

he recognized Greeks, Finns, Hungarians, Danes, Scotch, English, Irish and Italians. Out of 8,500 men employed in one big job, from 1,500 to 2,000 knocked off every month. Ninety per cent. of these came back. They had just been away from an old-fashioned drunk. Some of these men had been "bank clerks, doctors and teachers, everything except preachers." "I never knew a preacher," says the contractor, "to get into a railway gang. The woods is full of men out of a job, and out of everything—pockets, elbows and all. They come in with no more clothing than will wad a gun." The contractor collects the men's money and puts it in a bank or sends it to their families. "It does them as much good to let me take it as to chuck it over a gin-mill bar," he says. The difficulties in making a way for the railway through the wilderness were extreme. As many as 280 kegs of powder and 500 pounds of dynamite have been used in a single blast.

The loneliness of dog-team travel and of hunter and trapper life, the perils of Indian Rapids and the toils of the portage, privation of cold in night-camps in the snow with the thermometer at forty below zero, and other aspects of wild life on the frontier are vividly set forth.

*The People's Cyclopaedia of Universal Knowledge.* Supplementary volume. Quarto, pp. 892. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Toronto: Wm. Briggs.

In these days of the expansion and specialization of knowledge, a good cyclopaedia is more than ever a necessity. Scarcely a day passes that one does not note something in his reading on which he wishes to obtain more definite information. We have been in the habit for years of consulting the three previous volumes of the People's Cyclopaedia, and although having other and much more extensive cyclopedias, we have found it of exceeding service. It has often saved much time and search by giving in condensed form the very information wanted.

The success of the People's Cyclo-

pedia has been very remarkable. In ten years it has passed through twenty-one editions of five thousand sets each, a total of about three hundred thousand quarto volumes—a record of success unparalleled, we believe, by any other work of the kind.

So rapid is the growth of human knowledge and progress in invention, so many are the new achievements in the arts and sciences and new discoveries and explorations, and the enlarged number of notable men and important events, that any cyclopaedia in ten years becomes almost out of date.

Determined to be up to date, the publishers of the People's Cyclopaedia have revised it from time to time, making copious additions, and it is issued now in four quarto volumes. For the benefit of persons having the three previous volumes, the substance of these additions, with much new matter, has been collected in this goodly volume of uniform style and size with those previously issued. This supplementary volume is an encyclopaedia in itself. It contains four thousand distinct articles illustrated with eight hundred engravings, and with over one hundred maps and diagrams. Advantage has been taken of the recently issued census of the United States and Canada to give the latest statistical information concerning these countries. In modern science, a condensed account of its recent progress and development is given under such titles as Astronomy, Botany, Chemistry, Clouds, Natural Gas, Earthquakes, Electricity, Geology, Lymph, Meteors and Comets, The Moon, Ocean Currents, The Phonograph, The Weather Bureau, Zoology. Progress in Medical Science is treated under such titles as Bacteria, Consumption, Koch's Remedy, etc. Political and Social Economy also receive succinct treatment under the heading of Arbitration, Capital Punishment, Copyright, Divorce, Homestead Laws, Loan Associations, Music and Musicians, Ordinance, Prohibition, Protection and Free Trade, Trusts; Cotton, Woollen, Iron, Sugar, and other manufactures, etc.