

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

MISSOURI IN 1890 had 1,676,706 acres sowed in oats, which produced 33,820,149 bushels. MISSOURI grew in the census year thirty-one tons of hemp from seventy-nine acres. THE first rice producing state is Pennsylvania, with 330,041 acres and 2,742,164 bushels. NEBRASKA, according to the last census, had 115,905 farms, having 21,530,444 acres. ILLINOIS claims the largest number of improved acres on her farms, having 52,069,960. THE farms of Kansas produced in the census year an estimated value of \$95,070,080. THE increase in fruit farms in this country has been mainly in the west and southwest. NEVADA has the smallest number of farms of any state—1,277, with 1,061,416 acres. THE best sugar manufactured in this country in 1893 amounted to 27,033,329 pounds.

FIGS AND THISTLES.

NO PRAYER EVER hurts a prayer meeting by being too short. THE more an enemy hates us, the more our kindness will hurt him. MORALITY is only the polish on the candlestick. IT is not the light. THE best views are sometimes right at the end of the longest tunnels. WHEN we come close to a giant, he often turns out to be only a common man on stilts. LOVE sees danger afar off, but the loved one too often turns a deaf ear to the warning. WE may not all be able to do great things, but we can all be faithful in little ones.

ODD ACCIDENTS.

AT Charleville, France, lightning lately struck the church steeple while two choir boys were ringing the bells. One of the boys was killed instantly and the other will probably die. HENRY BENEFMAN, of Englewood, Ill., owns a cat. It was contentedly lying near the stove during an electric storm, when lightning darted down the chimney and struck a straight line along its back to the tip of its tail. AFRICOT CHARLOTTE.—Butter a mold. Cut a stale loaf into fingers, and a round the size of the bottom of the mold; fry them in butter and arrange them in the mold. Pare and stone one and one-half pounds of apricots; boil them with one pound of sugar for half an hour. Pour into the mold, cover with slices of bread dipped in butter and bake in a moderate oven. Turn out on a dish and sift powdered sugar over it.

GEORGIA papers are telling in apparent good faith of a negro at Blakely, Ga., who was struck on the head by a bolt of lightning a few days ago, and who, though receiving a deep gash in his scalp, is now as spry as ever. IT is estimated that in five per cent. of our city houses the value of the furniture and fittings equals that of the building. IN 1880 the approximate wealth of the country was \$43,042,000,000, an average of \$870 to each individual. THE inventor of soap was a friend of the gospel.

It is a Fact

That Hood's Sarsaparilla has an unequalled record of cures, the largest sales in the world, and cures when all others fail.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the Only True Blood Purifier

Prominently in the public eye to-day. \$1.50 six for \$5. Be sure to get Hood's.

Hood's Pills

act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Walter Baker & Co. Limited,

The Largest Manufacturers of PURE, HIGH GRADE COCOAS and CHOCOLATES. On this Continent, have received HIGHEST AWARDS from the great Industrial and Food EXPOSITIONS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

Caution: In view of the one pound and two pound boxes of the labels and wrappers on our boxes, be sure to get the genuine. Beware of cheap imitations. Made in England. Sold by Grocers Everywhere.

WALTER BAKER & CO. LTD., DORCHESTER, MASS.

Beecham's pills are for biliousness, bilious headache, dyspepsia, heartburn, torpid liver, dizziness, sick headache, bad taste in the mouth, coated tongue, loss of appetite, sallow skin, etc., when caused by constipation; and constipation is the most frequent cause of all of them.

Go by the book. Pills for 25c and 50c a box. Book FREE at your druggist's or write B. F. Allen Co., 365 Canal Street, New York.

Annual sales more than 6,000,000 boxes.

BEST IN THE WORLD.

THE RISING SUN

STOVE POLISH FOR DURABILITY and for cheapness. This preparation is truly unrivalled.

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ART IN ARCHITECTURE.

It Was Fostered by the Designer of the Nation's Capital.

Unfortunately Some of His Successors Have Not Been Faithful to the Advice Handed Down by Him—Queer Art Works.

Special Washington Letter.

The word "art" has no more meaning to a Hotentot than the word salvation has to a pagan. The average mind in civilized lands may also be said to be barren of an adequate idea of the meaning of the word. If the representatives of the people are truly representative of the average intelligence and culture of the country, then the word "art" must need much of definition and explanation to our people. No man or woman who understands the first principles of drawing or coloring can gaze upon the enormous paintings in the capitol rotunda without amazement, and without a twinge of shame for our new republic. They are immense as to size, but of pigny merit. Their subjects are well chosen, and the intentions of the artists were no doubt good; but the achievements are unworthy the place. In one of the pictures two ladies are represented as having five hands, and one of those hands has five fingers and a thumb. The paintings could not secure place even for temporary exhibition in any Parisian salon; unless, maybe, they might have place as curios from the new world. They lack artistic merit most woefully. It is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when they may be removed and the niches filled with paintings which will adorn and beautify the wonderful work of the architect of the capitol.

The historic fresco which was begun by the great Brambidi half way up the dome has been continued by Costagini; but it should not be concluded by him. The work of Brambidi is so near perfection that the figures seem much like statues, and many untrained eyes believe the scenes there depicted are carved from the solid rock. But Brambidi died when the zone was but half done, and the subsequent work of Costagini is painfully less meritorious. For example, the steed he strode by Gen. Scott in the Mexican scene reminds me of the little school-boy's definition: "A horse is square built, having one leg at each corner." Moreover, this charger appears to be about two feet longer than any horse that ever lived. Besides, he has a lean and hungry look, which ill becomes the war-horse of the general commanding the army. Then the reading of the Declaration of Independence is a picture which almost makes a patriot wish that it had never been read. The big fat Quaker who holds the document stands upon a very stinky platform. The calves of his legs are so unnatural as to make one fear that he has varicose veins, and his thighs from knee to hip are long enough for Goliath of Gath. He is a pitiable deformity. The entire work should be committed to a superior artist to be retouched skillfully or cleverly erased and repainted.

The stately in the niches of the rotunda may be regarded as creditable, but if it were dusted and cleaned at least once in twenty or thirty years a marked improvement would be apparent. On the east front, on either side of the main entrance to the rotunda, are marble statues of Mars and Minerva. They are all right from an artistic point of view. But Mars has not had his face washed since the days of Julius Caesar, while the shoulders and breast of Minerva are so dusty as to suggest the thought that she has no friends in this new world. She looks like an unkempt Bowery beauty. The capitol building, of which the rotunda is the center, is unquestionably the noblest, grandest and most beautiful architectural object in the world. This is a fact conceded by every man who has traveled extensively. Men of culture and experience who come here from Europe concede that the capitol is superior to any building in any city in the civilized world. Therefore it is to be regretted the more deeply that the architecture is not augmented with more excellent masterpieces of painting, plastic and graphic art. The halls, ceilings, corridors and committee rooms of the senate are all artistically touched by the magic brush of Brambidi. The canopy of the dome is one of the most worthy works of that great artist. Surely the work should not be stopped forever nor continued by dabblers, because that one man fell before the steele of Time, full of years and of honors.

Because of ignorance in high places, no artistic hand has guided the growth of the city. There has been no system in the erection of public buildings. The city has unrivaled architectural magnificence, mainly because the original designer planned so well that careless generations of subsequent years could not wander far away from the beauty and symmetry which he marked with unerring accuracy. Unless the architects of the country take universal interest in the growth of the capital city, its artistic splendor may be marred by official carelessness or incapacity in the near future; for many public buildings must yet be erected. The selection of sites for them should not be left to the shuttle cock imbecility of congressional committees and corrupt lobbies.

For six years money has been available in the treasury for the erection of a new government printing office. Every year congressional committees have considered the selection of a site, but lobbyists employed by real estate owners have fought and scuffled over the matter, and no site has been selected. It never occurs to the statesman that a great public building should be located with a view of its artistic relation with other buildings of like character in the realization of the true

architects. That one fact alone, indifference to the work of others, is a manifestation of inferior artistic instinct. The various architects employed upon St. Peter's, Westminster, and upon our capitol, worked with respect to the original plans. They sought symmetry and approximated perfection. The original architect of the capitol, the builder of the central structure, was succeeded by others who erected in harmony with the original design.

The editor referred to above says that the architect who spoiled the Pennsylvania avenue front between Fifteenth and Seventeenth streets, instead of repeating as nearly as possible the treasury facade on the other side of the white house, which would have made a group unrivaled in the world, throws away this splendid artistic opportunity, and, to the irreparable loss of the country and of art, thrusts upon us a costly concoction of stone, sheet iron and slate, ugly, inconvenient and expensive to keep in repair, which even in his own eyes, could hardly have had any other merit than the fact that he invented it. But this work has been done, and cannot be undone. For example, however, should be a sufficient deterrent to future grotesqueness in the architectural development of the city.

SMITH D. FAY. A New Telescopic Idea. After laborious toil at constructing enormous and complex mechanisms by which telescopes can be directed to any quarter of the heavens astronomers have all at once bethought themselves of the plan of leaving the big tube immovable and horizontal, and throwing the image of the desired star into it by means of a reflector. This surprising simple plan is to be followed in mounting the great telescope which is to be a feature of the Paris exposition in 1900.

Good Reason. Two Irishmen, driving through the country, noticed that many of the barns had weather vanes in the shape of huge roosters. "Pat," said one to the other, "can you tell me why they always have a rooster and never a hen on the top of their barns?" "Shure," replied Mike, "an' it must be because of the difficulty they'd have in collecting the eggs."

She Thought So Little of Him. "Why are you so sad this morning?" asked young Mr. Bloomfield of young Mr. Bellefield. "I am convinced that my best girl no longer cares two cents for me," was the gloomy reply. "What makes you think that?" "I have just received a postal card from her."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

DEEP WATER-WAYS.

Wealth to the Western Farmer is Assured by Its Completion.

For many years the work of creating deep channels between Lakes Superior, Huron, Michigan and Erie has been going on. At length the work is done, or under contract to be completed, so that from all the lakes twenty-foot channels may practically be said to exist. With the completion of the inter-lake channels, all the immense and rapidly increasing navigation converges to the common eastern terminus at Buffalo. The existence of the great lakes has made possible the so-called northwest, since it has permitted the products of the northwest to reach markets at a much lower rate than has been possible by all other routes. From Duluth to Buffalo, eleven hundred miles, it costs about one-third as much as it costs to transport and transport across New York state. Increasing competition from those countries of the world possessing cheap land and cheap labor makes it imperative on the producers, the farmers of the northwest, to search out, if possible, some way of getting their crops to the eastern markets at a lower rate than they have been getting. Every producer in the northwest it will be of interest to know that on September 24-26 there will be a convention held in the city of Cleveland for the purpose of developing in a large way the facts relating to this deep water navigation from Buffalo eastward. With a view to decreasing the cost, it is necessary to use the existing lakes and river, with supplementary canals, and to reduce the cost from Buffalo east in some way, as has been done in the upper lakes. An eminent engineer, C. N. Dutton, who has given the matter a great deal of study, has prepared the following statements and figures, which I beg to present, with-out comment, simply asking that they be read and thought on:

"Sixteen great states, namely, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado, must ship their surplus agricultural products from the great lakes to the market at a cost of \$1.00 per bushel of wheat, and consequently increase in crop values of an average of five cents a bushel on grain of value of \$1.00 a bushel, or \$5.00 a bushel and upwards a ton on straw."

"In the sixteen states most benefited the direct gain, computed on the crop reports of 1893, is:

Yearly Gain.	Total.	Per Cent.
Wheat	\$1,000,000,000	100.00
Oats	500,000,000	50.00
Barley	100,000,000	10.00
Hay	2,000,000,000	200.00
Stocks	1,000,000,000	100.00
Total	\$4,500,000,000	450.00

DOMESTIC ANIMALS (CATTLE). Number. Value. Per Cent. Gain. Cows 17,450,000 \$1,000,000,000 100.00 Hogs 10,000,000 500,000,000 50.00 Sheep 100,000,000 1,000,000,000 100.00 Poultry 10,000,000 100,000,000 10.00 Total 37,450,000 \$2,500,000,000 250.00

BRAMBIDI'S FALL OF TYRANNY. architects. That one fact alone, indifference to the work of others, is a manifestation of inferior artistic instinct. The various architects employed upon St. Peter's, Westminster, and upon our capitol, worked with respect to the original plans. They sought symmetry and approximated perfection. The original architect of the capitol, the builder of the central structure, was succeeded by others who erected in harmony with the original design.

The east has no transportation question. Her manufactured goods, worth perhaps thousands of dollars a ton, are not perceptibly affected by a slight difference in freight. The farming districts of the west are vitally affected when all profit in their crops is eaten up by the carrying charges. As a national question it should be borne in mind that the manufacturing and mining interests of the west are largely dependent upon the cheapness of their products. In turn she finds her best market in the farming states of the west. It should also be remembered that the enormous cash balance annually required abroad to settle the foreign exchange must be provided in the main by the western and southwestern farms or by gold. The pressure is urgent. The navigation cannot be provided soon enough if commenced now. The convention at Cleveland will be marked by the presence of many specialists with specially prepared papers covering a wide range of public matters. As chairman of the executive committee, I respectfully request correspondence with commercial bodies, public officials and the papers, if in any way it may lead to fuller information and a quickened interest. In particular, I desire assurances of support which can be shown at the proper time as evidence of popular sentiment. Address: Minneapolis Board of Trade.

LITERARY CULLINGS. Mrs. DELAND has finished her new novel, but no date has been set for its publication. BASRELIEF memorial medallions of Oliver Wendell Holmes are being worn by Boston people. A THIRD edition has been called for of Mr. Stockton's "Adventures of Capt. Horn," and yet the book has been out only six weeks. The number of copies sold has exceeded 13,000. THE long-promised volume of Matthew Arnold's letters, written between 1848 and 1888, will soon be brought out. George W. E. Russell has carefully collected and arranged these epistles. ALL the personal memorials of Carlyle contained in the Chelsea house, lately turned into a museum, consist, according to Fruth, of a battered trunk, a walking stick, a wretched tin bath, a marble top washstand and a stovepipe hat under a glass case. MR. STEAD'S latest enterprise is bringing out an edition of English poets, and each volume, complete in itself, is to cost only one penny. He has begun with Macaulay's "Lays," and the little book is excellently printed and got up—for the price.

JAPANESE PLANTS.

Many of Them Thrive Well in California. The tendency toward extensive planting of Japanese trees, shrubs and flowers, particularly in the coast counties, grows more and more evident from year to year. Japanese exotics are widely increasing in numbers; the close of the year has already stimulated immigration. Nor is it only the gardener class that counts in this respect. If California, as appears probable, is to have fifty thousand or sixty thousand Japanese merchants, students and laborers of every class, oriental forms of gardening art will be fostered by all the newcomers, and the plants of Japan will be even more in demand. Some energetic importers have aroused public interest in Japanese vegetation; now we have local nurseries also; which prove attractive to Americans, and I expect to see the little Japanese gardener an indispensable adjunct of a fashionable country house before many years pass.

The Golden Gate park possesses a good illustration of Japanese garden art, developed from the best of several gardens begun there during the early part of 1894 for the midwinter fair. Adults as well as children derive constant pleasure from these miniature landscape gardens. What a terrible national genius such gardens exhibit! Century old pines and oaks, crags, mountains, rivers and the whole free wilderness one sees compressed into dilapidated dimensions with an exacting, relentless energy concealed under childlike smiles. The children who love the garden feel only its beauty; but older persons can not forget its esoteric significance. A thousand years hence, when every inch of land in America is precious, may not such gardens become one of the leading types, even here?

At present such a possibility seems very distant. The mere increase of Japanese vegetation in its natural forms is wholly consistent with occidental garden ideas. Everywhere one sees evidences that many of the characteristic plants of Japan are becoming naturalized. Among these Salisburia adiantifolia, Sceloporus verticillatus and Laurus camphora, are becoming popular, and the latter extremely so. The camphor and the lilac-flowered Paulownia imperialis are exceptions to the general rule that Japanese plants only thrive in the Coast Range valleys, for one finds extremely healthy specimens even in the hotter parts of San Joaquin valley, a paulownia tree I measured not long ago that, having grown two years from seed, and accidentally broken off at the surface, had sent up in one season a stem eighteen feet high and over two inches in diameter. The paulownia, massed on hillsides with golden acacias, is in its properly effective place, and southern Californians are beginning to use it on a large scale. Oaks of east Asia are only in nurseries as yet, but oak planters, who are but few in any generation, are watching them with much interest. The deciduous magnolias begin to be fairly abundant. One nursery has sold twenty-thousand trees in the past ten years, including seven or eight species, and now has half an acre devoted to this brilliant spring-flowering tree.

Another pleasant incident is the increased planting of the bamboo. There is little or no botanical classification as yet, but the common varieties and several good species of Japanese bamboos are quite often seen in gardens. There is talk of making a tree-lined avenue from San Francisco to San Jose, nearly forty miles. If carried along the foothills such an avenue would cross many streams and moist places, where clumps of hardier species of the giant bamboo might be planted, so as to give what is now an almost unknown effect in the California landscape.

The Japan maples thrive with the reach of the sea air. Superb specimens of all the rich-colored, cut-leaved varieties are to be seen in Sonoma, Marin, Alameda, Santa Clara and southward to Los Angeles, but without special care they usually fail to prosper inland. There is no reason why they should not be grafted on stonger-growing native species, and some of the dwarfed plants which come from Japan strike deeper root and become almost trees. To the Japanese gardeners such a maple must seem a mere monstrosity, and looked upon with serious disapproval. They feel much the same way about grafting the pretty little dwarf orange, the Oenshu, on some sturdy standard seedling, where it soon makes a large head and bears fruit of twice the usual size.

Among more brilliant lesser shrubs, the tree peony of Japan bids fair to become a notable California flower. Not that one sees it frequently as yet, but many are planted and growing, and show admiration and inspire more extensive planting. The roots are usually somewhat expensive, though sometimes good collections of fifty named varieties have sold for twenty-five dollars per hundred, but this was rather late in the spring, when care was needed to establish them. They bloom early in April, a full month before the herbaceous peonies, and in old gardens the plants stand four or five feet high. They are eminently adapted to all parts of the Pacific coast.—Garden and Forest.

Too Old a Bird. Hobbs felt an inborn hatred of telephones and never would use one for fear of exhibiting his ignorance of the machine to the younger clerks in the office and thus expose himself to chaffing. One day when out on a commission he wanted to communicate instantly with the office, so was forced into using the dreaded machine. "Hello, central! Give me ninety-eight spring," he called into the phone. "Busy," laconically responded central in a courtly feminine tone. "I know better!" roared Hobbs impatiently. "I've only just left the office, and there were half a dozen lazy fellows sitting around there doing nothing."—Judge.

Recently the Egyptologist, Brugsch Bey, was transporting a mummy, believed to be a pharaoh, to Cairo. As he took the royal relic in a passenger car he was naturally obliged to take a first-class ticket. At Cairo a duty was demanded. He referred the officials to the register; but neither mummies nor pharaohs were found on the dutiable list. "Well," said the official, "we will enter this as 'dried fish' duty, three piastres."

WOMEN'S FACES.

It is the best for cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the kidneys, liver and bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance.

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Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

ODD AND OTHERWISE. CHARLOTTE.

Forty-two per cent of the population of Rhode Island are wage-earners. Scales for weighing diamonds are so accurately poised that an eyelash will turn the balance. A FRUIT which is a cross between a peach and a plum grows in the yard of James M. Long at Paducah, Ky. OVER three hundred and sixty million passengers have crossed the Brooklyn bridge during the twelve years it has been open to the public. CANNING horseflesh is one of the industries of Oregon. It is difficult to distinguish pickled horseflesh from canned corn beef. TWO-THIRDS of all the letters which pass through the post offices of the world are written by and sent to people who speak English. ALUMINUM burial caskets are said to be most indestructible. They are light, and the cost is about the same as that of the ordinary metal ones. A SORT of asphalt pavement made of molasses and sand has been laid in China, Cal. Strange to say, the heat of the sun does not soften but hardens it. AN electric railroad, suspended from the roof of a railroad station in Manchester, England, is used to convey luggage in basket trucks from one part of the station to another. A WEIGHTY couple were recently wedded in Chicago by Justice Martin. They were George Hayes and Lettie Kelly. The groom weighs 300 pounds and the bride 256 pounds. A REMARKABLE apple tree flourishes near the residence of Oscar Wells at Mount Olin, Ky. One half of every apple that grows on the tree is very small, while the other half is very sweet. THE Parisian dressmakers rub lycopodium powder on their hands, and this prevents the perspiration from soiling the delicate ribbons and silk fabrics that they are constantly fingering. A ROUND trip of one of the ocean steamers, like the St. Louis, entails an expense of about \$70,000. The coal consumed costs nearly \$15,000, the provisions \$12,000 and the crew \$5,000.

IN QUEEN VIC'S LAND. PENNY postage for London and its suburbs dates from the year 1681. OVER 250,000 persons have signed the special appeal to the house of commons in favor of woman suffrage. ENGLISH carates are thinking of forming themselves into a professional union, on the plan of the trades unions. IN 1892 the cost of the election in England was \$385,522, an average of a little over 4 shillings a vote. In 1874 each vote cost 14 to 15 shillings, and in 1859 over 41. A GREAT photographic camera for taking full-length life-size portraits has been made and used with success by Dublin firm. The camera takes a plate seven feet high and five feet wide. PERHAPS the new woman is responsible for the falling off in marriages in England. For the first quarter of this year only ten and six-tenths persons in a thousand married, which is the lowest rate on record. A LITTLE eight-year-old girl in England strayed away after school recently and was found at midnight of the same day in an exhausted condition twenty-eight miles from her home, having walked all the way. THE fee for a professional visit of a doctor in Nottingham, England, is one shilling—equal to twenty-five cents—and even this pittance often has to be traded out with the small shopkeepers, who consider it an exorbitant demand. MANY of the sewers in Weybridge and Oakland, England, are below the level of the Thames, to prevent pollution of that stream, from which London receives its water supply. The sewage is pumped three miles away and there chemically treated. HAMILTON palace, in Lanarkshire, cost the late duke's grandfather \$1,500,000 to build; the duke's executors are directed by his will to dismantle the mansion and take down or remove the building or allow it to fall into disuse, as they think fit.

MISS ABIE GARDNER is the only living survivor of the famous Sioux massacre at Lake Okechobee, Fla., in 1856. She has a fine collection of size Indian relics in the very cabin in which she was living as a little girl at the time of the massacre. Miss Gardner has secured from the Iowa legislature an appropriation of \$7,000 for a monument to mark the spot. DURING the war of 1812, the second war with Great Britain, there were ten regular battles, eight actions almost equaling the dignity of battles, and fifty-two skirmishes, bombardments or other combats. "ISN'T this coat too big for me?" he asked of the tailor. "It is, sir," replied the enterprising clothier, "but I am something of a phenologist, and I can foresee that it will not be long before you are a big man."—Harper's Bazar. MISS MOORE.—"Do you need amodel, a 21st Old Perimmon?" "No; I only paint faces and fruit." Miss M.—"Well, I'm a peach, see?"—Truth. THE victorious warrior never has to edit the war news.—Nashville American.

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LEWIS' 98% LYE
POWDERED AND PERFUMED.
The strongest and purest Lye made. Under other Lyes, it being a fine powder and packed in a can with removable lid, the contents are always ready for use. It will make the best perfumed Hand Soap in 20 minutes without boiling. It is used for cleaning all kinds of waste pipes, discharging sinks, closets, washing bottles, paint tins, etc. Price, 25c per can. F. W. LEWIS & CO., New York.

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