

The Islander.

VOL. 6. NO. 5.

FRIDAY HARBOR, SAN JUAN CO., WASH., THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1896.

PRICE, 5 CENTS.

TELEGRAPHIC RESUME

Events of the Day in a Condensed Form.

OF INTEREST TO ALL READERS

Items of Importance From Domestic and Foreign Sources—Cream of the Dispatches.

Matt McGuire and Jacob Henke, miners, were instantly killed by an explosion of powder in their cabin near Sheridan, Mont.

The date for the execution of H. H. Holmes, the convicted murderer, has been fixed by Governor Hastings of Pennsylvania for Thursday, May 7.

A terrible conflagration raged for twenty-four hours at Asperen, South Holland. Several churches, the post-office and fifty buildings were destroyed.

The bicycle squad has proved satisfactory beyond anticipation, and when spring comes all New York's asphalt streets will be patrolled by policemen on wheels.

President Cleveland has approved the bill granting the right of way to the Columbia & Keel Mountain Railroad Company through the Colville reservation, Washington.

In London the young radicals have broken out in revolt against the policy of the leaders of their party. The dual leadership between Lord Roseberry and Sir William Harcourt is the source of dispute.

The French historical society has placed a tablet on the house which Benjamin Franklin occupied in 1776, at Passy, France. Two members of the society eulogized Franklin, referring to his career as a scientist.

Minister Taylor has refused the resignations of Spaniards acting as United States consuls when they were written in Spanish, on the ground that that language is not the official language of the United States.

Letters written by Mayor Sutro, of San Francisco, to congressmen against the funding bill, have been seized by the postoffice authorities. Their objection is that the envelopes bear the inscription, "Huntington would not steal a red-hot stove."

Undergraduates of Princeton college burned in effigy the king of Spain in a demonstration in which several hundred took part. The flag of Spain was dragged through the main street, and later was torn to pieces in the center of the campus.

The charge d'affaires of the United States embassy in Berlin, J. B. Jackson, has had several meetings recently with the authorities in regard to the insurance matter, and they have promised to expedite a re-examination in the case of the American companies.

Senator Mitchell of Oregon has been consulting with the war department concerning an emergency appropriation for the cascade locks, to make the locks secure so they can be early opened for navigation. He will introduce a joint resolution for such amount as the war department recommends, so that it may be immediately adopted.

Actors Will Long and John West fought a duel after the close of a performance at Marion, Ind. Long was fatally wounded. The men are members of the "O'Houlihan's Masquerade" company, and after a rough-and-tumble fight in West's dressing room, secured pistols and met on the stage. In the volley which followed Long received two bullets. West was unhurt.

Admiral Richard W. Meade, in a lecture on "The Caribbean Sea," said that in case of trouble between the United States and Great Britain over Venezuela, the first shot fired in anger will sound the death knell of the British empire. Discussing the Cuban question, he said that Cuba should bear the same relation to Spain that Canada bears to the British empire.

It is possible that the sugar bounty bill will not pass the German reichstag, for even the agrarians are not unanimously in favor of it. The feature of the bill to which objection is made is a proposed increase in the consumption tax of from 18 to 24 marks. It has been stated in the reichstag that sugar bounties would amply offset the German sugar in America and England at the expense of Germany.

The dead body of an American, found six miles below El Paso, Tex., has been identified as that of Mr. Doyle, of Cripple Creek, Colo. He had a bullet hole through his head, and his neck was broken. His murderers had evidently first lassoed him and dragged him around till his neck was broken, and then shot him through the head. Doyle was said to be interested in rich mining property at Cripple Creek.

Inspector McCormick, of the interior department, is now practically done with his task of securing by treaty, from the Apaches of the White Mountain reservation, segregation of the noted Deer Creek coal fields, in San Carlos, A. T. The Indians have agreed to have an area of land out of the reservation covering all the Deer Creek coal fields, and any other land on which a coal formation can be traced. The Indians will receive the proceeds of sale of coal lands as collected under the existing laws.

John Hays Hammond, the American mining engineer under bail at Johannesburg, awaiting trial on a charge of treason, has cabled Secretary Olney as follows: "Please record my appreciation of Consul Manoon's efforts in my behalf. He has shown wisdom and good judgment, rendering me a great service. I am well treated by the gov-

ernment. The preliminary trial will begin soon. I have no fear of the ultimate result, as I am innocent of attempting to overthrow the government, although participating in the revolutionary movement."

J. R. Bartlett, president of the Nicaragua Canal Construction Company, confirms the report that negotiations are in progress for a fusion of the Panama and Nicaragua companies. The scheme, however, has not yet secured the consideration of their respective boards. The consolidation of interests is regarded with great favor in banking circles in Europe, and it is understood in America as tending to remove the rivalry between interests, and the governments are also believed to be friendly to the proposed combination. It is believed that an Anglo-French-American syndicate for canal-building is being formed, but the details are withheld.

Fire destroyed a block of ten houses in Pittsburg, Pa., rendering ten families homeless, and causing a loss of \$5,000.

The Commercial and Savings bank, of San Jose, Cal., has closed its doors. The depositors, it is said, will be paid in full.

The defenses at Esquimalt, B. C., are again being strengthened. Seven new heavy breech-loading guns have just arrived from England.

The collapse of the rear of a frame factory building in Chicago resulted in seriously injuring five persons and nearly 100 others had narrow escapes.

Four men were killed and one injured by the blowing up of an engine on the Delaware, Susquehanna & Schuylkill railroad at Gum Run, Pa.

A project is on foot in Vancouver, B. C., to hold a championship professional regatta at the time of the meeting of the Northwest Pacific Association of Amateur Oarsmen.

There have been floods in the Alpine districts of the Tyrol and in Bohemia, with avalanches and landslides on the railway. It is feared that many lives have been lost.

In Oakland, Cal., two children, aged 10 and 5, were run down by an electric car and instantly killed. The children were daughters of Frank E. Booth, a commission merchant doing business in San Francisco.

James Duggan, a well-known citizen of Denver and five others have left there for the Alaskan gold fields. The party will number fifty and they will go in a chartered vessel, and carry supplies for a two years' stay.

President Cleveland held his first tri-weekly reception to the public at the White House, after a suspension of nearly two years. About 200 persons took advantage of the opportunity to shake hands with the president.

In San Francisco 800 painters went on a strike. They ask for an increase of 50 cents a day, making their wages \$3 instead of \$2.50. The strike was ordered by the Painters' union, and was decided upon some days ago.

The president has pardoned Nathan Blum, convicted in Oregon of smuggling and conspiracy, but whose sentence was suspended, and F. M. Sausbury, convicted in Oregon of misusing penalty envelopes, and fined \$300.

John L. Sullivan and Parson Davies are preparing to head a movement to place pugilism on a paying basis again. Sullivan believes sporting men should organize and refuse to cast their ballots for legislators or congressmen who would not agree to let prizefighters go un molested.

Robert Edgren, the well-known university hammer-thrower, has broken the world's record for throwing the 16-pound hammer. On the Berkeley campus, in Berkeley, Cal., he threw the missile which has made him famous 147 feet and 7 inches. The world's record was 145 feet.

The National Armenian relief committee of New York will send \$10,000 to Constantinople. It is stated by the committee that money made among the Armenians, and at the present time the greatest obstacle to the work of relief is lack of funds rather than opposition by the sultan.

The disreputable women who infest Morton street and St. Mary's Place, in San Francisco, are in a state of terror on account of the murder of two of their class within a month. Both women were strangled to death in their rooms, and in both cases the murderers have escaped.

A dispatch from Barcelona says that the merchants of the city have agreed not to sell American products in the event of Cleveland approving the Cuban belligerency resolutions. They have also opened a subscription toward a fund, which is to be devoted to the purchase of warships.

Delegates from the various commercial organizations of San Francisco held a conference as to the best means of protecting San Francisco's trade way ports against Portland's competition. A committee was appointed to wait upon the O. R. & N. and North Pacific steamship companies, and ask them to discontinue their services between Portland and Eureka and intermediate points.

An attempt was made to wreck the Union Pacific, Butte & Salt Lake express one mile from Pocatello, Idaho. When within a short distance of the last switch, Engineer Andrews saw a man throw the switch and run away. The engineer immediately reversed his engine. The train left the track, but fortunately the cars remained upright, and no one was injured. There is a deep fill at this point, and had the train not been promptly stopped, it would have dashed down the steep grade. No motive is known for the deed.

CASE OF THE IDAHO

End of a Long Fight Against Smugglers.

LARGE AMOUNT OF OPIUM SEIZED

The Matter Has Been Settled by Payment of Twelve Hundred Dollars to the Government.

Port Townsend, March 12.—In 1886 the Pacific Coast Steamship Company's steamer Idaho, plying between this port and Alaska, was seized by Collector of Customs H. F. Beecher and \$18,000 worth of opium was found on board. As Captain James Carroll, commander of the steamer Idaho, owned a fish cannery at Kasaan bay, Alaska, the revenue cutter Wolcott was dispatched to that point, where eleven additional barrels of opium were found. Three months later 600 pounds more were found on the Idaho on her return from Alaska. She was again seized and placed under bonds in the sum of \$30,000. When the trial came on she was forfeited and an appeal taken by her owners to the United States supreme court, where the findings of the district court were sustained.

Early in the year 1890 the steamer Idaho was wrecked on Race rocks and afterward floated off and into Dungeness, where she drifted around, being finally picked up and towed into Port Townsend bay, where she afterward sank. Several hundred pounds of opium were taken off the steamer while she lay on Race rocks. The amount of the opium captured, taken in addition to the bonds in which the steamer was held, totaled \$108,000. The bondsmen were three prominent men, one of Port Townsend, another of Seattle, and the third of Tacoma. The matter dragged on from one term of court to another, and, as the principal witnesses had been spirited away, there was probably good reason for such continuance.

However, the case has been settled now, the amount paid to the government being the pitiful sum of \$1,200. As the opium was sold there was no loss to the government on that score. Ex-Collector Beecher, who seized the Idaho, had a claim of \$8,000 against her for informant's fees. He will, of course, get little or nothing of the amount. This has ended one of the largest opium captures ever made in the United States.

It was in trying to wreck the hulk of the old steamer Idaho that Captain Peter Pecarty was blown up by dynamite less than a week ago.

AMERICAN FLAGS BURNED.

Rioting Students at Salamanca Charged by Gendarmes.

Madrid, March 12.—There was a serious anti-American riot at Salamanca yesterday evening, and students burned American flags amid the acclamation of the crowds. Gendarmes charged the rioters, and dispersed them temporarily. Later the students reassembled and gathered another mob about them. The prefect exhorted the students to disperse, but they hooted. Finally the prefect was compelled to call upon the police for protection. Gendarmes again charged the riotous students, who met the onslaught with showers of stones, but order was finally restored. The university has been closed.

The demonstrations of patriotic fervor and hostility to the United States were renewed at Bilbao today, and efforts were again made to do violence to the United States consulate. The mob stoned the Dutch consulate, having mistaken that office for the consulate of the United States, which was eventually guarded by the police force.

Death and Neglect.

Mexico, Mo., March 12.—One of the most horrible tales of death and neglect that has ever been told in this part of the state has just come to light at Martinsburg, Mo. Coroner Rodes, of this city, received a telegram from Father Dill, of the Catholic church at Martinsburg, telling him to come immediately. On his arrival he was taken to the farm of Pat Cronin, an old Irish farmer. Here an awful sight was disclosed. Lying on a bed in the room was the body of Cronin, in a most advanced stage of decomposition, and the stench which filled the house was almost unbearable. Mrs. Cronin, who had been subject to insane spells, was going about her household duties as usual, cooking a meal in the room where the corpse lay and taking no special notice of it. Nothing could be learned from her as to when her husband died or what caused his death. It seems that Mrs. Cronin thought her husband very ill, and sat up with him each night until his face became black. She then became frightened and told the priest. Mrs. Cronin has taken sick and has died since. She was to have been taken to the asylum today.

The Defense of Chicago.

Chicago, March 12.—Lieutenant J. F. Thompson, chief ordnance officer of the department of the Missouri, told Chicago people last night how utterly defenseless their city would remain if the \$2,500,000 for coast defense, intended for 150 fortifications should, as a matter of economy, be cut off the bill now before congress. He made public for the first time, in a paper read in the New England Congregational church, just what it is that the ordnance corps, acting with the other departments, hopes to accomplish in the way of making seaports impregnable to attack when the appropriation of nearly \$100,000,000 reported favorably in committee, should become available.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

Condensed Record of the Doings of the Nation's Lawmakers—Senate.

Washington, March 11.—When the Cuban question was laid aside in the senate today, Turpie was recognized for an argument against the claim of Dupont to a seat in the senate from Delaware. The senator had not concluded when, at 4:35, the senate held a brief executive session, and soon thereafter adjourned. Frye introduced a bill for the establishment of a department of the government to be known as the department of commerce and manufactures, the head of which is to be a member of the president's cabinet. The senate committee on public lands decided not to recommend the passage of the Arizona land bill over the veto of the president, but to recommend a new bill.

Washington, March 12.—The crowds which filled the senate galleries today in anticipation of an exciting Cuban debate were not disappointed. Today, two new phases of the subject made their appearance, and each afforded a debate which aroused senators and spectators to a high state of interest and excitement. Lodge rose to a question of personal privilege, and in vigorous words rebuked the Spanish minister, Senor de Lome, for his recent criticisms of senators. Teller added his opinion that a repetition of the minister's action should be followed by his dismissal. Gray held that senatorial privileges and prerogatives should not be strained to close the mouth of the Spanish minister. Lodge did not press for any definite action. The subcommittee of the senate committee appointed to consider the bill for the admission of New Mexico decided unanimously today to report to the full committee in favor of the passage of the bill.

Washington, March 13.—The Cuban debate in the senate has advanced to the stage of one of the great debates of the American congress, and the speech today of Hoar was another eventful feature of the discussion. In this debate the senators and crowded galleries were kept at high tension by such stirring themes as war and patriotism and liberty. Hoar's speech was notable in setting forth the conservative views of the subject, and urging a postponement of action until April 6. This developed sharp controversies from Sherman and other senators. In the main the speech was a plea for calm, dignified and judicial action, instead of the excitement and disorder of the mob and the impassioned speech of orators. Sherman announced that from this time forward he would press the privileged question, the conference report accepting the house resolutions.

House.

Washington, March 11.—District of Columbia business consumed the major portion of the day in the house. Among the bills passed was one to decrease the cost of gas from \$1.50 to \$1 a thousand. This was the outcome of a long fight against the gas company. The consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill was continued, but no important amendments were adopted. The speaker announced the appointment of Hendricks to the banking and currency committee. A bill was passed to authorize the secretary of the treasury to pay S. W. Peelle, of Arkansas, \$50,000 for services to the old settlers against Cherokee Indians. A bill was also passed to change the times for holding court in the northern district of California.

Washington, March 12.—The house today witnessed the perennial attempt to cut off the appropriation for special mail facilities between Boston, via New York and Washington, to Atlanta and New Orleans. This appropriation has been in the postoffice bill since 1883. This year, it amounted to \$196,000, and, coupled with it, were appropriations for special facilities between Kansas City and Newton, Kan., and Chicago and Council Bluffs, Ia. The latter items, however, went down before points of order. An attempt was made to rule out the Southern subsidy also on a point of order, but Payne overruled the point. The motion to strike out was defeated, 98 to 116. The postoffice bill was not disposed of. During the morning a bill was passed making a year's "continuous residence" in a territory a prerequisite to obtaining a divorce in such territory.

Washington, March 13.—The house today passed the postoffice appropriation bill, which has been under consideration since last Friday. The feature of the debate today was the attack on the "spy system" in connection with letter carriers. The salaries of special inspectors have been paid under the current law, out of a fund at the disposal of the first assistant postmaster-general. This fund was cut off by the present bill, but provisions were made for the employment of thirty additional regular inspectors under the fourth assistant postmaster-general, increasing the appropriation from \$176,000 to \$212,000. Quigg led the fight against this increase and, after a protracted debate, his amendment to reduce the appropriation to \$176,000 prevailed, 70 to 57.

South Australia, which feared the construction of the British Pacific cable because it might injure its land line, will be conciliated by the offer of compensation to maintain revenue from the transcontinental line at the average level of the past five years.

Recent advices fully confirm the report of the overthrow of the pro-Japanese government in Corea and the establishment of a distinctly Russian ministry, the members of the late cabinet having, with one exception, been put to death with horrible barbarity, inclusive of cannibalism. The fortunate member of the late government to save his head was the minister of war, who is believed to have come to America in exile.

NORTHWEST BREVITIES

Evidence of Steady Growth and Enterprise.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

News From Our Sister States Epitomized—The Leading Topics Discussed—Washington.

Waitsburg's city election will be the first Monday in April.

Joseph Wiley, who settled in the Altanum valley in 1858, is dead.

The baseball fever has already reached Waitsburg, and preparations are being made for the sport this summer.

The name of the Sprague National bank, which is soon to be moved to Spokane, will be changed to the Fidelity National.

It is supposed that Fisherman Larsen drowned at Kamlichie last week. His hat was found on the wharf where his boat was tied.

The receiver of the Citizens' National bank, of Spokane, has announced that depositors will soon be paid a 10 per cent dividend.

The fishermen of Pacific county are making preparations for the coming fishing season. The scent of the boiling tar is in the air, and freshly tarred webs are on the racks drying.

The New Whatcom grocers who were recently arrested for violating the revenue law in selling leaf tobacco grown in the neighborhood, have effected a settlement of their cases with the federal authorities.

The Washington Immigrant, a child of the state immigration convention, has appeared. Its avowed purpose is "to help the state carry out the plans of the immigration movement, and otherwise work for the interests of the people."

C. H. Ross, horticultural commissioner for the second district, is arranging for the appointment of spraying committees in various counties, to act in conjunction with local societies. The duties of the committees are to notify persons to spray their trees when necessary, and to report negligence in the matter.

The Seattle Times is authority for the statement that one-half of the hop acreage of Yakima will be plowed up this spring. A Puyallup paper contains a list of several yards, amounting to fifty or sixty acres, near that place that will also be plowed up. Many Boisfort farmers have had enough and are going to quit.

Spokane's offered bounty for squirrel tails is not exactly munificent. During the month of March, a bounty of 1 cent will be given, and in April and May, ½ cent. This bounty is for tails only, the former system of paying upon the presentation of scalps having proven an incentive to fraud rather than encouragement to exterminate the destructive varmints.

A son of the late General J. M. Buckley, once manager on the coast for the Northern Pacific road, is on his way to Chile, to assume his duties as auditor of the Chilean railways. He is from Spokane. The salary attached to the office is said to be \$36,000 a year, Chilean silver money. The road is about 3,000 miles long, and extends from Iquique to Valparaiso, and the larger coast towns.

Some lawyers of Spokane have devised a scheme by which they say that land in the Colville reservation can be settled without waiting for its purchase from the Indians. Here is the plan: Under the law, any citizen can locate as many tracts or lode claims of not to exceed twenty acres as he may choose. Any company of eight citizens may make as many locations of 160 acres each as it may see fit to take. The land will cost \$27.50 per acre, however.

Plowing and seeding are now under full headway in many places through Lincoln county, and have been for nearly a week. It is believed that a great deal larger acreage will be sown to crop this year throughout the Big Bend than was sown last. The improvement in wheat prices has given the farmers fresh courage, and the fields of summer-fallowed lands that last year lay idle will be turned to account this season.

The assessors of Eastern Washington, who were in session in Walla Walla last week, have adjourned. The question of estimating the value of merchandise in stores was considered. It was decided that the mere statement of the proprietor should not be taken as the basis for the assessment, but that the invoice should be used, qualified by the careful judgment of the assessor. As to bank stock, it was thought best to follow strictly the law of the state, which requires its assessment at full value, less certified indebtedness against the same.

Oregon.

Malheur has a school district named "Fighting Seven."

Sheepmen of Grant county are taking their sheep to the hills. Douglas county taxes for 1895 for all purposes amount to \$96,935.40. The late rains have brought another batch of salmon in the Calapoosia, and local fishermen are happy. Fishermen predict there will be no high water in the Columbia this year, and anticipate a poor fishing season in consequence. Owing to the low water, miners are again working the bed of Reuben creek. Much coarse gold and some pretty big nuggets are found in the creek. Crook county will probably have

about 40,000 mutton sheep to turn off this spring. Sheep are in good condition and there is a general inquiry for stock sheep.

The Sherman county court held a special session and provided for a bounty of \$1 per scalp on all coyotes killed in the county from and after February 24, until further notice.

The money has been raised for erecting a skimming station at Shedd and work on the same will begin at an early date. An effort is also being made to establish one at Halsey, in Linn county.

The fire which recently destroyed the Hoxie sawmill, on Williams creek, in Josephine county, recalls the fact that this was the fourth time this sawmill has been destroyed by fire within the last sixteen years.

The Dalles Chronicle is informed that the Day Bros. claim they have finished the contract work at the locks, and are now waiting to learn what action will be taken by congress as regards the new appropriation.

Captain W. A. Cox will move his house from West Florence to Acme, three miles, by water. The house is 200 feet from the river and it is proposed to place it on a scow, after it is moved to the river, and tow it to its destination.

Railroad men say that the recent sand storm along the Columbia east of the mountains was the worst that has been experienced since 1862. Hand power is the only method of removing the sand, and this requires a great deal of time, as shoveling sand is slow work.

A cougar and two cubs were killed within seven miles of The Dalles last week by M. Doyle and son, living on Chenoweth creek. The animals had killed several calves and sheep, and were getting very obnoxious. The old one measured over six feet in length.

The Jewett mine, within three miles of Grant's Pass, under the management of W. P. Belding, is again showing up well. Mr. Belding has exposed some large lodes of ore; so large in fact that the walls have not been discovered. It is reported that within a few months a twenty-stamp mill will be placed on the property, and improved concentrators.

Not a day passes but what some resident of Grant county complains of the condition of the mountain range, caused by being overrun by outside sheep during the summer season, says the Blue Mountain Eagle. Residents are all of the same opinion, that if the outside sheep are not kept out, it will not be many years before most of the stockmen will be compelled to dispose of their bands and retire from the business.

Idaho.

A restoration and increase in pension has been granted George F. Lyons, of Lewiston.

The woolen mills of Desert, Utah, are soon to be moved to Orchard, about thirty miles from Boise.

The postoffice at Leyburn, Shoshone county, has been discontinued, and its mail hereafter must be sent to Fraser.

A patent has been granted to James B. Perkins, assignor of one-half to F. Flannery, of Lewiston, on an animal trap.

In Fremont and Bingham counties recently a rabbit drive was had and nearly 2,100 rabbits were killed in one day.

In the Star mail service operating from Blackfoot to Challis, Bryan postoffice has been ordered to be supplied without any change in the distance of the route Bryan is between the Blackfoot and Aroo. The order became operative March 2.

Harry B. Hall, ex-treasurer of Shoshone county, has been sentenced to one year in the penitentiary for embezzling county funds. Hall was treasurer of the county and cashier of a bank which failed, and in which Van B. De Lashmatt, of Portland, was one of the principal owners. County funds were in the bank. All except \$1,500 was recovered by the county. Hall was tried for embezzlement for failing to produce that sum.

Montana.

The smelting concerns of Colorado find it necessary to draw on the lead mines from Montana and British Columbia for the majority of this class of ore and there a number of shipments reported each week.

The hills around the Rabbit district are full of prospectors and a number of very good discoveries have already been made. The snow is fast disappearing. Several new copper discoveries have been made during the past few weeks in the Nez Perce canyon.

A syndicate from Butte has taken up 200,000 miners' inches of water from the Madison river three miles east of Red Bluff which they propose to utilize in generating electric power for various uses in the different cities of Montana, and especially Butte. The syndicate has been organized, but the papers have all been filed with the proper authority and it is said that fully \$25,000 will be expended this summer in building dams and other necessary improvements.

A number of Eastern gentlemen have been in Butte recently looking over different mining propositions. With a good lively chamber of commerce working for the good of the community, this number could be largely increased, says the Butte Mining World. All that Montana needs is to have her great mineral resources properly presented to the investing public. No boom business is wanted, but a fair representation of facts. Nothing else is necessary.

If it pays the farmer to get the best hog to improve his stock, or the dairyman the best cow to increase the milk and butter supply, why will it not pay him to get the best thoroughbred pointer to increase the receipts in his line?

ORCHARD AND FARM

The American Farmer Must Look to His Laurels.

DANGER TO OUR FOREIGN TRADE

Strenuous Efforts on the Part of Other Countries to Wrest From Us Our Trade in Meats—Notes.

The prestige of American meats in foreign countries, notably England, can only be maintained through keeping up the quality to the highest standard of excellence. Cable and mail advice, month in and month out, teem with news of the most strenuous efforts on the part of other meat producing countries to wrest from us this trade. Nor can the importance of the inroads made within the past year or two be ignored. The United States continues the chief source of supply of Western Europe, so far as most products are concerned, but last year's business was in some directions very disappointing. Unfair restrictions governing American meats, the result of jealousy on the part of foreign agriculturists, have of course done much to hamper the business. But in addition, countries in the Southern hemisphere are making themselves felt in the world's markets in no uncertain manner.

Argentina is annually expending hundreds of thousands of dollars for choice breeding animals, for the direct purpose of improving the quality of its herds and flocks, which in turn seek an outlet in the markets of Western Europe. Shipments of live cattle from Argentina to England have increased more than five fold in the last two years, and of sheep nearly fifteen fold, or from 22,000 head in 1893, to 308,000 in 1895. Argentina now ranks second as an exporter of sheep to the United Kingdom and is distanced in the cattle trade only by the United States and Canada. England, the greatest of all consuming markets, is closest to this country, and while her purchases of dressed meats continue gratifyingly large, our breeders and feeders must not forget that quality is an essential to retain the meats trade.

The Best Method of Using Fertilizers.

Extensive tests to answer this question have been conducted by the New Jersey experiment station for several years. On corn, superphosphate and potash, singly or in combination, were most effective in increasing yield, the benefit of potash being particularly noticeable. Barnyard manure in six tests gave largest yield, but its cost, if based on market prices, rendered it less profitable than any of the fertilizers used. On light, sandy loam, nitrogen proved to be necessary. Oats on soil of medium fertility were benefited by a top dressing of phosphoric acid and nitrogen, the former increasing the weight per bushel wherever used. Both these elements proved to be the most useful on wheat and rye, these three grains appearing to require little potash upon these soils.

The results with potatoes throughout the state confirm numerous tests in other sections. The complete chemical fertilizers, containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, are more profitable than either minerals alone or stable manure. Muriate of potash gave the largest yield, but sulphate improved the quality, while nitrogen was especially useful only on soils of medium fertility, or where earliness of crop was important. With sweet potatoes, the best and cheapest crops are raised with chemicals alone, and the use of chemicals with manure is more satisfactory than stable manure alone, the latter having an unfavorable effect on shape and edible quality of tubers.

In growing tomatoes for the early market, nitrate of soda was superior to either barnyard manure or mineral fertilizers alone, and was but slightly less effective than complete fertilizers, while much cheaper. The best plan is to apply about eighty pounds of nitrate at time of setting the plants, and eighty pounds more three or four weeks later. Strawberries on soils well supplied with the mineral elements showed a large profit from a spring top dressing of nitrate of soda.

Pruning in Winter.

If an orchard has been left unpruned for a series of years it is not generally best to cut away all of the superfluous growth at once, but only the larger limbs, leaving some of the smaller young shoots to be removed later, when the wounds made in the winter pruning have grown over. The price of apples this year has been high, and many orchards long neglected will doubtless be severely pruned the coming spring, in order to make them fruitful. But this severe pruning defeats its own end. Even if there were blossom buds formed last fall, the concentration of all the sap of the tree into a few branches draws the buds and causes the fruit either not to set or to fall off while very young. The unpruned orchard may, says the American Cultivator, give plenty of mineral fertilizers, bear more fruit than if severely pruned. Too large growth of new wood is promoted by winter pruning. If the trees are very vigorous at time of setting the plants, may be cut out in winter or early spring, and left when the trees begin to bud. Some old farmers we used to know made a practice of pruning all the trees in June. It undoubtedly checked the growth of the tree, and this check induced the formation of fruit buds and a large crop of fruit the following year.

—The Columbia river of Canada is 1,400 miles in length; the Columbia of Oregon is 600.