

nuated clerks of the government service on pensions:

James G. Kerr, the oldest postal employee in the United States, handed in his resignation to the Chicago postmaster, after 62 years of continuous service. He is 84 years old. He never missed a single day at his desk. He never received a reprimand. He felt that he was too old to work for the government any longer. Under the present system there is no way to pension him. Fortunately, he has a brother who will take care of him until he dies.

Because classified government service does not offer opportunities for advancement and the salaries are not sufficiently large to meet the increased and increasing cost of living, J. H. Mallory, of Washington, has resigned his position as clerk in the postoffice service, division of stamps. Mallory's chief reason for resigning is that he would have been compelled to work for such a small salary that he would never have been able to set anything aside for the future, and the United States government refuses to give any assurance that he will be protected against old age.

By remaining in the government service, he would be voluntarily leaving himself unprotected against old age.

William R. Wherry, a Pennsylvania Railroad passenger conductor, after 50 years of active service, now being 67 years old, is to be retired on a pension that nearly equals the salary he has been receiving. He was employed by the railroad as a freight brakeman. One promotion followed another, until he was made a passenger conductor on the Pittsburgh division, where he is employed at the present time.

Those three examples furnish an illustration of the differences in the methods of the government and the cruel corporations. Advancement in the government service is slow because the aged employees are never removed. Most of the em-

ployees hang on by the eyelids when they become old, but the mere fact that sympathy keeps them in their jobs for a certain time keeps younger men from having much chance of being promoted. Moreover, the younger men, when they are moved up a peg, realize that some poor devil has been thrown out on the street at a period of life when he is unable to get other employment. The whole system works toward discouragement and inefficiency.

The cruel corporations, on the other hand, see to it, as a business proposition, that young men are rewarded by promotion for faithful service, and that they are protected against old age by the pension system. The result is that the corporations have an efficient service while the government service is a combination of weary old age and discouraged youth.—*Washington Post*.

The Ever Faithful Dog.

The dog is the only animal that is capable of disinterested affection. He is the only one that regards the human being as his companion, and follows him as his friend; the only one that seems to possess a natural desire to be useful to him, and from a spontaneous impulse attaches himself to man.

We exact from the dog the service that is required of him, and he still follows us. He solicits to be continued as our companion and our friend. Many an expressive action tells us how much he is pleased and thankful. He shares our abundance and he is content with the scantiest and the most humble fare. He loves us while living, and has been known to pine away on the grave of his human master.—*Our Dumb Animals*.

Gratitude has good eyes.

You can flatter any man by asking his advice.