Western Irrigation.

Amid the lost splendors of oriental nations of which scarcely more than the name now remains to us was the science of irrigation, and it was brought to a perfection never since equaled. Here and there are traces of vast ditches showing knowledge of mechanical engineering that is unsurpassed in our age. It is altogether probable that the nineteenth century will open on irrigating enterprises quite equaling those of ancient Africa and inducing a fertility never excelled in the land of olives, spices and pomegranates.

California has already tracts of land that demonstrate what can be done with irrigation in what seemed a desert. Other states are following rapidly in the same line. In the middle portion of southern California is one farm that originally comprised 400,000 acres. It was owned partly by J. B. Haggin, although it was too big for any one man to possess all himself. The idea of the owners of this vast body of land has been to divide it up into small fruit farms of from 20 to 40 acres each. The success in growing temperate zone fruits warrants the statement that 20 acres will support a family comfortably. Here will be one way of preventing the overcrowding of cities.

The method of irrigating the 400,000 acre tract is the most interesting matter connected with it at present. From Mount Whitney, the highest peak of the Sierra Nevada, flows the Kern river, through Kern county. It is formed from the melting of the snows on the mountain. This river has been tapped by canals—14 on one side, 13 on the other. These are the main canals. From them flow lateral canals to every farm, 1,100 miles of them. Leading from the large laterals are still smaller ones, lying along the line of the farmer's fields. The water is introduced into the fields by furrows that lie at close intervals. For ordinary field crops three irrigations a season are necessary. One man can manage one irrigation ditch, and eight men and eight ditches can irrigate 1,000 acres a day. For all the water you need, the cost is $1.50 to the acre a year.

This is the real way of praying for rain, and it will probably be brought into requisition more and more in the east as well as west. The Almighty gave man hands and brains to get all the water he needs for himself.

The Stein Arctic Expedition.

Judging from his photograph, Mr. Robert Stein of the United States geological survey possesses the warm colored hair which goes with the enthusiastic temperament that makes the successful soldier or explorer. If there is anything in temperament, therefore, Mr. Stein will safely accomplish the results he has set himself in arctic explorations. In May he will leave his native land for a trip that may last two or three years. He hopes he will be able to finish exploring the northern coast of North America and practically be able to map it out.

He will enter on his work from the northeast coast. Following the ordinary whaling route up as far as the northwest part of Baffin's bay, he will disembark at the southeast corner of Ellesmere Land. There, at the point where Jones' sound leads off from Baffin's bay, he will build a substantial house, fit for winter or summer. This will be his depot of supplies. With this as his headquarters he will make trips along the coast of Ellesmere Land, Grinnell Land and the northern coast of this continent in general. There are 500 or more miles on the northern and western shore of Ellesmere Land that have never yet been visited by an explorer.

Mr. Stein hopes to bring home rich scientific collections of animal and vegetable life, also minerals, from this region. It is believed that there is a tribe of Eskimos on the north shore of Ellesmere land that have never yet been favored with a call from the white man. If this is true, it will be immensely interesting to find out what a savage people are like that have never been subjected to the civilizing influence of the white man's tobacco and firewater.

A melancholy interest hovers around the fate of two daring young Swedish enthusiasts, Bjorling and Kallstenius, who left St. Johns, N. B., in a small whaling schooner in June, 1892, for Ellesmere Land. It was feared then that they would never be heard of again, and they have not thus far. The wreck of their schooner was found at the Cary islands, in Baffin's bay. Stein hopes to gain some tidings of their fate. He takes provisions for two years.

Union For Practical Progress.

The hard times have set people to thinking—at least those who have anything to think with. In many cases societies have been organized in which people can compare the results of their thinking and eliminate the erroneous from the logical. In other cases associations have been formed for direct practical work in helping humanity, their own members included. One of these is an outcome of the literary and philanthropic life that has gathered around the Boston Arena as a center. It is called the Union For Practical Progress.

The union has branches in the large cities, and additional divisions may be formed anywhere at any time. It asks the "moral forces" of community everywhere to join with it. Members of social, debating and reform clubs are especially invited to co-operate. The direct object of the union is "immediate and needed social, industrial and economic advancement."

Well, there is need of such advancement. The present commercial crisis shows that we are not yet more than half civilized; that we do not know half as much as we think we do or as we pretend to. We are scarcely more safe from hunger and famine than savage tribes are, as the present hard times prove. If the Union For Practical Progress can help mankind to be cleaner, honester and more prosperous, then heaven speed its work! But the danger is that it will let loose upon itself all the cranks in Christendom and be talked to death.

Measuring Criminals.

It was M. Bertillon, a Frenchman, who devised the system of anthropometry. Besides photographs, first of the profile, then full face, Bertillon conceived the idea of making certain measurements. Several diameters of the head and ear are taken, the exact height, length of arm, size of wrist, length of foot, length and shape of nose, and the exact color of eye are some of the items in this unerring system. The eyes are divided as to color into seven classes, noses as to shape into nine classes. The height, size and shape of the forehead are also noted.

M. Bertillon declares there is no more certain way to identify a man than by the head and ear measurement. He cannot change the shape of his ear unless he gets it done by a surgical operation, and, phrenology to the contrary notwithstanding, M. Bertillon says he cannot increase or diminish the length and breadth of his skull.

Every mole, birthmark or scar on the convict's body is noted. The examination is so thorough that a man might be measured and classified as soon as he had got his growth, and in many respects he could be spotted by the same method and placed after he was 70 years old. This system of anthropometry is so merciless in its discovery of old convicts that it has had a wholesome effect in diminishing crime already in Paris. The system is now in use with success in France, Belgium and Switzerland. We ought to have it in America.

Pulpit Elocution.

A gentleman who calls himself "a teacher of elocution" listened carefully to several preachers one after another to ascertain how they delivered their sermons. His conclusions will constitute very interesting reading to ministers everywhere, as well as to the congregations who hear them. The teacher writes in The Outlook. The preachers one and all showed conscientious preparation as to the matter of their sermons, but they apparently had given no more thought to the manner of delivering them than if the speech were expected to deliver itself. This is a sad mistake. The minister who gives the gospel to his hearers in an attractive way has twice as much prospect of saving sinners as the man who delivers his message in a harsh, dry, indistinct manner.

The first minister did not seem to be talking to his hearers at all, so utterly destitute of all sympathy was his voice. "I was made to feel that the minister, instead of talking right home to us in the pews, was consciously promulgating an official address." The next preacher was afflicted with some kind of chronic spasm about the throat that made his voice hard, metallic and repellent to sympathy. "Sometimes his voice gave out an intonation fairly ferocious." An assistant clergyman read the hymns and notices in a mumble jumble of which scarcely a word could be understood.

Next was a preacher who at times used the colloquial or conversational tone fairly well, which was excellent so far as it went, but in his voice there was a recurrent tune that acted as a narcotic. Yet preachers will grumble because people go to sleep under their sermons. His assistant read the Bible lesson in a drawl, indicating that he was bored to death. The teacher says this is a British fad, and it is spreading. He thinks the preacher guilty of using this voice ought to have a thrashing, and so he ought.

Then came the preacher who, while he was able to use the vivid colloquial style in general, drew out the little word "great" as if it had been an accordion. The teacher says many preachers do this. The last minister he noted ranted fearfully.

Suicides Are Insane.

That is the verdict of Professor Forbes Winslow, the expert in mental disease. He does not think that any legal penalties, however severe, will prevent persons from attempting to put themselves out of the world. The only measure he can recommend to that end is the making of life happier for the people with the suicidal mania, so that they will cease to want to get out of it. How to do this, however, Dr. Winslow does not say, and there is the rub. How to make ourselves and others happier and more comfortable in this dreary world is the problem that concerns all of us, even those who have least desire to get rid of life.

There is a strange disproportion between the sexes with regard to suicide. Where 73 men kill themselves only 27 women do. This makes the popular doctrine that men are stronger minded than women look a little shaky. Dr. Winslow says the greater pecuniary risks and responsibilities of men, the anxiety lest they fail to support those dependent on them, explains why men's brains are turned and they commit suicide oftener than women. But this conclusion is negatived by the fact that the majority of the men who kill themselves are unmarried, therefore have no families dependent on them.

In several recent cases the unfortunate self murderers were well to do bachelors, with plenty of friends and apparently not a care in life. The insanity that prompts self murder is usually an infinite and overwhelming weariness and disgust of life. It often comes to those who have lived selfish lives, caring for none but themselves. No wonder they get tired of it.

In Government Service.

General O. O. Howard, the Christian soldier, declares in a recent newspaper letter that if he were young again he would not go into government service. He says, "I would seek the more fearless freedom of civil pursuits rather than the monotonous, stifling restraints of any government service."

General Howard has spoken out here what every thoughtful person knows is true. In a table accompanying his letter we find that there are altogether 217,186 men in government service in all its branches—civil, military and naval and including congressmen, the United States court judges and the president and his cabinet. But the majority of this great army are humble clerks who get no more than $100 a month at the outside, few of them so much. And of the number 151,995 are young men between the ages of 21 and 35.

Of two young men equally well educated and capable one seeks a government appointment, because it is a "sure thing," as General Howard expresses it. He gets perhaps $75 a month to start. The other goes into a business house at $7 a week. In 15 years both men have families. The government clerk follows his round like a harness horse for a compensation of, say, $100 a month. It is the most he will ever get. The other has either a salary of $5,000 or is a partner in a commercial or manufacturing house and is a well to do man still full of hope and ambition.

Professor Dolbear has been experimenting as to the physiological effects of magnetism. It appears that what is commonly called a magnetic field—that is, space through which magnetic substances pass—does not affect the nervous system in any way. On the other hand, however, when a portion of the human body is placed within the alternating magnetic field—that is, a field in which the polarity is reversed many times a second by alternating magnetic currents—then complete insensibility of the part of the body subjected to this action is produced, and surgical operations may be performed on that spot without any feeling on the part of the patient. This is a great discovery. Patients need now no longer upset their digestion by chloroform and ether if Professor Dolbear's conclusion is applied to active surgery.

The New York Sun tells Utah how she can get into the Union without further delay. It is to annex herself to the state of Nevada and give up her name and territorial rights. The Sun thinks Utah has made the United States so much trouble that she ought to be willing to do this by way of compensation.

Mrs. T. S. Hawkins, Chattanooga, Tenn., says, "*Shiloh's Vitalizer 'SAVED MY LIFE.' I consider it the best remedy for a debilitated system I ever used.*" For Dyspepsia, Liver or Kidney trouble it excels. Price 75 cts. For sale by all Druggists.

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BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL.

Missouri has 365 coal mines.

Water proof velvet is something new.

Chicago claims to have 207 millionaires.

Aluminum violins are making themselves heard.

There are now 10,000 camels used in Australia.

The sword is the oldest manufactured weapon.

The cost of the Mexican war was about $100,000,000.

There are 5,838 building associations in this country.

The new lemon-hued Florida oranges are very sour.

New England shoe-shops are sure of a full winter's work.

Destruction of forests is modifying the climate of Mexico.

The world's production of gold in 1893 was 7,523,362 ounces.

The most abundant free metal in the earth's crust is copper.

American corset factories represent an investment of $7,000,000.

About 220,000,000 cigars are annually exported from Havana.

It requires twenty hours for a ship to pass through the Sious Canal.

It is estimated that one crow will destroy 700,000 insects every year.

Over 90 per cent. of the business of the United Staves is done by checks.

Raw silk of the value of $29,836,000 was imported during the last fiscal year.

There is a movement in Providence, R. I., in favor of 3-cent loaves of bread.

About 20 per cent. of the inhabitants of the United States are engaged in farming.

The gross value of British maritime interests amounts to slightly over $10,000,000,000.

The genuine Damascus blades that could be bent into a circle cost from $500 to $1,000.

Engineers have estimated that the total water-power of Niagara falls is 7,000,000 horse-power.

St. Louis is to have the largest tobacco factory in the world, to cost $1,000,000 and employ 3,000 men.

China's foreign trade amounts to about $238,000,000 a year, of which 60 per cent. is with great Britain.

It is said that the gold product of Montana will this year show an increase of 75 per cent. over that of 1893.

The largest match factory in the world will be built by the Diamond Match company in Liverpool, England.

A lamp chimney plant at Elwood, Ind., employing 700 men, will be enlarged immediately to double its capacity.

It is calculated that in 1865 the wealth of the Rothschilds will have increased from $2,000,000,000 to $60,000,000,000.

The net gold in the treasury at the beginning of President Cleveland's administration, March 4, 1893, was $106,893,224.

In converting redwood into railroad ties it is stated that for every tie produced, which is worth 35 cents, timber to the value of $1.87 is wasted.

According to recent statistics there are about two thousand women in this country who are practicing medicine. Of these 130 are homeopathists.

It is figured that every man, woman and child in the United States eats an average of 4½ bushels of wheat a year in the form of bread or breakfast cereals.

The outstanding debt of the United States at the close of the civil war, less cash in Treasury, was $2,508,151,211. In 1893 it had been reduced to $800,961,084.

According to statistics just completed there are 5,735 steamers flying the British flag, 810 the German, 510 the Norwegian, 503 the French and 430 the American.

There are about 80,000,000 corsets of home manufacture sold annually in Paris, besides a million or so of stays made in Germany and sent there to meet the demand.

There are 68,000 postoffices in the United States, about 67,000 do not pay their running expenses. The profit of the New York City postoffice is $4,000,000 a year.

Special returns on wheat-feeding to animals indicate 40,000,000 bushels already consumed and 60,000,000 to 75,000,000 bushels likely to be fed from the present crop.

In 1859 the New York *Tribune* paid Horace Greeley $50 a week and afterward reduced it to $40. At the same time Charles A. Dana received $48 and George William Curtis, as city editor, $20.

The great lake of pitch, on a hilltop on the green Island of Trinidad, covers nearly 100 acres, and no man knows its depth—solid on top, but almost liquid beneath the crust. The substance is treated so as to make it solid and used for street pavements.

It is said that a week's work in Birmingham, Eng., comprises, among its various results, the fabrication of 14,000,000 pens, 6,000 bedsteads, 7,000 guns, 300,000,000 cut nails, 100,000,000 buttons, 1,000 saddles, 5,000,000 copper or bronze coins, 20,000 pairs of spectacles.

Pussy Captures an Eagle.

Scientific American.

Charles Wiswell, of Carbonate, Lawrence county, S. D., has a cat that is a king of its kind. Besides being a good mouser, this remarkable feline is death to mountain rats, night hawks, and other small game, not long ago bringing home as the result of its prowess a large jack rabbit. But the most remarkable incident in the cat's history happened a day or two ago.

It was an encounter with a full grown bird of freedom, and pussy was the victor. The cat was sitting on a pile of quartz patiently awaiting the reappearance of a chipmunk, which but a moment before it had chased into a hole, when suddenly the sky above the cat became darkened, and an ominous swish as if from a rapidly moving body fell upon pussy's ear. The cat sprang aside with a motion so rapid that the eye could scarcely follow it, and in the place it had occupied but a moment before stood a full grown bald eagle, its plumage ruffed and thirsting for blood. Pussy had sand and accepted the gauge of battle, and in less time than it takes to tell it, the famous "cat and parrot" time was being re-enacted. It was a desperate struggle, and although pussy was pretty badly scratched by the eagle's talons, it, when taking the initiative in the fight, secured a decided advantage, having landed on the eagle's back. For a few moments the air was filled with fur and feathers, and the ground was all torn up, but pussy held on, and in a short time succeeded in biting through the neck of its antagonist. The struggles of the eagle grew weaker and weaker, and soon ceased altogether, and pussy, exhausted by the violent exertions and sore from wounds inflicted by the eagle's talons, rested for a moment, then, as calm as though sitting on a rug before the kitchen hearth, went carefully over the ruffled fur, made its toilet, and, seizing the body of the vanquished antagonist, drew it with much difficulty to the home of its master. Laying it at the master's feet, the cat purred its satisfaction, and in this way boasted of the victory.

The combat was witnessed by a number of people, every one of whom expressed a desire to buy the cat, but Mr. Wiswell says he would not sell it for the best mine in the Black Hills. The eagle measured six feet four inches from the tip of one wing to that of the other.

THE ROYAL NAVY.

Not Much Chance for Training in the Modern Ships.

The anonymous author of "Life in the Royal Navy," which has just been printed in London, points out that "the keen competition between ship and ship in our squadron did much to relieve a sea life of its ennui. During the day we were busy making preparations for any evolution that the admiral might signal to be carried out in the evening, so that when it came the work was performed with much zest by all hands. The tremendous desire to be first was such as to lead to hazardous running in and out and climbing on the mast and yards. This splendid training to keep men fit is now lost to us with the large abolition of masts and yards, and nothing of equal importance has been established to compensate for it. Something has been done in the way of physical drill and gymnastics, but there is much room for improvement in the same direction. The men should, in my opinion, be granted greater facilities for taking part in those exercises on shore that are at present doing so much for the youth of the country."

DONT'S FOR HUSBANDS.

DON'T forget that the true gentleman never uses profane or vulgar language; that he does not speak hastily.

DON'T hang about the kitchen, with advice here and suggestions there, unless your wife has the same privilege at your place of work or business.

DON'T pay a dollar for a lunch "down town," and half as much more for cigars, while you think up plans for greater economy in the family grocery bill.

DON'T require an itemized report of every dollar placed in her hands, even should she make an unwise expenditure; consider how many times you have given her the example.—Good Housekeeping.

The airship is not yet perfected, but a German, Otto Lilienthal, claims to have really invented a flying machine which will enable a private individual to take many a delightful pleasure sail through the air. The machinery Lilienthal uses might have been modeled from the wings of the people of Bulwer's coming race, so closely do they correspond to the propulsive machinery of that gifted folk. Taking the wings and tail of a bird as his immediate pattern, Lilienthal built a pair of fliers like bat wings in shape. They have light willow ribs and are covered with oiled silk. A tail attachment serves to steer the human flier. After many experiments Lilienthal had confidence enough in his machine to build a tower upon a bluff 340 feet high. He leaped from this boldly. At first he sank 50 feet, but was presently able to rise till he reached a height of 1,000 feet. He says great muscular strength is not required to fly like a bird, but only a knowledge of how to utilize the air resistance and currents exactly. Mr. Lilienthal is already able to fly in great circles and come back to his starting point.

A new device for disposing of snow in the streets of cities has been invented. The machine is a huge snow consumer. It moves along the streets, and when it comes to a pile of snow stops. The snow is dumped into an iron trough and runs out in a steady stream of more or less dirty water. A naphtha tank heats the iron trough in which the snow is placed and melts it. The iron trough will hold a cart load of snow. The snow turns into water and runs off in less than no time. This is an improvement on hundreds of carts wrestling hopelessly with a mountain of snow in the attempt to haul it away somewhere.

The Matabeles never despaired and let down absolutely till now. They sustained as bad a drubbing as ever the British gave a tribe of barbarians and still kept up their savage courage. Even after their fierce old King Lobengula was slain they retained their warlike spirit for a time. But when the question of who was going to support Lobengula's widows faced them in all its grim terrors then they weakened all in a bunch and came in and surrendered.

What a quarreling time of it the Knights of Labor have! The renowned cats of Kilkenny clawed each other all to pieces up to their tails, and the tails are supposed to be fighting still. Are the Knights of Labor, a few years ago esteemed such a strong and noble order, going to fight till only the tail ends of the different factions are left, and even then are these going to keep on with the scrimmage?

A member has been expelled from the Louisville city council for taking money to vote for a certain man as city weigher and sealer. Four other members are being tried on the same charge. What is the world coming to anyhow when a city councilman can no longer accept a bribe?

Mr. Bailey has introduced a bill into congress making it unlawful for senators and representatives to recommend to the president or heads of departments any person for public office. That bill has about as much chance of being passed as some politicians have of going to heaven.

The following sentence from BUCKLE contains a supreme truth: "There is no instance on record of any class possessing power without abusing it." It is the distribution of power among all classes that holds things level.

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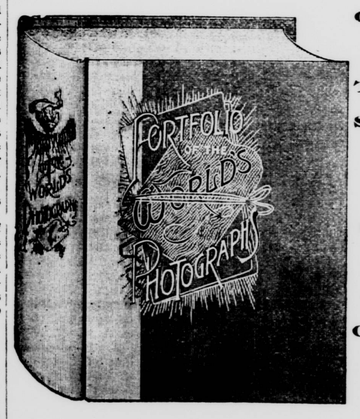

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Summons.

STATE OF WASHINGTON, County of Thurston, } ss.

In the Superior Court.

J. P. Manning, Plaintiff, vs. Edgar McGovern, Joshua Thayer, Milo A. Root, Almon S. Galliher, William Macmaster and Annie Macmaster his wife, and Alex Birrell and Christina Birrell his wife, Defendants. } Summons.

The State of Washington to the said Edgar McGovern, Almon S. Galliher, William Macmaster, Annie Macmaster, Alex Birrell and Christina Birrell, Defendants:

You are hereby summoned to appear within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the date of service, and defend the above entitled action in the court aforesaid; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you, according to the demand of the complaint, filed with the clerk of said court. Service of your answer may be made upon the undersigned at his office in the Williams' Block, Olympia, Wash.

HOBART G. HAGIN, Plaintiff's Attorney, Olympia, Thurston county, Wash.

Date of first publication, Oct. 12, 1894.

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