

CHANCES FOR MAKING MONEY.

AN American writer, Mr. E. T. Freedley, has composed a work for the special edification of his countrymen on the art of making money—a subject on which one can imagine they stand in no need of advice. The title of his book, however, which we quote below,* points to a variety of branches of industry, abroad as well as at home, which seem to offer scope for the safe investment of capital; this important term, *safe*, being of course in all cases qualified by a reasonable amount of cautious inquiry; so, at the very threshold, as it were, we come back to the old homely maxim that common sense, in which we include a fair share of skill, is, after all, the true guide to fortune.

Resorting to a large display of statistical explanations, our author, is very ingenious and novel, at least spares no trouble in showing us how in certain kinds of mining, manufacturing, agricultural, and other operations a man has good opportunities of realizing wealth; the whole, according to his summing up, amounting to as many as a thousand-and-ten chances of making money, provided people have the tact to know how to take advantage of them. Some of his ‘chances,’ it will be confessed, are sufficiently odd. One consists in discovering a new drink, pleasant, wholesome, and exhilarating, without being intoxicating, in order to supersede the use of all alcoholic liquors. We join in thinking that this is not a bad idea. Will any one with some chemical knowledge, be so good as make a fortune by inventing some delightful drink—none of your sirupy or ginger-beery fluids—which while satisfying temperance folks, will to the bulk of mankind, take the place of wine, spirits, and malt liquors of all sorts? What a fortune that would be! Meanwhile, Mr. Freedley, with all his cleverness, fails to give the faintest hint how this grand discovery is to be made; but offers some consolation by telling us how Dr. Schrieber, a Russian physician, has found out a means of curing habitual drunkenness. His process is very simple, and also somewhat droll. It consists in confining the drunkard in a room, and there supplying him with meat and drink, tinctured in all cases with his favourite spirit. If, for example, it be gin, you put gin in his tea, coffee, broth, water, every liquid he requires; you also saturate his bread vegetables, and other varieties of food, with gin, till the poor wretch is driven half frantic with disgust, and he acquires such an utter detestation of spirits that ever afterwards he is a miracle of temperance. All we can say is, that we have no faith in this Russian doctor’s panacea. Talking of stimulants, Mr. Freedley, whom our reader begins to suspect is a little credulous, bursts out with another famous chance of making a fortune. This is the discovery of some innocuous herb to be a substitute for tobacco. Hear him. ‘It is no exaggeration to say that there are thousands of persons whose trembling nerves are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the discovery of a substitute for tobacco, which shall possess its agreeable properties, with none of its injurious effects. Again, in this dearth of invention, he falls back on a useful piece of advice to

**Opportunities for Industry, and the safe investment of Capital.* By Edwin T. Freedley. London: Sampson Low & Co. 1859.