

per month. The next step is to the position of roadmaster at fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars per year, according to responsibility, and thence upward, as his executive ability and fitness for railroad work warrants, through the higher positions with their heavier salaries and heavier responsibilities. Additions to the engineering staff of the road are made as required from the ranks of these apprentices.

When the railroad companies and corporations in general come fully to appreciate the value of a liberal education in business, as they are now only beginning to do, the demand for college graduates will be greatly increased; the struggle of the energetic student with a degree but with no chance to use it will for a time be over, and the young man who has sneered at a college education as filling the head with useless lore available only to the professions will find this great factor for the enlightenment of humanity available and necessary, unless he is willing to be content with a position in the lower ranks of society.

The influence of such principles as the Illinois Central Railroad Company has recently decided to act upon is of vast importance to the nation. With their development universities will be multiplied, the demand for teachers will greatly increase, for in the fitting of men and women for grander success in the various callings of life, the greatest of industries, that of education, will be vastly invigorated; and directly resulting therefrom will be the impetus which will accomplish the higher intelligence and civilization of the masses.

H. H. MALLORY.

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PERPLEXITY.

He stands before the cigar store  
 And fingers something nervously.  
 Like Hamlet, he is not quite sure  
 If it's toby or no toby.

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THE DISMAL SWAMP.

The name Dismal Swamp was long since given to a large area of fresh water morass lying between the estuary of the James River and Albemarle Sound. It formerly occupied an area of nearly 2,000 square miles, but fully one-third of the original area has been recovered for purposes of cultivation by the drainage of