mexico, the country is developing rapidly. In taking up of Mexico Messrs. Pearson have lent a very practical hand, for they have executed work to the value of $20,000,000, exclusive of the present great scheme.

"By our scheme we save over the carrying of goods from the Gulf ports to the west coast. In other words, our route will be shorter by four days. We shall be able to put cargo from a vessel on the east coast alongside a vessel on the west coast within twelve hours at a cost not exceeding $5 a ton.

"Each of the two canal schemes will cost far from $200,000,000. To get a return of 4 per cent. on that would mean a net revenue of $8,000,000 and gross revenue of probably over $15,000,000. To obtain that return a charge of about $7 a ton would have to be made. As our scheme will not cost more than $25,000,000; therefore we shall be able to carry cargo at a much cheaper rate than either canal."

"The existing railway is more or less of a temporary nature, and Sir Weetman has leased the line from the Mexican Government for fifty years. The new line will be strong enough to bear the heaviest traffic. A 132 mile branch line, of which have been built, or will be completed, this work, together with the dredging of the harbours, will be completed in less than three years time.

"It is characteristic of Japan's newborn enterprise that immediately her merchants heard of the scheme they arranged to put on a line of steamers from Japan to Salina Crux. Messrs. Pearson's concession includes permission to start a special line of steamers in connection with the railway.

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HE D ERVED A PASS.

An excel t story is told of a cer tain prom nt railway director who is equally nowned for his ability to make a take a joke. An employe, who home is in the country, applie to him for a pass to visit his f ily.

You are the employ of the company? ing d the gentleman admitted.

Yes.

You rec your pay regularly?

Yes.

Well, supposing you were working for farmer, instead of the company, d you expect your employer to out his horses every Saturday and carry you home?

This sou a poser, but it wasn't. No, sa he man promptly, I could no xpect that; but if the farmer h s horses out and was going my I should call him a very mean ow if he wouldn't let me ride.

The em came out three minutes afte ith a pass good for twelve m

Edward mp, machinist, was awarded damages in the King's Bench Di for the loss of three fingers, t fendants being Messrs. Garrett builders, of Balham,