

TAKING HOME ALONG.

An American House Wagon Which Will Rival the English House Boat.

The Englishman has long enjoyed that exclusively British institution, the house boat; but an American genius has recently made an application for a patent on some of the features of a land craft which answers pretty much the same purpose as the houseboat. With such a device as this a small family can journey at their will or pleasure over the land, and not the least feature of the affair is its economy.

The patent is asked for on the collapsible second story of the house wagon which he has designed. When this raised the construction is literally a four-roomed two-storied house mounted on wheels and propelled by a motor mounted on the axles under the wagon. The framework of this affair is of steel tubing, and the idea of the collapsible second story is for convenience when moving from place to place and to permit the thing to pass under the bridges and such structures. With such a vehicle as this a small family could move from place to place, striking camp wherever a favorable place presented itself at the roadside. He would be independent of railroad schedules, hotel porters and proprietors. The care of the horses would have been a serious drawback to such a tour a few years ago, but this is now disposed of and the tour would be one continual round of pleasure.

The affair appears to be the natural outcome of the present motor fad. In Paris and other cities of Europe many of the public conveyances are self-propelling, and the sight of a private carriage darting here and there over the boulevards is no uncommon sight. There is an automobile club with a large membership of the makers of various kinds of self-propelled vehicles and enthusiasts. A London traction company has just ordered 100 power propelled omnibuses, which will be put on the streets as fast as they can be supplied, which fact says much for the utility of these carriages.

COLOR OF BUTTER.

Prof. Van Slike, chemist for the New York Agricultural Experiment Station, is authority for the statement that we know nothing whatever of the composition of the natural coloring matter in butter. It is mixed or united with the fats so as to defy detection. So far as chemists have been able to find out, none of the several compounds of which either milk or butter is composed is of any hue except pure white, so that the coloring cannot be a natural part of the fat. Some have suggested that color in butter is due to the shape and globules; in other words, that light is the main factor in color development.

MEXICAN METTERS.

There are 428 schools in this state with 771 teachers and 24,790 scholars in attendance.—Monterrey Times.

Shipments of oranges from Hermosillo and Guaymas will begin about the tenth. Refrigerator cars and box material by the carload are now going forward.

El Boletin Minero de Sonora is authority for the statement that work in La Veta Madre mine has passed through the ledge, which reaches a width of seventy one feet, all ore, and that paper ventures a prediction that it will prove one of the richest mines in the Prietas region.

Another special train load of oranges left the Guadalajara branch of the Central yesterday afternoon for Kansas City, New Orleans and Chicago. This shipment included, the Mexican Central railway has already transported 198 cars of oranges to the United States since the opening season.

The "Order of the Royal Crown of Prussia" has been conferred on the Hon. Ignacio Mariscal, secretary of foreign affairs, and upon Hon. Jose Ives Limantour, secretary and treasury, by the King of Prussia and congress has passed a bill authorizing the two above named gentlemen to accept the decoration.

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The Goodrich Real Estate AND Southwest Texas Immigration Bureau, JESSE O. WHEELER, Secretary. Brownsville, Cameron Co., Texas.

Cameron County is the extreme southern county of Texas. It is separated from Mexico by the Rio Grande on the south and has about 100 miles of gulf coast as its eastern boundary. It was organized in 1848, and contains 3308 square miles. Farming and stock raising are the principal industries of the people the location, climate and soil being admirably adapted for both. The greater portion of the soil is a rich loam, and produces an exceedingly heavy yield of both cotton and corn the chief farm products. Two, and sometimes three crops of corn, averaging from fifty to seventy bushels per acre, are raised yearly, while cotton will easily yield from one to two bales per acre. Grasses grow all the year, and stock find pasture without being fed or sheltered during the winter. But the soil and climate of the Lower Rio Grande Valley are by nature best adapted for the production of vegetables and fruits. Vegetables of all kinds grow all the year around, and northern people are astonished to find tomatoes, lettuce, spinach, English peas, etc., served fresh from the gardens in midwinter. This is undoubtedly the paradise of truck gardeners, and so soon as rail transportation is obtained Cameron county vegetables by the car load will be shipped to northern markets during winter and early spring, and will obtain the highest prices, as there will be no competition. This is due to our exceedingly mild climate. Frequently the entire winter passes without a single frost, and there is rarely ever any cold weather before Christmas. Fruit culture has not been attempted in this county on a large scale, but there is one large banana plantation on which this delicious fruit yields most abundantly and in the greatest perfection. Grapes are also raised extensively, growing in almost every yard. They ripen from two to four weeks earlier than in any other section. Many planters here make all of their own table wines. Oranges and lemons also grow in profusion, and this section could easily be made to rival Florida in the production of oranges. Sugar cane is also one of the most important products of this valley. The Rio Grande plantation of Mr. Geo. Brulay and the Rabl Starek plantation produce great quantities of cane, which is all manufactured on the Rio Grande plantation. This cane makes sugar which is produced by experts to be even superior to the best Louisiana product. Havana tobacco has also proven a success here, Col. J. G. Tucker having made some most successful experiments with it; his samples were classed by New York buyers as equal to the best Havana.

The county is watered by the Rio Grande with its ample flow along the southern boundary, and numerous small streams called "arroyos," and "resacas."

The population of Cameron county according to the census of 1890 is 13,424. Brownsville, the county seat, has a population of about 7000 Point Isabel, the seaport of the county, has about 400 inhabitants and Santa Maria, a growing little river settlement, has about 250.

Improved lands sell for from \$5 to \$25 per acre, unimproved for from \$2 to \$8 per acre. The average taxable value of land is \$1. There are \$2,240 acres of school land in the county. The county has a total school population of 4400, and gives employment to 80 teachers. The average length of the school term is five months. The total tuition revenue received from the State is \$13,000. There are a number of public schools in the county, affording ample educational advantages.

Homeseekers are gradually beginning to find their way to this land where farmers can work in the open air 345 days in the year, but it is comparatively undeveloped as yet. With the building of the railroad to Corpus Christi, however, a great influx of settlers may be expected and they will be heartily welcomed. This valley is capable of supporting millions of people. The Herald will be pleased to furnish any further information regarding the Lower Rio Grande Valley that readers abroad may desire.

1st. 300 acres of land, two must from city hall of Brownsville, situated on Resaca la Guerra, and horse-shoe affluent of such resaca on mail road, suitable for fruit orchards, 30 acres now in irrigation with pecan, walnut, chestnuts plum, peach, pear, apricot, cherry Japanese persimmon, fig grape and ribbon cane. Can be sub-divided into 5 or 10 acre lots, giving each abundant water supply, there being a depth of 5 to 15 feet of water all seasons of the year. Price \$10 to \$25 per acre, according to location. Will sell in a body at special rates.

2d. 32 pieces adjoining, one of 200 and the other of 120 acres, situated on Resaca Rancho Viejo, five miles from city hall on mail road. Both pieces almost surrounded by water of 10 to 15 feet in depth, 40 acres under irrigation. This land is equal to if not superior to the Mississippi bottom lands, and can be made a paying investment for a fruit orchard or truck gardening. Can be sub-divided into 5 to 10 acre lots. Price \$10 to \$25 per acre; whole tract on special terms.

3d. 160 acre tract two miles from the city of Brownsville, on resaca, with good water supply. Ebony, Mesquite, Ash, Hackberry and other timbers. Alluvial soil. To one who desires to sub-divide in small tracts, this is a paying investment. Sold in bulk only. Price \$10 per acre.

4th. 25,000 acres in one body, having a frontage of about six miles on the Rio Grande Railroad on the south, and the Arroyo Colorado on the north. Well timbered along the streams and lakes; balance prairie. Includes within its limits the famous battle fields of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. Arable and pasture. Price \$3, per acre.

5th. A tract adjoining No. 4, which together with that tract will include 100,000 acres in one body very desirable. Special terms to colonist.

6th. 10,000 acre tract about three miles, from the Arroyo Post Office. This land is well timbered and watered, soil alluvial, adapted to fruits, cotton, corn, cane, etc. Special terms to any one buying tract, obligating to colonize.

7th. 1600 acre tract, fronting on the Rio Grande, about twenty miles from Brownsville and 8 miles from Santa Maria, 300 acres under cultivation on low lands on river front. All good arable land. Price \$3 per acre.

8th. 725 acres, triangular form, fronting on Rio Grande, 16 miles above Brownsville good land. Well watered. Price \$3,000.

9th. Numerous tracts of pasture lands from 1000 to 5000 acres each in different parts of the county.

10th. This is a very desirable place for a small fruit or truck farm, containing 101 acres, with a new brick dwelling of 6 rooms, frame stable and other out-houses, and large underground cistern; three miles from Brownsville on Resaca de la Palma on the county road.

NOVEMBER 1896

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