

THE RANCH.

SOUTHERN WOMEN FARMERS.

Mrs. Field, of New Orleans, in a recent lecture, says the New York Sun, spoke of Louisiana as waiting to be cut up into small holdings by young Corydons and Phyllises, who will grow cotton for the central factories, have market gardens, orchards, dairy farms and poultry yards, and who will also grow flowers and make honey.

She had seen a kitchen garden whose products equaled any shown at the Chicago fair, and yet they were raised by two young girls. Near by, in the same parish of Cameron, a young Irish girl squatter, with her 16-year-old brother, took up a government claim of 160 acres and went to planting rice, the first crop of which paid her \$1,200. She lives in a three-room cottage and has a few fruit trees, plenty of fences and a sea of waving rice blades. Her nearest neighbor is another girl farmer, who also settled a government claim and is bossing an orchard that is already giving her a comfortable living. A woman who is dressmaking in Chicago, bought 20 acres of Louisiana land out of her savings and sent her mother and brother down there to start a poultry farm. They have been so successful that she is about to join them and add fruits and vegetables to the crops on her land, being assured of becoming independent thereby.

All along the Illinois Central in the river bottom land of Mississippi and Louisiana "are fruit and vegetable farms managed by women—most of them newcomers." They manage the farms and pack the berries and vegetables for the Chicago market. On an old plantation near New Orleans is an old woman who grows camellias and has been to Europe twice on the profits. In Grant parish, in the Red river country, there is an 18-year-old girl who runs her father's cotton gin and gins 1,800 bales a year. "She handles that snorting machine as if it were a baby; oils it, feeds it, fools over it, scolds it, tidies it up, and when it is working as good as gold she sits beside it—dear, dainty, and only 18—crocheting lace for her petticoats."

Katherine L. Minor, of the board of lady managers of the Columbian exposition, is a Louisiana planter, and, according to this lecturer, in every parish are women farmers, stock raisers and planters. Mrs. Field herself wears a medal that was the gift of the women of twenty different trades and professions followed by the working women of New Orleans. "Women are a power in the south," she says—though that is not a new idea—"of fearful force when they organize. I claim it was the women of Louisiana who killed the Louisiana state lottery. When the Women's anti-lottery was formed, the

lottery leaders practically admitted they had got their Waterloo." As for the question whether women are safe in the south, she answers boldly that "every man is her guard of honor." Accompanied only by a 15-year-old lad, she says she traveled 1,800 miles in a private vehicle in Louisiana safe and unharmed. She says that every man's hat is off to the working woman, and she holds securely whatever position her virtues, brains and blood demand.

DITCHLETS.

L. C. Dillman, of Spokane, proposes to make a big stroke toward developing Central Washington, and at the same time offer work to all the unemployed laborers in the state. The scheme is to dig three big irrigating ditches and pay the employes their board, clothing and other expenses, and the balance of their wages in interest-bearing bonds secured by lands along the ditches. Mr. Dillman and his associates have an option on 90,000 acres of railroad land, and propose that the chambers of commerce of Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane shall each appoint one person to join his board of directors to manage the affair. The company, if organized, is to contract for the purchase of these 90,000 acres, and at once sell enough on long in-

REMARKING ABOUT SUNNYSIDE

For the information of our many inquirers about ten and twenty-acre fruit, hop and alfalfa farms near Sunnyside, would say that we have had a very lively request during the past week, both for Sunnyside business and acre lots, and for the larger farms surrounding the town, and we have had a goodly number of eastern settlers during the week.

Some special bargains which we desire to lay before intending home-seekers are:

Three choice acre lots in the town of Sunnyside, beautifully smooth and ready for immediate irrigation, and in the most rapidly building section of the town. We also have thirty acres of excellent fruit and hop land one mile from Sunnyside. This land is in the midst of the most rapidly growing part of the country surrounding the town, where over twenty-five farm houses have been erected within the last six weeks. The terms are only one-fifth down and balance in five years time.

If you are seeking a home in a prosperous, rapidly-growing country, we think it is worth your while to make a trip to Sunnyside and

Chat With McGinnis.

stallments, with a small cash payment, to lay in sufficient tools and provisions to set the men at work. One ditch will extend from Priest Rapids toward Prosser Falls, on the west side of the Columbia river, and water 30,000 acres; the second extends from Wallula to Ainsworth, embracing 15,000 acres, and the third leaves Snake river near Riparia and traverses the Eureka flat through 45,000 acres.

A 10,000-acre irrigation ditch proposition is now being talked of for the country near Pasco, the water to be taken from the Snake with big pumps. The success of the pump works at Prosser is highly encouraging to all schemes of this kind.

The Moxee artesian wells promise abundant success for irrigation work; the supply of water seems endless. There are five wells now flowing, two more are being dug, and another half dozen are contemplated in the near future.

The Horse in His Stall.

There are some horses that have never been seen to lie down in their stall, said a Minnesota stockman. Some horses that continue to work for years always sleep standing, but their rest is not complete, and their joints and sinews stiffen. Young horses from the country are liable to refuse to lie down when first placed in a stable in town, and the habit may become confirmed unless special pains are taken to prevent it. Sick horses are very apt to refuse to lie down. They seem to have an instinctive fear that if they lie down they will never be able to get on their feet again. I once rode a horse seventy miles in a single day. I put the animal in as comfortable a stable as could be made, but he stood up all night, going to sleep with his breast against the stall.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

FOWL PICK-UPS.

Clean drinking water kept before the chicks at all times, and changed, will be worth more than medicine to fowls.

Nothing is better for young chicks than charcoal. It will keep them healthy.

This is the best month of the year to get out young chicks. The early birds will win the premiums at the fairs.

Brooder chicks will grow twice as fast as those that run with hens, if they get proper attention.

If the lice get a good start this month you will be fighting them all the year. But if you will apply the whitewash brush thoroughly, and oil the roost, you can prevent their coming.