

constructed where it would not be worth while to build a railway. It could be used by the farmer to bring his crops to the barn, and at the same time he could draw off electric power to run his thrashing machine. The advancing army could construct a Telpher line just as they now construct a field telegraph. The energies of nature, now going to waste, could be utilized in generating the electric current. In many countries where the expense of building a railway is great, a Telpher line could be constructed and the means for effecting the carriage of goods, and that the cheapest possible, could be supplied by some neighboring stream or windmill.

For light overhead lines a single wire or rail should be used. The load should not be large, but much divided. At Weston, in Hertfordshire, there is a Telpher line in operation. It consists of a single wire, one inch in diameter. Over this 100 tons per hour passes each way.

By a system of "blocking," the promoters have arranged to make collisions "absolutely impossible," and should any car in a series break down, the others cannot run into it.

Among the many discoveries connected with the application of electricity, Telpherage is not likely to take a second place in contributing to the world's material progress. Now the phrases "to telegraph" and "to telephone" are common, but there is no doubt that very soon, and that in our own day, "to telpher" will be a common English expression. This is one of the "splendid possibilities of the future."

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#### PEBBLES.

"Sermons in stones."

"Then let the pebbles on the angry beach fillip the stars."—*Shakespeare.*

WE do not here intend to moralize on nature's treasures or draw sermons from even the shallowest of her fountains. No more do we intend to amplify the figures made use of by the immortal Shakespeare, who seems so unconsciously to have wrapped up so many truths in fewest words. We would here