

CENTURY PLANT ONLY INAME.

It is strange how so many errors in natural history have been made and for years and years accepted as facts. Forty years ago the tomato was known in such common use as a table vegetable was looked upon as poisonous and was only used for ornamental purposes—placed upon mantels and baskets and was called "love apple." The red beet was also formerly grown as a curiosity, and its usefulness as a pie was a discovery of comparatively out date, the impression prevailing that the blood red, was similar to three pucoon root and poisonous. The ideas were common only a few years ago as to the properties of many other things which passed as indisputable facts. We were formerly told that the pure water teemed with animals. The latest scientific investigations have utterly refuted that theory, and we are now told that pure water contains nothing of the kind, and that it only contains a few microscopic animals. It has also been discovered that the pores of human skin are not half as numerous as we have been told to be. The century plant named, because the plant that bloomed only once in a century, it carries a false name, which should be wiped out. These things are quite extensive in garden. One of the most curious of the South States, as a curiosity—for certain the beauty about it—and the few years ago, owing to the fact that has been ascertained that they do bloom more than once in 100 years. There are many in California who know better, or should know better, will tell you that they bloom at great intervals—say once in fifty or a hundred years. The fact is that in Arizona, which is its native home, and where it is known by the Mexican name "Mesquite," it blooms in four to seven years from the seed; but in most of them bloom on the fourth or fifth year. They grow in large patches on the slopes and foot hills of the Santa Rita, Patagonia, Escambray, and the Chiricahua mountain and from a short distance resemble a cabbage patch. The Indians roast them in pits, after which they dry them and thus prepare them for food. The Mexicans distill liquor from them which is called "mesquite," and by many is considered superior to corn whiskey. The cultivation of the mesquite plant could be made a profitable business in this and Caddo county. It is extensively grown in Sonora and Sinaloa where good plants when fully matured are worth one dollar to one dollar and a half apiece. Arizona Citizen.

THE LAND CONTRACT

"The unkindest cut of all." The Capitolian Advocate is engaged in showing that the Picayune's "land grab" sensation is "no great shakes" after all, and even that there is in it far from being altogether creditable to Gov. Wiltz, who made the contract, or Attorney John McEnery, who was the beneficiary under it. Our Baton Rouge contemporary has apparently established the points that the person who is making up the data which serves the Picayune for double-headed blows at the State administration is interested in the Houmas "land grab" which Attorney McEnery is successfully resisting in behalf of the State; that this Houmas "land grab" is a most outrageous piece of business, which, if successfully carried out, would deprive over 3000 of the thrifty and industrious residents on some 90,000 acres of land, lying between the Mississippi River and the Amite River and Lake Maurice, of their homes; and that in recovering this important and immensely valuable tract for the State, Attorney McEnery could not be paid "the king's" as the former would be compelled to defend the present possession of the land holdings; and that, therefore, to locate on other lands owned by Louisiana was the only means of compensating the attorney for his important services rendered. There is one thing beginning to show up very clearly under the light of full examination and discussion. The Picayune's very savage and persistent assaults upon Gov. McEnery will have no very enduring effect upon the reputation of that official, for while it may be demonstrable that his confidence and trust were to some extent imposed upon, his determination to secure the public interests has been promptly exhibited when the facts became known to him. And should it be more clearly shown that selfish motives, not the public good, actuated such attacks, the revulsion of public sentiment in favor of Gov. McEnery will be swift and strong.—N. O. City Item.

In some portions of Texas where the growth has been of unusual severity and the people have barely enough water to moisten their parched lips, a novel method has been adopted for cleaning the dishes. A basket of clean dirt is procured and the dishes brought in contact with it. Then a cloth is used and the crockery presents a milky whiteness and polish seldom given it by the application of soap and water in a dirty dish pan.

A Marine girl don't want her lover to name a boat after her, because she don't desire to read in the papers that "Matilda Slocum is up for repairs," "Matilda Slocum is in the dock to be scraped," etc.—Boston Globe.

A ROMANIC CAREER.

[New York Express.] W. M. Freeman, a young Mississippian, set out for Texas yesterday. At this age there is nothing unusual about a man going to Texas, unless he has been cashier, but the semi-romantic career of Mr. Freeman before being placed in a position by which he was enabled to go to the Lone Star State is certainly worth a paragraph. Last fall Mr. Freeman invented a new and simple machine of some style immaterial to this story, for baling cotton. He came to this city with only a few dollars in his pocket, and attempted to form a company among the members of the Cotton Exchange to operate his patent. None, however, would touch it. The first of the year found Freeman "flat broke." He had no means here or elsewhere—nothing except his patent. He wandered about the streets borrowing or begging a few dimes occasionally from a Southern or Western man. This precarious state of affairs existed until some six weeks ago, when he made another tour of the commission houses. In one he found a pretty shrewd business man, who chanced to have a moment

"This is the second time you have tried to bore me to death with this device," said the merchant, "and now I'll give you just fifteen minutes to explain what it can do. But if you can't do it, you are a humbug and you are to be kicked out of my door." Freeman was on hand and found a cotton man awaiting. All were well pleased with the device, and negotiations were opened which resulted in Freeman selling his invention to the cotton men for \$72,500, who manufacture it. Freeman possibly one of the happiest men on earth. He looked it for an investment, and he concluded to go southwest and start him a stock farm. When he left yesterday his ticket read San Antonio, Tex.

The best drink for children in summer unquestionably lemonade—faster than ice-water. It is very unlikely that the habit of drinking ice-water is one of the causes of diphtheria. Every body knows that ice is free from impurities long as it remains frozen; very few people consider that is equally true, that when it melts the impurities in the water are released again, and in drinking it great risks are run in this way. It is much more wholesome to drink the water cold by standing the pitcher on ice than to drink ice-water in the usual way.

THE JUROR PLEADED GUILTY. [Mobile Reg.] A negro man was sworn upon the jury in a larceny case, looked very dejected, and as soon as the clerk called away to a corner of the division, and hid his face from the judge. Presently the judge had occasion to address the juryman, and, after repeated attempts to attract his attention, had him punched in the side. The juror arose. "Do you know why you were here for?" demanded the judge, with severity. "Fore de Lord, I don't know nuffin." "Don't you know what case this is?" "Somehow do I recollect," said the darkey, scratching his head. "Well," exclaimed the judge, "it's the case where the white man are accused with stealing the trousers of cotton!" "I didn't steal um, as the excited reply of the thoroughly bewildered negro. The judge explained the matter and the trial proceeded.

MONROE ADVERTISEMENTS.

SAN KUHN, Will pay the highest cash prices for HIDES, WOOL, FURS, BEES-WAX AND TALLOW. Call and see him. Monroe, La., January 20, 1883. JOHN ING. —DEALER IN— FANCY AND FAMILY GROCERIES WINE, LIQUORS, TOBACCO, CIGARS, MEATS, COFFEE, ETC. DESIARD STREET, MONROE, LA. Just received a choice line of the goods above named, which will be sold at bottom figures for the money. Thanking the public for the liberal patronage shown me in the past, I hope to receive a continuance of the same. JOHN ING Monroe, August 12, 1882. MILLINERY STORE! LATEST NOVELTIES! To the Ladies of Monroe and North Louisiana: I take this method of thanking you for your patronage, and solicit a continuance of the same. I am now receiving the latest PARIS AND NEW YORK NOVELTIES In Millinery and Straw Goods, and solicit an early call. Special attention given to Country orders. Very Respectfully, Mrs. ANNE MITCHELL. Monroe, September 9, 1882. J. F. WETZEL, Dealer in all kinds of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, COFFINS, COFFIN TRIMMINGS, &c. Furniture repaired, or made to order, and satisfaction guaranteed. All orders for Furniture promptly attended to. Coffins supplied at short notice, with services of undertaker, if desired. I have also on hand a full stock of Children's Carriages, which I offer for sale at low prices. Store and shop on Grand street, opposite McFee's drug store. An inspection of our work and furniture is respectfully invited. January 1, 1880. SOUTHERN CARRIAGE FACTORY. The undersigned takes pleasure in making known that he is now as well prepared as before the war, if not better, to do all kinds of work, either in Manufacturing or Repairing CARRIAGES, BUGGIES, HACKS, ETC. Ready made work kept on hand; specimens of which may be seen by calling at the factory. He will also carry on a general Blacksmith shop, arranged to do all kinds of blacksmithing. Terms reasonable. January 1, 1879. OFFICE SALOON, GRAND STREET, MONROE, LA. [Established 1807.] The Proprietor assures his many friends and customers that he will constantly keep on hand the finest and best brands of Wines, Liquors and Cigars, All of which will be served with promptness and politeness. A. J. KELLER, Proprietor. January 1, 1879. ERNST FUDICKAR, No. 13 GRAND STREET, Corner Grand and Calypso Streets, MONROE, LA. Dealer in Choice Family Groceries, Wines, Liquors, Cigars, Tobacco and General Assorted Merchandise. My delivery wagon will deliver all purchases free, and orders left at either store will receive prompt attention. Monroe, Feb'y 14, —6m.

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More people have read THE SUN during the year just now passing than ever before since it was first printed. No other newspaper published on this side of the earth has been bought and read in any year by so many men and women. We are readily informed that people buy, read, and like THE SUN for the following reasons, among others: Because its news columns present in attractive form and with the greatest possible accuracy whatever has interest for humankind; the events, the deeds and misdeeds, the wisdom, the philosophy, the notable folly, the solid sense, the improving nonsense—all the news of the business world at present revolving in space. 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