

### Soil Moisture.

Incidental to the prevalent discussions of the various phases of the irrigation question, the subject of saving the soil moisture is receiving considerable attention. It is interesting to note the various sides from which such subjects are approached, and the various conclusions reached, depending on the writer's point of view. Such diversities are to be expected, and great good on the whole comes from such exchange of experience and opinions; for although each sees the subject from his own side, this interchange of views makes each somewhat conversant with the subject as a whole. This fuller acquaintance he would never get by his own unaided experiences. It is from earnest, intelligent observation and discussion that the advancement of farming interests must come. So we may expect only good from the discussion now occupying so much space in agricultural and country papers upon the subjects of irrigation, conservation of moisture and etc.

While the subject of how to supply plants with the proper amount of moisture is one as a whole, takes as many phases as the different persons handling it. There are, in fact, many distinct factors that go to make this one general result. A proper and full treatment of the subject would include all of them, but it is often convenient to classify and to deal with one at a time. One writer thinks only how to get water on the soil. He is inclined to say that all we want is water. Another thinks that the preparation of the soil is the all important thing. He would subsoil and plow deep, thus preparing a deep bed of earth to hold the water and the plant food and give the plant roots room to expand and amply, so that the crop will have a large area from which to draw its supply in time of need. Another would strive by methods of cultivation to retain any water that falls upon the soil of his fields, or that may be put upon it by irrigation. He observes the loss of water from throwing up the fresh earth to drying winds by deep cultivation, and the evident distress of plants from this cause, and from having their roots disturbed and broken at a time when under the most favorable opportunities the plant is sorely pressed to sustain itself. No doubt there is much in what any of these may say on this favorite theme; but all should be considered together. The question of how to save moisture in soils, and at the same time, if possible bring the soil to the condition that excess water does no damage, is far broader in its application than that of bringing water upon the soil.

There are many sections where irrigation will not be practiced, where rainfall is usually sufficient for the needs of crops, but which suffer at times. How to economize in the use, or rather waste, of the water in the soil when such times come is an important consideration. Methods of preparing soil and of tillage that will serve to keep the soil in the best condition are then of great value in all sections—in those where rainfall is generally sufficient, and in those where irrigation must be resorted to. But it would seem to be of greater importance where water in soil stands for an outlay of money or labor, or both. Where water has cost nothing, but has fallen from the clouds, one may be excused for letting it escape in wasteful ways, perhaps, but certainly so such waste can be afforded where water costs something. The water in either case should be made to go as far as possible in growing crops. Deep and thorough opening of the soil is a first requisite in many soils. But here discrimination must be used. Close, compact soils will repay opening up, by the subsoil plan if need be. On some soils grown manuring or applications of well rotted barnyard manure would be useful in improving the texture, to say nothing of their effects as a fertilizer. In seasons like this the harrow should closely follow the plow. Soil thrown up roughly dries out rapidly and becomes cloddy. The harrow or the roller and leveler should be used at the close of each day's plowing.

The difference in the loss of water from soil thrown up roughly by the plow and from that which has been harrowed and planked is certainly considerable, although I have no figures upon the subject. Surface tillage at the time when crops are suffering most for water will serve to reduce loss by evaporation. These methods are all being urged for adoption by men who would improve their farm practice. They have been abundantly justified by experience in practical experiments. We may confidently expect that as greater study is given to soil physics because of the prominence it is assuming in irrigation investigations, our knowledge of how to save the water of our soils will be greatly increased, and that the importance of such measures will be so fully demonstrated that none will question it.—Prof. G. H. Flayler.

Halford is in appearance one of the most indolent men in public life in England, though in reality one of the most active mentally. A writer describes him as sitting on the Treasury bench with his back to the wall, his feet in the air, his hands behind his head, his feet in air, his hands resting on the desk before him.

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HEWLETT BROS. SALT LAKE CITY UTAH

### Management of Sandy Land.

There is a very wide difference in the agricultural capabilities of soils, says the Field and Farm. But all such soils have one chief characteristic—they are all deficient in vegetable matter. This is because the porous character of sandy soil allows water to drain through it readily. When the water goes out air from the surface follows. Hence, when there is a heavy rain the soil receives an accession of oxygen which rapidly destroys whatever vegetable matter it contains. If the subsoil is sandy it becomes exceedingly difficult to fertilize it. While the thin surface covering of vegetable matter remains even the soils that are sand, down to and including the subsoil, will produce good crops. But unless care is taken to grow alfalfa or some other green manure such soils become drifting sands, entirely worthless for farming purposes. But there is very little sandy soil that does not overlay a stratum of clay. Such soil has great advantage in ease of cultivation and in its quick response to manure. If land of this character is plowed shallow and sowed to alfalfa it will not be difficult to make it fairly productive for an indefinite period. It is so easy to work sandy soil, and it can be worked so much earlier in the spring, that many farmers who have learned the secret of its management prefer it to all others. It is free from stones and in plowing much less labor is required than in turning a heavier soil. There is nothing to gain but much to lose by deep plowing of sandy soil. If only three or four inches of the surface is mixed with vegetable matter that should be the limit of depth for the plow until the growing of alfalfa has extended vegetable matter to a greater depth.

### From a Prominent Physician.

Salt Lake City, June 15, 1895. I have had the opportunity the past few weeks of seeing the Eagle Liqueur and Tobacco cure administered to one of the worst cases of alcoholism that I have ever seen. The patient is an ex-Keeley graduate (so called) and was in an extremely bad condition both physically and mentally. I have always been skeptical of the so-called cures for liquor and other habits, but must acknowledge that in this case its success has surprised me very much. When a man who has been in the habit of drinking a quart of whiskey a day and smoking from three to five packages of cigarettes under ten days' treatment absolutely refuses either, and when at the same time also returns to healthy appetite and a regular amount of sleep without any other medicine or remedy except that of the Eagle Liqueur cure, I am willing to acknowledge that it is a success and I am willing to endorse the same.

### Fruit-Growing As A Business.

There has never been a time when the outlook for horticulture as a business was better than it is at present. The people of this country are rapidly appreciating the fact that fruit as a food is not only wholesome but nutritious, and it has become an indispensable adjunct to almost every table in the land. This is well, for the consumption of fruit is to be encouraged in every way as being beneficial to the health of the people. The man who engages in fruit-growing now is sure of a market price that will pay him well for the time devoted to it. There has never been a time when a crop of fruit did not pay well for all it cost, and now that science has come to the aid of the fruit-grower and taught him how to combat disease and the ravages of insects he is more certain of a crop than ever before.

The old way of setting trees and letting them care for themselves is a thing of the past, and progressive man realize that fruit trees require attention as well as any other crop. Orchards are to be furnished with the proper plant food and the soil kept under cultivation the same as if it were in a crop that can be grown in a year. The day of large orchards is passing, except where large companies have them, and the day of extensive fruit-growing is at hand. The small orchard which is given the very best care is to be preferred by the average farmer rather than the large one which cannot be given proper attention. Let the man who sets an orchard now attend to the location and select those varieties that have proven best in his section and success will crown his efforts every time. There is no need to experiment on a large scale as there once was when no man knew just what to select. The experiment stations have all been doing work along this line, and the results are open for any one who inquires, and there is no excuse for not knowing just what to plant in almost any state and what the lay of the land should be for the best results.

Those who have good orchards are reaping great profit from them, and those who set others in the near future may rest assured that the demand will keep ahead of the supply for a good many years.—Farm News.

The Cigarette must go. Give the Eagle Tobacco Cure a chance and it will conquer every time.

### Sheep Raising.

Sheep, more than any animals, crave a variety of food, and they will often go hungry rather than eat food upon which their appetites have been cloyed. They turn in pastures of sweet, nutritious grass oftentimes to the rag weed. We always hear a great deal about fat mutton, but it is a fact that the sheep is the best producer of lean meat that we have. One of the best sheep foods is clover, but it should not stand till the stocks are woody, as in that condition the sheep know enough not to eat the stems. For sheep fodder sow clover thick, the stems will grow fine. Cut when it gets into full bloom and care it well, and the sheep will eat every part of it.

Pass and alfalfa, when cut at the right time, make an excellent sheep fodder. The halm or stems of beans and the pods of the same should be fed with extreme caution, as the sheep like them, but they are apt to cause trouble in the bladders of the animals, sometimes bursting them. Timothy hay that has been allowed to stand until nearly ripe before cutting is unfit to feed to sheep. Yearlings will almost starve to death before they will eat it. Grown thick and fine and cut just when coming into blossom, older sheep will do fairly well on it. Too many farmers leave their hay to get hard and woody before cutting, in which condition it loses fully 50 per cent of its feeding value.

Where sheep are fed on very much of the carbonaceous forage they should have a portion of grain to balance up the ration. When swamp hay, meadow hay, timothy hay, corn fodder or straw is being fed, wheat bran, gluten meal or oil meal should be fed with them and never corn to any great extent, and never except in connection with one of the above.—Rural World.

The Eagle Tobacco Cure is a genuine reality; it is safe and sure.

### SHOT EVERYONE IN SIGHT.

### ASSASSINATED AN ITALIAN HOUSEHOLD.

Deliberate Wholesale Slaughter of a Louisiana Family—Used a Double-Barrelled Shotgun.

New Orleans, July 21.—Last Friday night on the Terre Haute plantation, in St. John's parish, while Rosario Giordano and his family were seated at the supper-table, Joe Noska walked up to the door and, leaving a double-barrelled shotgun, fired. Mrs. Giordano fell to the floor a corpse, and the bullets that did not go through her went through both legs of a four-month-old infant she held in her arms. Giordano, fearing that the tender babe would be killed, sprang toward ward to clasp it, and the assassin then fired again. The buckshot entered the groin of Mary Giordano. The ten-year-old little girl, who sat beside her, started forward and received a portion of the load of buckshot that struck her father, tearing it to pieces. At the same time little Nicola fell to the floor, wounded through the chest. When the assassin, Joe Noska, did not move from the spot, but when he saw Benedito Giordano, a nephew of the dead woman, and Charlie Columbo coming toward him, he coolly placed two fresh shells in his gun and waited until they got very close to him. Then he raised his gun and fired both barrels, the two men falling to the ground dead. Then the murderer, throwing his gun over his shoulder, made the plantation his headquarters. When the citizens ascertained the extent of the deed they organized a posse and, led by the sheriff, overtook the assassin. The wounded were brought to the Charity Hospital in this city. They are: Rosario Giordano, the unfortunate head of the household, aged 34 years, shot in the left thigh; Mary Giordano, aged 10 years, shot in the chest; Nicola Giordano, aged 7 years, shot in the corner of the eye, the bullet penetrating the brain; Joseph Giordano, aged 4 months, shot in both legs and the head; Benedito Giordano, aged 10 years, shot in the chest; and four-month-old baby will recover. The assassin has not yet been captured.

It is not known how far he had intended to go, but he had intended to do some mischief. He had nothing to do with this. He had been living on the plantation with his family for several years. Last October Noska (or Geneste) came from New York to work on the plantation. He had a wife and two children on the place. The assassin and the wounded man had never had any trouble with each other. The assassin was as far as the wounded man knew, existed between them.

**IDAHO.** Mrs. Anna Garlick was found dead in an old house in Boise. After the examination of several witnesses a verdict that deceased came to her death from natural causes, due to the excessive use of alcoholic stimulants, was rendered.

P. F. Worthington, at Oakley, has an orange tree bearing its fruit though it was planted in a tropical climate, and this year will give forth two large and well-matured oranges, while at the same time it is bearing blossoms and setting fruit.

The scalp vouchers presented and allowed at a late session of the County Commissioners of Boise amounted to \$2529.35. This sum was for rabbit and gopher scalps deposited at the County Clerk's office during the past six months, which aggregate over \$6,000 at a cents each.

Payette Independent: A party of thirteen home-seekers arrived from Illinois the first of this week. We understand these people first stopped in the vicinity of Idaho Falls, where they remained about two weeks, finally concluding to come to Payette valley and locate permanently in the great fruit belt.

Halley Times: The Indians are said to be playing havoc with the game up on the head of East Fork. They should be kept on the reservation, because the whites here are liable to shoot them accidentally. Uncle Sam has better care for his pets, or there will be good Indians lying around loose on East Fork.

How pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in concord! The Payette Independent sweetly says: The Independent sent a printer over to Ontario last week to help the News out of a rut. This week Brother Bowen returned the favor by coming over and stacking feed for us. That's the way for brethren to dwell together in unity.

Mr. Sonner is now extensively engaged in fattening hogs on the Hornet creek range. The feed used is crickets, of which there are abundance. The only trouble is that hogs are too scarce to stop their ravages.

### MORGAN ROASTS CARLISLE.

Says He Was Not Given a Cabinet Place Until He Changed Front on the Silver Question and His Conversion Was Like That of Aaron—Ex-Senator Walsh Presided—Memphis Resolutions Adopted.

Griffin, Ga., July 18.—The streets of this little city were thronged at an early hour to-day by crowds from the country and surrounding towns, while the hotels, boarding-houses and public places contained an unwonted number of visitors from a distance, all come to attend the bimetallic State convention, called by the Spalding County Silver League, and to hear Senator John L. Morgan of Alabama speak. A caucus of the leaders of the free silver forces was held last night, at which a plan of procedure was mapped out. In accordance with the programme, the convention was called to order at 11 a. m. by Professor John G. Hunt of this city, president of the local Silver League. Ex-United States Senator Patrick Walsh of Augusta was made permanent chairman of the convention, and also president of the State Bimetallic League. In assuming the chair, Senator Walsh made a brief speech defining the purposes of the gathering and criticizing the financial policy of the Administration.

The displeasure of some of the Democratic delegates at the presence of a large number of Populists showed itself early, when Delegate Gardner of Pike arose and protested against Populists being allowed a voice in the proceedings. His remarks were greeted with applause. Congressman Moses of the Fourth district moved that all resolutions be referred to the resolutions committee without reading. This was hotly opposed by Delegate James Barrett of Augusta, a Populist who was supported by the other Populist delegates present. The motion was adopted, however, while Barrett denounced the proceeding as a gag law.

Chairman Walsh then read a list of vice-presidents of the State Silver League.

### MORGAN ROASTS CARLISLE.

The principal event of the convention was the speech of Senator Morgan of Alabama. He said he came to the meeting as a Democrat, "in Democratic harness, and by the authority of a settled creed, to advocate Democratic principles, as an old and sound as the great National party."

Sherman's law of 1873 was such a deathblow to silver as money metal, that it seemed marvelous silver had enough life left to take up its bed and walk. "But," he said, "it is moving to the front with uplifted head and vigorous step, again in union, if not in full harmony with gold, and the parade is so inspiring that even Great Britain is keeping step to the music of the union."

Of Secretary Carlisle, the Senator said he was not chosen as a Cabinet officer until he had changed front on the silver question. His conversion was not like that of Ahab, who espoused error, was made blind, and then saw the truth and embraced it; but like that of Aaron, who saw truth, became blind, and then espoused the error of Egypt typified in the golden calf.

Morgan said the recent contract for sale of bonds was without a precedent in the history of the nation. He called what he termed the "false issue invented by Sherman and adopted by Cleveland," that it is the duty of the government to preserve the parity between the metals by adjusting their coinage to meet the fluctuations in commercial value.

Of the \$100,000,000 gold reserve, he said it is in sort of a Jack pot put up by Sherman, that he kept up gambling in our money. It was never needed to give strength to the United States. The country that had paid in silver, in the last month, \$3,000,000 in thirty days, could not get the support of \$100,000,000 deposited in the Treasury to support its credit.

### PLATFORM ADOPTED.

At the conclusion of Senator Morgan's speech, the convention took a recess until 3 o'clock, when it reconvened. Evan P. Howell, chairman of the committee on resolutions, read the platform, which was identical with that adopted by the recent free silver convention in Memphis.

J. M. McBride offered a resolution declaring the act of 1873 "unconstitutionally passed at midnight," was a crime and had created more suffering to the human family than all the wars and pestilence and famines since the beginning of the world. The resolution concluded with the denunciation of the present Administration for having "asserted the Democratic platform." Wild applause followed. The reading of the resolution met some discussion arose as it was thought best by some to ignore the Administration. Under a point of order the resolution was tabled, as it had not been to the resolutions committee.

The convention ended with speeches by Congressman Livingston, Clark Howell and others.

### Mrs. Ronan Discharged.

A Hoies special under date of July 20 says: A Hoies inquest into the death of Mrs. Ronan, who had been arrested on a charge of having killed her husband, was released, and Matt Crump, the principal witness against her, was at once placed under arrest for the crime.

At the preliminary hearing Crump was placed on the stand. Instead, however, of proving a good witness for the State, he apparently surprised the prosecution by displaying any knowledge of the murder. He claimed to have seen the night of the murder at Russell Smith's, near the depot. He stated that he was to the confession made at Payette, which he declared he saw Mrs. Ronan kill her husband with a saw.

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### MET WITHOUT THE PRESIDENT.

SECRETARY OLNEY CALLS THE CABINET TOGETHER.

Declined to State What Subject Was Under Discussion, but There Was an Air of Gravity.

Washington, D. C., July 19.—For the first time in many years there was a midsummer Cabinet meeting in Washington this afternoon, in the absence of the President. Secretary of State Olney apparently called to Washington from Falmouth, Me., the express purpose, for he arrived in noon and will leave the city to-morrow morning.

Secretary Olney called at the War Department soon after his arrival at the State Department to talk with Secretary Lamont. The latter was absent at the time, and he failed to attend the Cabinet meeting, which was held later, although an effort was made to summon him by telephone. Secretary Herbert next received a visit from the Secretary of State, and about 4 o'clock the pair walked over to the State Department and were closeted in the office of Secretary Olney. Here they were joined in the course of half an hour by Secretary Carlisle and Attorney-General Harmon, who had been called by telephone into the conference. This lasted for fully two hours, and from time to time Assistant Secretary Alden, who has been acting as Secretary of State during the absence of Secretary Olney, was called into the room to advise the Cabinet as to some point under discussion.

Whatever was the subject considered could not be learned, and apparently it was resolved to keep the proceedings secret, for each of the persons present, as they emerged from the office, declined courteously but positively to answer a single question touching their deliberations. All that could be gathered was to the effect that nothing had happened at Gray Gables to give rise to any apprehension. Still there was an air of gravity in the demeanor of the Cabinet officers as they emerged from the conference that would indicate that some weighty and important questions had been under discussion.

The impression is very strong to-night that the Cabinet meeting was for the purpose of discussing the neutrality features of the Cuban question, and it is believed that some public statement will be made in regard thereto in a few days.

### DEMOCRACY IN CHAOS.

BLAND GIVES AN EXPERT OPINION.

Says the Party Will Be Wiped Off the Map if It Dodges the Free Coinage Issue Any Longer.

St. Louis, July 21.—Ex-Congressman Bland is in the city. Speaking of the silver question to-night, he said:

"There is no use trying to dodge this issue any longer. If the Democratic party does not declare for the free coinage of silver it will be wiped off the map. The newspapers in the large cities like St. Louis talk about the silver sentiment dying out, but they are not going to fool anybody. There may be a few Democrats in the cities who will follow the Administration, but there are practically none in the country. This coming convention will show us the vote of the Democracy in Missouri. In order to win in the next campaign we have got to take a bold stand for silver, and we must be getting in line."

"Do you think that the next Democratic National Convention will declare for independent free silver?" "I do not know whether it will or not, but if it does not the party will not stand a ghost of a show. The people are not going to follow a platform which is meaningless or intended to deceive. Federal officeholders and whisky-gaugers may succeed in controlling conventions, but they will not follow them." "Would not a declaration for free coinage lose us the vote of the large cities?" "It would unquestionably lose votes in some cities, but we would gain in others." "Your name has frequently been mentioned as a candidate for the Presidency; what can I say about that?" "It is all foolishness to talk about candidates. There is no Democratic party. There is nothing but chaos and disorder."

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I. M. N. U. - 18, 1895, Salt Lake.

Desperado in a Box. Seattle, Wash., July 22.—It has been learned that Frank J. Hart, a notorious bunko stealer, who broke jail last March with the desperado Tom Black, finally made good his escape by being sent in a box to Fresno, on the Northern Pacific. Traveling Auditor Weir discovered how the scheme had been worked. There was nothing in the box but a few gunnysacks and a bottle of wine. When the box was delivered the hour was midnight, and escape from the lonely freight house was easy.

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