interest in the faces by gorgeousness of garment or brilliancy of touch. He rightly regards these latter as the means rather than the end of art. This is not the first fine portrait group that Mr. Brush has shown us. A pupil of Gérôme, he learned from that master technical skill which was at first applied to pictures of the American Indians with some exactness of form. Later he found this exactness incompatible with sentiment and color, and he changed his style. Recently he has painted portraits that show the spirit of the great Dutchmen without their form or handling; and in the present group we have the Italian spirit without the Italian type or method. Such work may be thought assimilative, yet it is less so than the work of Raphael. To accept the point of view of great men in the past is every one's privilege; to copy their forms is quite another thing. Mr. Brush's ideas are changing as his artistic horizon expands, and his progress is being watched with interest by all art lovers. He is one of the leaders among the younger painters in this country who are giving rank to American art.

John C. Van Dyke.

Boy Tramps and Reform Schools.

A REPLY TO MR. FLYNT.

JOSIAH FLYNT, in the October CENTURY, says that «nearly all tramps have, during some part of their lives, been charges of the State in its reformatories,» and that «the present reform-school system directly or indirectly forces boys into trampdom.»

These assertions are so sweeping that the public is deeply interested in knowing if they be true or false.

There are in the United States eighty-one institutions which Mr. Flynt evidently includes in the class reform schools. They are known as reformatories, reform schools, and industrial schools. The public has invested fifteen million dollars in lands and buildings for them, and pays annually more than four million dollars for their maintenance. Most of these institutions are less than twenty years old.

I desire distinctly and emphatically to deny the above assertions of Mr. Flynt, and to say that in his series of six articles on the tramp question published in THE CENTURY he has signally failed to adduce any facts to support such assertions. He bases his conclusions entirely upon an experience of eight months' tramping with tramps. If there is one place on earth that the cosmopolitan knight of the road abhors above all others, it is a reformatory. A good reformatory is a hive of industry. Here he must work, and that is what he circles the globe to avoid. Naturally, and by common consent, he does and says all in his power to bring such institutions into disrepute.

Most of the reformatories, reform schools, and industrial schools are just such places as Mr. Flynt describes in THE CENTURY for September, 1894, in which he says: «There is a crying need for an institution which shall take the place of the reform school, a kind of industrial home and manual training-school, in which the least contaminated may be separated from the viciously trained and criminally inclined boy, and taught useful employment and obedience to authority.» He here very aptly describes just what the good industrial school, reform school, and reformatory are doing.

Take, for example, the school of which the writer is superintendent—the State Industrial School of Colorado. Here we do just the work that Mr. Flynt indicates that we should do. I believe that most of these institutions are doing this work, and doing it well—some of them, no doubt, much better than we. This is a good school; it is a good home; it is a manual training-school. We have a fine department of sloid; we teach obedience, and enforce it; we teach and furnish useful employment. Each boy is constantly in charge of some teacher. He is constantly employed either at work or in school, with proper allowance for healthful exercise and recreation. Our boys make all their own clothes and shoes, and mend them; do all the washing, ironing, baking, cooking, housework, farming, gardening, dairying, stock-raising, carpenter work, engineering, painting, brickmaking, building, and printing: in short, all of the work about the institution, except so far as it is necessary for the teachers in the several departments to lead and instruct in the work. Our boys average four hours a day in school and four at work. In age they are from ten to eighteen years. I think that our school will compare favorably with public schools generally in deportment and progress.

Statistics recently received from the leading reformatories, reform schools, and industrial schools of the country indicate that about one half of the boys committed to these institutions are practically tramps—boy tramps—when committed. One of the oldest, largest, and best-conducted industrial schools places the percentage at seventy-five per cent. upon admission, and twenty-five per cent. after discharge. The average upon admission is about fifty per cent., and upon discharge about five per cent. A prominent superintendent, who has acted in that capacity for fourteen years, says: «During the past five years I have interviewed over one thousand tramps, most of whom have been quite willing to relate a part of their history. Out of this number but five claimed to have been in reform schools.»

It should be remembered that these institutions carefully look up the antecedents of every boy committed to them, and closely follow every one who is paroled or discharged. The statistics thus gathered and kept show that about seventy-five per cent. of those who are committed go forth and continue industrious, law-abiding, useful citizens. No class of institutions in the country, for the same expenditure, are doing so much to promote the public peace and welfare, and to deplete the ranks of trampdom, as the reformatories, reform schools, and industrial schools.

GOLDEN, COLO. *G. A. Garard.*

The Claims of Dr. Horace Wells to the Discovery of Anesthesia.

APROPOS of the signed paper in THE CENTURY for August, 1894, entitled, «Dr. Morton's Discovery of Anesthesia,» we have received a communication for this department setting forth the claims of Dr. Horace Wells of Hartford, Connecticut, to the honor of the discovery. As we find that the publication of this letter would lead to a long controversy in these pages, it is deemed best, in the interest of our readers, not to pursue the subject. It is hardly necessary to say that THE CENTURY is not committed to either side of this controversy.

EDITOR.