

THE CLARKE COURIER.

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MILES OF WHEAT.

What is said to be the largest single wheat field in California is now being planted to the grain that makes the staff of life.

This enormous field of grain is located on the banks of the San Joaquin river, near the town of Clovis, in Madera county.

Clovis Cole is the man who is putting in this vast acreage, and he has undertaken one of the largest jobs that any man has yet done in California.

While it is true that larger acreages of wheat have been planted by certain ranchers in the State, there seems to be no record of an exact parallel to the present case.

The Miller & Lux ranch in Kern county, 50,000 acres were planted in one year, but the fields were scattered about in different places.

They were really series of fields, located wherever there was a fertile spot.

Few of the fields were over 2,000 acres, and in many instances there would be half a mile of bare land between them.

The acreage planted could not be called a wheat field of 50,000 acres any more than all the wheat fields in the State could be classed under one field.

The Clovis field, however is an ideal wheat field. It is almost as flat as a floor with a gentle slope toward the river.

The other lines of the field make it almost a perfect square. Each side is a little over six miles, and if the day is clear every part of the field can be seen from any other part.

There are no roads through the Clovis wheat field. It is to be one solid stretch of grain, and every square foot of land is to be sterilized.

Plowing and planting began in the big wheat field about the middle of last July and will hardly be completed for the next two months at least.

But the grain will mature about the same time. Then will come the herculean task of harvesting it.

With the big improved machinery it does not look as though there was much work spent on planting and harvesting the field.

Suppose the field was one mile wide and forty miles long, and the one man had a double gage plow cutting a furrow twenty-four inches wide.

He would start at the corner of the field in San Francisco and plow south toward San Jose, a distance of forty miles.

Then he would come back and cut another furrow to San Francisco, making eighty miles for the roundtrip.

This amount of work would only be a tiny scratch four feet wide along one side of a forty-mile field, and the process would have to be repeated at least 1,300 times, making a total distance of about 105,000 miles.

Suppose that the plowman worked at the rate of about twenty miles a day. To get over the 105,000 miles would take 5,250 days.

To plant would take about the same time, making a total of 10,500 days, or nearly thirty years.

It would be like spending a lifetime and the distance travelled would be equivalent to going around the world four times.

And all in one California wheat field. To accomplish the necessary amount of work within the time at his disposal the owner of the Clovis wheat field has to employ over 200 men, over 1,000 horses and several tons of big machinery.

The men work early and late now, and if the whole acreage is planted by January and a sufficient quantity of rain falls, there will be such a crop of wheat as has never been heard of, for the land is good land and the seed good seed.

Then will the bread eaters of the world give thanks for the existence of the largest wheat field in California.

Cure Cold in Head. Kermott's Chocolate Laxative Quinine, easy to take and quick to cure cold in head and sore throat.

"We had an awful scare at our house last night." "What—burglars?" "Worse'n that; a baggage man brought a trunk to our door by mistake."

A Historical Incident Recalled.

Ex-Governor Merriam, of Minnesota, it seems, aspires to be ambassador to Russia.

According to the Chicago Chronicle there is a quarrel between the wife of Governor Merriam and Mrs. C. K. Davis, the wife of the peace commissioner, and the President has notified Governor Merriam that he must make his peace, or his wife must make her peace, with Mrs. Davis, or he cannot hope to be ambassador to Russia.

If this story is true it would not be the first time that a President of the United States took a hand in the quarrels among the ladies of his official family.

It was in "taking a hand" in a quarrel among women that President Andrew Jackson suffered one of his few defeats.

General Eaton, Jackson's Secretary of War, married in 1828 a widow, who had been known as "Pretty Peggy O'Neill."

She was the daughter of a tavern keeper in Washington and a woman of pleasing manners and great beauty.

The other cabinet ladies did not approve of Mrs. Eaton for various reasons, and they notified the President that they would not receive her in their homes and would countenance no social affair to which Mrs. Eaton was invited.

Mrs. Calhoun, the wife of the Vice President, led the movement. The President scolded with that emphasis and freedom for which he was justly distinguished that Mrs. Eaton must and should be received.

He invited the Secretary of War and his beautiful wife to the White House continually and defied the other ladies of the cabinet, but, of course, the ladies of the cabinet prevailed mightily and the President met with a humiliating and ignominious defeat.

He had never before met with such foes. Compared with them General Packenham and his regulars from the Peninsula were easy.

This famous quarrel over pretty Peggy O'Neill changed the history of the United States by preventing John C. Calhoun from being President.

That great man was the acknowledged administration candidate for the succession, and, as Jackson's influence in his party was supreme, he could have given him the nomination and the election would have followed almost as a matter of course.

But General Eaton's friends were so incensed at the part Mrs. Calhoun had taken against pretty Peggy that they searched out from a pigeon hole in the War Department a report written by Mr. Calhoun when Secretary of War strongly condemning an invasion of Spanish territory by Jackson.

This report was shown to the President and greatly incensed him. It began the trouble which resulted in the complete alienation of the two statesmen and the substitution of Van Buren as the administration candidate for the Presidency.—Balt. Sun.

To insure a happy new year, keep the liver clear and the body vigorous by using De Witt's Little Early Risers, the famous little pills for constipation and liver troubles.

GENERAL LEE RESPONSIBLE.—After Lee had taken Harper's Ferry, the President determined to fix the responsibility for the loss of that important position.

Halleck was summoned, but did not know where the blame lay. "Very well," said Lincoln, "I'll ask General Schenck. The latter could throw no light upon the question. Milroy was the next to enter a plea of "not guilty." Hooker made a very emphatic disclaimer of all responsibility.

Then the President assembled the four generals in his room, and said to them: "Gentlemen, Harper's Ferry was surrendered, and none of you, it seems, is responsible. I am very anxious to discover the man who is."

After striding across the room several times, the President suddenly threw up his bowled head and exclaimed: "I have it; I know who is responsible." "Who, Mr. President, who is it?" asked the distinguished quartette. "Gentlemen," said the President, with a meaning twinkle in his eye, "General Lee is the man."

La Grippe is again epidemic. Every precaution should be taken to avoid it. Its specific cure is One Minute Cough Cure. A. J. Shepherd, Publisher Agricultural Journal and Advertiser, Eldon, Mo., says: "No one will be disappointed in using One Minute Cough Cure for La Grippe." Pleasant to take, quick to act.

Temperature in Havana. Chicago Record: In Havana the mean annual temperature varies in different years from 77 to 79.

Throughout the West Indies the mean annual temperature near the sea is from 78 to 80. The mean daily range is about 6 and the mean annual range does not exceed 20.

The mean temperature in Havana of the hottest months varies from 80 to 85, and the mean temperature of the coldest months from 70 to 76.

The minimum temperature is very rarely as low as 50 and the high rarely exceeds 100. There are no records of frosts, except on December 24 and 25 in 1856.

Even in the high altitudes on the Tatquino, some 8000 feet above the sea level, there are but few frosts and never snow.

The average number of rainy days in Havana is from 112 to 115. The average amount of rain for a period of 16 years was 49 inches, and in the same period the maximum rainfall was 70.

Cookran's Style of Oratory Defined.

The Verdict: Once O'Ferrall, afterword Governor of Virginia, told a story that exactly characterized Bourke Cookran's oratory.

O'Ferrall was following Cookran, who for two hours had deafened the House, without adding to its story of wisdom, in the matter of the Rockwell election contest.

Referring to Cookran's awful uproar and paucity of argument, O'Ferrall observed: "As I sat listening to the gentleman, Mr. Speaker, and reflected on the riot of words without purpose or aim, or any fleeting, passing glimmer of good sense he was unloading on this House, I began to feel like the old darkey who was plodding and splashing homeward through a midnight thunder storm.

The winds were blowing and the rain sheeting downward. Every other moment a flash of lightning slashed the heavens briefly like a knife of fire.

Then followed the thunders, rolling crash on crash, as if the very roots of the hills were being torn from their home in the ages.

The lightning would last but a second, and then leave the poor old darkey in blacker night than ever.

But the thunders were incessant; their rollings were without end. At last the old darkey became frightened, and, following a thunderous peal of unusual horror, he plumped down on his knees in the mud and began to pray.

"Oh Lawd," he cried, "far be it from one so humble as I to tell Thee Thy business. But if it's all the same to Thee an' Th' don't pester Thee or change too much Thy infinite plans, couldn't this storm be managed so as to give us a little less noise an' a little mo' light? Amen!"

Food does more harm than good when not digested. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure digests what you eat. It prevents wasting diseases and cures stomach troubles.

It cures indigestion, sour stomach and belching, and allows a worn-out stomach rest. It acts instantly.

A Waste of Good Material. A well-known Congressman, who was a farmer before he went into politics, was doing his district not long ago, and in his rambles he saw a man in a stumpy patch of ground trying to get a plough through it.

He went over to him after a brief salutation, and asked the privilege of making a turn or two with the plow. The native shook his head doubtfully as he looked at his visitor's store clothes and general air as a gentleman of elegant leisure, but he let him take the plow.

The Congressman sailed away with it in fine style and plowed four or five furrows before the owner of the field could recover from his surprise.

Then he pulled up and handed the handles over to the original owner. "By gravy, mister," said the farmer, admiringly, "are you in the agricultural business?"

"No," laughed the statesman. "Yain't selling plows?" "No."

"Then what in the thunder are you?" "I'm the member of Congress from this district."

"Air you the man I voted for and that I've been readin' about in the papers doin' legislatin' and such in Washin'?" "Yes."

"Well, by hokey, mister," said the farmer, as he looked with admiration over the recently plowed furrows, "ef I'd had any idea that I was votin' for a waste of such good farmin' material, I'd voted for the other candidate as sure as shootin'."—Detroit Free Press.

Horrible agony is caused by Piles, Burns and Skin Diseases. These are immediately relieved and quickly cured by De Witt's Witch Hazel Salve. Beware of worthless imitation.

AN OLD SUPERSTITION.—As to the old superstition about lucky and unlucky days for marriage, which lingers in many minds even to this day, the general idea is embodied in the following lines:

"Monday for wealth, Tuesday for health, Wednesday the best day of all; Thursday for crosses, Friday for losses, Saturday no luck at all!"

Me. S. A. Packler, Editor of the Michigan (Fla.) Hustle, with his wife and children, suffered terribly from La Grippe. One Minute Cough Cure was the only remedy that helped them. It acted quickly. Thousands of others use this remedy as a specific for La Grippe, and its exhausting after effects. Never fails.

Washington's Fine Tact. "The social punctilio of the Philadelphia Assembly" was enforced perhaps more rigidly in the early Colonial days than it is today.

For a girl whose name had been on its lists of the chosen indiscreetly took a goldsmith and jeweler for a husband she was dropped at once from participation in the sacred functions for having committed the unpardonable sin of "marrying in trade."

William Perrine of "The Most Aristocratic Social Event in America," in the January Ladies' Home Journal. "The 'trade' line of demarcation, indeed, gave rise ultimately to a social war, and a second 'Assembly' was formed, made up chiefly of the families of tradesmen in opposition to 'the aristocracy.'"

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The one 'Assembly' announced a great ball in honor of his birthday for the night before the twenty-second of February; the other prepared for a similar event the night afterward, and the sagacious Washington delivered himself from the dilemma by attending both, and proposing on each occasion the same toast—"The State of Pennsylvania."

But there was another version of the strife which gave much delight to the populace in their speculations over the rivalries of the quality. It was that Washington, who was a good dancer, had gone to the ball of the plebeian 'Assembly,' and had there led the cotillon with the daughter of a mechanic!

The One Day Cold Cure. Cold in head and sore throat cured by Kermott's Chocolate Laxative Quinine. As easy to take as candy. Children try for them.

Plants sleep at various hours and not always at night. The duration of plant sleep varies from 10 to 18 hours. Light and heat have little to do with plants sleeping, as the different species go to sleep at different hours of the day.

Thus the common morning glory (convolvulus purpureus) opens at dawn, the Star of Bethlehem about 10 o'clock, the ice plant at noon. The goat's beard, which opens at sunrise, closes at midday, and for this reason is called "go to bed at noon."

The flowers of the evening primrose and of the thorn apple open at sunset and those of the night flowering cereus when it is dark.

The smallest things may exert the greatest influence. De Witt's Little Early Risers are unequalled for overcoming constipation and liver troubles. Small pill, best pill, safe pill.

Lady (excitedly)—Have you filed my application for a divorce yet? Lawyer—No, madam; but I am at work on the papers now.

Lady—Thank fortune! I am not too late. Destroy all papers and evidence at once, please.

Lawyer—A reconciliation has been brought about between you and your husband, I infer?

Lady—Gracious, no! He was run over and killed by a freight train this morning, and I want to retain you in my suit against the company for damages.

Paul Perry, of Columbus, Ga., suffered agony for thirty years, and then cured his Piles by using De Witt's Witch Hazel Salve. It heals injuries and skin diseases like magic.

"Have you seen a stray dog?" "What kind?" "Black and tan. Round spot under his ear. Escaped from his kennel about 15 minutes ago and ran off in this direction. I wouldn't lose him for anything."

"What do you value him at?" "Two hundred dollars." "Well, he's worth more than that now. I saw him going likely split down that alley five minutes ago with at least 10 cents' worth of tinware."

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Take Liver-tonic for Liver Ills. 2c.

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Men's Heavy Goods of all Kinds—Calf, Box Calf, Russet, Tan, Enamel and Patent Leather—at All Prices.

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Sibert & Denny, JEWELERS, Winchester, Va.

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GOLD AND SILVERWARE, SILVER-PLATED WARE, SPECTACLES, EYE-GLASSES, WATCHES, CLOCKS, &c., all of which we offer at very close prices.

REPAIRING done to all kinds of watches, clocks, jewelry, &c., and satisfaction guaranteed in every instance.

Hoping to receive a share of your patronage, we are Yours respectfully, jan15 1y SIBERT & DENNY.

W. Richardson, DRUGGIST AND APOTHECARY

"This," said the police judge the other morning, "is one of the most aggravated cases of assault and battery ever brought to my official notice. How could a big, able-bodied man like you strike a deaf mute?"

"Do you m'ane that he could n'ather sp'ake nor h'are?" "That's precisely what I mean." "Thin' sor, phy the devil didn't he say so?"

indigestion dyspepsia biliousness

and the hundred and one similar ills caused by impure blood or inactive liver, quickly yield to the purifying and cleansing properties contained in

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