

## THE CENTURY DICTIONARY.

"A Monument to American Enterprise and Scholarship."

The *Scientific American* in speaking of the appearance of the first volume, says the full work, judging by this portion, will be a monument to American enterprise and scholarship, and one that the United States cannot be too proud of. Any review of it that is at all just must simply run into eulogy, and can be nothing less, as the work seems to be well nigh above criticism.

As a reference book for men who cannot afford a great library, but who need some work to which they can refer for a definition of a technical term, which can be depended upon to be at once full and accurate, The Century Dictionary is above every other. It is not only an unrivaled dictionary of the English language, but it is a complete lexicon of terms used in the trades and manufactures. Arts and processes of manufacture, machines, tools and mechanical appliances are intelligently described by practical men, and are most interestingly and accurately illustrated with cuts and diagrams.

After the word *engine*, for example, there are descriptions of forty-seven motors and machines called engines. The machine called the *dental-engine* is not a motor. The *rose-engine* is a lathe, and is, strictly speaking, neither machine nor motor, but a machine-tool. Many such curious facts are set forth under the head of *engine*, together with all the poetical and historical lore that hung around the word before the day of Watt and Stephenson.

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## WASHINGTON NOTES.

The figures of the business done at the Seattle land office during the quarter ending September 30, show that there were 495 entries under the homestead act covering 63,514 acres of land; 486 pre-emption declaratory statements filed on about 56,000 acres; the cash entries numbered 857 covering 111,047 acres with receipts amounting to \$181,268. The final homestead entries for that period numbered 456 covering an aggregate area of 67,437 acres. One hundred and seventy-two timber land applications were filed on about 20,000 acres. This is the largest quarter's business ever transacted at the Seattle land office. The largest land case on record in the department, that of the United States vs Russel A. Alger *et al*, is now receiving attention in the local office.

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