

SUGAR-BEET CULTURE

Historical Sketch of the Industry in America.

FIRST ATTEMPT A FAILURE

It Was Established Near Philadelphia in 1830—Factories Now in the United States.

Mr. Albert Gerberding delivered an address before the Chit-Chat Club, of San Francisco, which contained a brief history of the beet-sugar industry in this country. As the subject of starting the industry in the Northwest is being agitated, it is thought information from its personal may be obtained. The historical sketch of the industry is as follows:

"Europe has 3,000,000 acres of fields, producing say, 4,500,000 tons of sugar annually, and of this amount is selling to the United States sugar to the value of \$20,000,000 a year. Although the industry has been established in European countries for years, it has been slow to gain a hold in America. Its history on this side of the Atlantic is short, although the same climatic conditions prevail.

"Our first commercial experiment in making sugar from beets was near Philadelphia, in 1830, contemporaneously with the final establishment of the industry in France, but with widely different results. Intelligent pursuit in that country brought success; ignorance in our own, disastrous failure. The experiment was tried again in 1838 by a man in Massachusetts. His sugar product cost him 11 cents a pound. He was the victim of the theory that beets must be dried before processing. He had his experience, and those who came after him profited by his failure.

"For twenty-five years thereafter America made no attempt to manufacture beet sugar. In 1868 a factory was established in Illinois. The land was unfavorable to beet culture, and after six years of unprofitable endeavor, the factory was moved to another part of the state, not more favorable, and failure was again the result. Again the machinery was moved, to Wisconsin this time, where both the soil and climate were unsuitable, and since 1871 nothing has been heard of the establishment. A factory was afterward started in Fond du Lac, Wis., and attracted much attention.

"In 1869 the owners, two German chemists, came to California to superintend a new enterprise of the same sort at Alvarado, started by Mr. Dyer, who is entitled to the credit of inaugurating the beet sugar industry in this state. He still resides in close proximity to the Alvarado factory, and we are pleased to note that he is yet a stockholder in what is now a dividend-paying enterprise, the ultimate result of his long years of persistent effort. After years of indifferent success the company was reorganized in 1889, the plant enlarged, and since then the business has been a success.

"Sacramento started a factory in 1869, with machinery costing \$100,000. In 1875 it was sold for \$45,000, and used to re-equip the Alvarado factory, which from that time until 1889 was the only beet-sugar factory in America.

"In 1889-90 the Western Beet-Sugar Company erected its factory at Watsonville, Cal. Chino, Cal., was the scene of the next factory, started about 1891, and about the same time factories were built at Lehi, Utah; Grand Island, Neb., and Norfolk, Neb. New Mexico and Virginia also claim a factory each now.

"A new factory is now being constructed at Alamogordo, in the vicinity of Anaheim, Cal., and one has been commenced at Salinas. Thus we have at present eight factories in the entire United States, three of which (with two more in process of construction) are located in California. In this vast state of unlimited acreage, favorable climate and soil, there are perhaps today about 60,000 acres, or one-twentieth of 1 percent of the area of California, devoted to beet culture, and yet we are paying annually \$6,000,000 to our friends across the water for what we could as well and better produce ourselves.

"This sugar beet has been bred, and bred for desirable points, such as shape, color, size, soilage and saccharine content. The seed is selected, the seed from France and Germany.

"The influence of the climate and the higher percentage of saccharine matter has been developed than in any other known place. Beets are known to grow in this state on about 20,000 acres in four counties, and while we know they flourish in the neighborhood of three factories, it is interesting to describe the method of testing and bringing to public notice a new territory. It has been the experience of all the factories that for the first few years the greatest difficulty has been in securing a sufficient quantity of beets, but as soon as the farmers begin to understand the business, the supply taxes the utmost capacity of the factory.

"Beets, as a crop, are of but little use without the factories, and factories are valueless without the beets.

"The farmer has the land, which he knows will produce good beets, but the capitalist will not venture his wealth until he sees the beets growing, and unless the capitalist is also the landowner, and appreciates the advantages of the sugar enterprise, it is most difficult to inaugurate the business."

News comes from Round Valley, Cal., to the effect that an Indian named Dick Bell had killed a man named Thomas Steele. Bell has been arrested. Steele was shot in the back.

Real Tragedy on the Stage. Armand Castlemore, while singing the role of Tristan in Flotow's opera of "Martha," at the Metropolitan opera house, New York, dropped dead in front of the footlights and almost in full view of one of the most brilliant audiences which has filled the theater since this winter. So quiet was the matter kept, however, that few in the audience knew a tragedy had taken place before their very eyes.

In the last three years 40,000 acres of timber in New York State have been destroyed by forest fires.

A SECRET CONFERENCE.

Thirty-one Were Present, But Accomplished Nothing.

Thirty-one members of the Mitchell joint assembly met at the capitol in Salem Monday and discussed the senatorial situation at length, and in all its phases. It was a secret conference, but it is known that no formal action looking either to continued support of Mitchell or his withdrawal was taken. Driver, Sommers, Patterson of Marion, Taylor, Reed, Gowan, Nosler, David, Veness and others spoke. Some of these advocated supporting Mitchell to the end.

Taylor made several earnest talks. It was to the effect that the interests of the Republican party were higher than those of any one man; but he added that the members of this conference ought to have the right to name the candidate, if it is seen that Mitchell cannot be elected.

Reed wanted to fight it out on this line if it took all summer. He did not believe in allowing the minority to dictate to the majority.

Senator Patterson, of Marion, thought the thirty-one could afford to hold out in their present attitude, and he invited the opposition to "lay on, Macduff." There was some talk Monday that it was the purpose of the opposition to come in and organize the house during the afternoon. But it was without foundation.

While the number of absentees from the Mitchell joint assembly was six, there was just one voluntary withdrawal. That was Representative Mitchell, of Marion.

Mr. Mitchell is no orator and did not think it necessary to set off any fireworks in joint assembly, announcing his purpose. He simply stayed out, which is quite as effective as any way of getting at it.

The Mitchell cause has suffered severely through sickness. Representative Hudson, of Washington, who had been in bed since last Wednesday, was sent to the Salem hospital. His physician says he has typhoid fever in a mild form, and that he will probably not be able to leave his room for several weeks. Representative Wagner is ill at his home in Portland, and it is said that it will not be safe for him to venture out for several days, if, indeed, he can be here during the week. Representative Vaughan is still quite sick, but he may be able to answer roll-call tomorrow, though this cannot be stated with certainty.

The Davis house met at 11:45 Monday night. Sixteen members were present. Adjournment was taken till five minutes after 12. When that time arrived, the house was again called to order, and adjourned till 9:30 A. M. Wednesday.

Thirty-three in Joint Assembly. Monday's session of the joint convention developed nothing new. Chairman Brownell called the joint assembly to order at 12 o'clock. He at once submitted letters from Vaughan, Hudson and Wagner. They were not read, but the clerk was directed to mark them excused.

The roll was called and showed the following thirty-three in attendance: Senators—Brownell, Driver, Dufur, Gowan, Harmon, Hughes, Johnson, Patterson of Marion, Price, Taylor—10. Representatives—Benson, Bridges, Brown, Chapman, Conn, Crawford, David, Gratke, Gurdane, Hogue, Hope, Jennings, Langell, Marsh, Merrill, Nosler, Palm, Rigby, Smith of Marion, Somers, Stanley, Thomas, Thompson—23.

Absent—Senator Reed, Representatives Hudson, Mitchell, Vaughan, Veness, Wagner—6.

The absence of Representative Mitchell of Marion, was significant. It is known that he has definitely declared that he will not return. It was expected that Mitchell would formally withdraw, but he appears to think a speech unnecessary. Representative Veness, of Polk, was probably not able to return from his home, whither he went Friday, on account of the storm. Senator Reed remained in the senate chamber during the entire time the convention was in session. It is not known that his absence indicated an intention to stay out hereafter. There were no speeches. After the reading of the journal had been dispensed with, the convention, on motion of Senator Harmon, adjourned.

A number of Republican members of the opposition have received the following self-explanatory dispatch:

"New York, Feb. 15.—Hon. George H. Hill, Salem, Or.: Failure to elect a Republican United States senator will jeopardize Republican reorganization of the senate March 5, and end of the bill legislation. Oregon then will be responsible for continued hard times and embarrassment of the incoming administration.

"American Protective Tariff League, 'Cornelius M. Bliss, President.' The senate committee, appointed to examine the ground of the proposed postage railroad between The Dalles and Celilo, was shown over the ground Monday by a committee from the Commercial Club of The Dalles.

From now on to the close of the present session of congress it is expected that everything not on the active list will make way for the appropriation bills, which must be passed before final adjournment on March 1.

The San Francisco police made a general raid upon the Chinese gambling joints of the city, rounding up a total of 320 Celestials, all of whom were found delving deep into the mysteries of the enticing game of fan-tan.

A report is being circulated in Washington, D. C., to the effect that Binger Hermann will be appointed general land office commissioner, as soon as President McKinley gets around to where he can make appointments. The office mentioned pays \$4,500 a year.

The Postoffice Appropriation. The postoffice appropriation bill for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1897, has been completed by the house committee on postoffices and postroads. It carries \$85,611,711, or \$3,040,150 more than the current year, and \$1,908,805 less than the estimate of the postmaster-general. There is an increase in the allowance for the free-delivery service which is \$12,595,000 in the bill.

Steels tempered in phenol have been found by M. Sevat to have more great hardness and elasticity than those tempered in water.

ALL CLERKS DISPENSED WITH

Resolution Passed by the Senate—It Caused a Hot Fight.

A stirring and very personal debate took place in the senate at Salem Thursday afternoon. It arose primarily over the question of clerks, but it took a broader range, and covered the entire ground of the legislative hold-up and the candidacy of Senator Mitchell. Just after the senate met in the afternoon, Reed introduced the following resolution:

"Whereas, the organization of the legislature has not yet been perfected and public business is being retarded and necessary legislation, such as appropriations for public purposes, abolishment of useless and expensive commissions and other legislation promised the people of this state by all political parties, is being delayed by the refusal of certain persons elected to the house of representatives to qualify; and

"Whereas, notwithstanding the facts aforesaid, and the fact that this senate is practically transacting no public business and there is no work for senate committee clerks to do, there is, nevertheless now employed by the senate committees, at public charge, a large number of clerks; and

"Resolved, That all clerks of senate committees be, and they are hereby, discharged, and no compensation shall be allowed any such clerk from and after this date, unless the employment be hereafter authorized by the senate after perfect organization of the legislature shall have been secured."

Senator Dufur made quite a lengthy speech in which he set forth his position on questions of economy. He was followed by Driver and Mitchell and a number of others, some of whom had amendments to the resolutions as presented. A vote was finally reached. The amendments were cleared away, one by one, and the ayes and noes being called on the original question, but one dissenting vote was cast. The president voted no, more in a spirit of jest than anything.

The Joint Convention. The joint convention has met daily, but at no time have more than thirty-nine been present. Each day developed some fiery oratory, accusing the opposing faction of blocking legislation. Thursday thirty-seven members were present, eleven senators and twenty-six representatives. Senator Reed came in for the first time. Representatives Hudson and Vaughan sent letters asking to be excused on account of sickness. When the session convened it was the general expectation that it would be purely perfunctory, but the spectators were agreeably surprised. The first surprise was when Nosler's name was reached. Nosler arose and the house became intensely quiet, as everyone thought that Nosler was going to announce his withdrawal, but the sequel proved a contrary intention on his part.

Nosler first spoke of his having been in his seat ever since the session opened, answering every rollcall and ready to do his duty. Said he: "I am ashamed to see such child's play and must enter my protest."

Referring to Senator Carter's speech, he said: "Would it not have been better for him to have made the forty-first man instead of the forty-sixth?"

Continuing, he declared that some one was responsible for the situation. The Republican party was not responsible for its recalcitrant members. The people would hold these responsible as individuals.

In conclusion Nosler said: "I am here to answer to my name and I expect to be here to the end."

Nosler's speech was of peculiar interest in view of the fact that his seat is to be contested when the house organizes. Nosler was elected as a Populist.

Sensor Reed was the author of the next incident. He said that he was occupying the seat of Representative Hudson, who was ill, and he would continue to occupy the seat as long as he, Hudson, was absent. Reed then said:

"I don't come here as a Mitchell man, but I will vote for him if I get a chance. I don't propose to be held up by fifteen Populists, and I tell you I am going to stay here now."

Reed then said he would like to ask what doctors were attending Vaughan and Hudson. He suggested that they might be jobbed by the opposition. Chairman Brownell appointed Reed, Patterson and Chapman a committee to see what was attending the sick members. Reed's motion was not made seriously and was intended only as a "joke."

Chapman continued the speechmaking by saying he was here ready to redeem every pledge he had made.

The senate committee on judiciary, to which was referred Gowan's sweeping salary bill, has considered the suggestions of the various county delegations as to the salaries in their respective counties. The multimember delegation recommended that the same salaries be maintained for their county, but all fees and emoluments of whatever kind were cut off. The suggestion was adopted by the committee.

Sensor Mulkey proposes an amendment to the road laws, providing that the view of a proposed road, when damages are claimed by persons residing in the vicinity, shall appraise damages at the same time they view the road. The notice of the proposed road is considered sufficient notice to all probable claimants, enabling such claimants to file their petition at the time of the hearing of the petition. The measure is thought to be practical and economical.

Two hundred and thirty-one bills have been so far introduced in the senate. Honors are even between Senators Gowan, McClung and Smith, as authors of the greatest number, there being now 17 to the credit of each. The list is as follows: Bates 4, Brownell 9, Cabreath 4, Carter 8, Day 10, Dawson 8, Driver 9, Dufur 10, Genser 8, Gowan 17, Harmon 11, Haseltine 7, Hobson 4, Holt 7, Hughes 8, Johnson 10, King 14, Mackay 6, McClung 17, Mitchell 5, Mulkey 9, Patterson of Marion 6, Patterson of Washington 5, Price 9, Reed 7, Selling 6, Smith 17, Taylor 9, Wade 5.

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Your tea-trade for the next ten years is worth having.

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A Bath (Me.) hunter has presented to each of his eight children a fat feather bed, stuffed with the plumage of birds he has shot.

White quartz with a great deal of free gold has been struck near Hill City, in the Black Hills.

Glycerine is derived from the lye left after making soap, which for ages was considered of no use.

A Pennsylvania court has decided that to call a man a Mugwump is not a libel, but a compliment.

At Salem, Mass., the Roentgen ray discovery is asserted to have caused hair to grow on a bald head.

A SOLID BASIS.

Gold is a solid basis of financial transaction, and for business that's the best thing for us. It is so in the physical conditions. If by some carelessness or exposure to sudden cold the muscles of the back are contracted and stiffened, we have at once lumbago, or lame back, sometimes called "crick in the back," which is disabling and unites all who have it for any active life. Now, to get back to a solid basis of health and strength, St. Jacobs Oil should at once be used to relax the twisted muscles and restore to their natural condition. It takes but a short time to perform the cure and the cure is certain. The back is then on a solid basis for strength and work, and nothing will bring about the change like this great remedy for pain.

Fossil animals, bearing a close resemblance to our horses, have been found in many parts of the world.

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Like the strings of a musical instrument, the nervous system in health harmonizes pleasantly with the other parts of the system. But weakened or overworked, it makes most inharmonious music. Quiet and invigorate it with the great tranquilizer and tonic, Hostetter's Stomachic, which promotes digestion, bilious secretion and a regular action of the bowels, and prevents malarial, rheumatic and kidney complaints.

Dropping or striking a steel magnet, or causing it to vibrate by any other means, diminishes its magnetism.

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All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from "Fox Garden" sugar. It is made from Sugar Cane and is strictly pure. It is for sale by first-class grocers, in cans only. Manufactured by the Pacific Coast Syrup Co. All genuine "Fox Garden Syrup" have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

In Germany asparagus is peeled before it is canned by the aid of a special machine.

I never used so quick a cure as Piso's Cure for Consumption. J. B. Palmer, Box 1171, Seattle, Wash., Nov. 25, 1895.



Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all classes of people. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the only remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or cathartics are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

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Incubator for sale. We pay highest prices for old and new incubators. Write for catalogue. Petaluma Incubator Co., Petaluma, Cal.

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WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

The wheat market in Chicago last week had a strong tone early, rallying to, and then breaking to, the close being at a low of 3 1/2c from the close at the end of the previous week. The range on May was 73 1/2 to 77 7/8c, with the close at 73 1/2 to 73 7/8c. The foreign situation afforded but little substantial encouragement and the spot trade in America was not broad enough to force the upturn that the decrease in visible supplies warranted. The condition of the trade in England is shown by the failure of a grain house in Bristol, who were long floating California cargoes, the recent decline there of 15c from the high point being too much for them. Foreigners, both on the continent and in England, are long, and are placing great confidence in the strong statistical position. All the foreign papers are filled with bullish statistics, and have been for the past ninety days. Those sent out lately have been a rehash of what the trade has been stuffed with ever since the advance started. There have been at least ten official Russian crop reports, each differing slightly from the other. There also has been a fresh estimate on the world's wheat crop, the Corn Trade News' latest making it 96,000,000 bushels short of last year. A few months ago Beerholm was out with an estimate of 136,000,000 bushels short. It is generally conceded that the Argentine crop is short, as at this time of the year that country commences to ship heavily, but last week it only sent about 20,000 bushels, against 800,000 bushels last year. Bradstreet estimates that the world's available supply will be 75,000,000 bushels, against 105,000,000 bushels last year, and 131,000,000 bushels in 1895.

Cash wheat is being held back all over the world for higher prices, and occasionally a section is heard from that has a little that it desires to sell. Speculation with commission houses has increased slightly, but is still small.

Market Quotations.

Portland, Or., Feb. 16, 1897.

Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, \$4.25; Benton county and White Lily, \$4.40; graham, \$3.50; superfine, \$2.75 per barrel.

Wheat—Walla Walla, \$3.81c; Valley, \$2.83c per bushel.

Oats—Choice white, \$9.40c per bushel; choice gray, \$8.40c.

Hay—Timothy, \$13.50 per ton; clover, \$10.00 to \$11.00; wheat and oat, \$10.00 to \$11 per ton.

Barley—Feed barley, \$18.00 per ton; brewing, \$20.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.00; shorts, \$16.50; middlings, \$26.

Butter—Creamery, 50c to 55c; dairy, 25c to 35c; store, 17c to 30c per roll.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, \$5.00 to \$5.50; Garnet Chiles, 70c to 80c; Early Rose, 70c to 80c per sack; sweets, \$2.25 per cental for Merced; Jersey Red, \$2.50 per sack.

Onions—\$1.50 to \$1.75 per sack.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.50 to \$3.00; geese, \$3.00 to \$3.50; turkeys, live, 11c; ducks, \$4.50 to \$5.00 per dozen.

Eggs—Oregon, 15c to 18c per dozen.

Cheese—Oregon, 12c to 15c; Young America, 13c to 15c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 10c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6c to 8c.

Hops—9c to 10c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75 to \$3.00; cows, \$2.25 to \$2.50; dressed beef, 4c to 5c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$2.00 to \$2.25; dressed mutton, 5c to 6c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, \$3.25 to \$3.50; light and feeders, \$2.50 to \$3.00; dressed, \$4.50 to \$5.00 per cwt.

Veal—Large, 5c to 6c; small, 6c to 6 1/2c per pound.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 16, 1897.

Wheat—Chicken feed, \$27 per ton.

Oats—Choice, \$23 to \$24 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, \$22 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$20 per ton; cracked, \$21; feed meal, \$21.

Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, \$5.10; Novelty A, \$4.60; California brands, \$5.20; Dakota, \$5.50; patent, \$6.25.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.50 per ton; shorts, \$19.

Feed—Chopped feed, \$18.00 per ton; middlings, \$22; oatmeal meal, \$29.

Hay—Puget sound, per ton, \$9.00 to \$10.00; Eastern Washington, \$14.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 25c; select, 24c; tubs, 23c; ranch, 17c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 12c.

Vegetables—Potatoes, per ton, \$18 to \$20; parsnips, per sack, 75c; beets, per sack, 60c; turnips, per sack, 60c; rutabagas, per sack, 75c; carrots, per sack, 85c to 40c; cabbage, per 100 lbs, \$1.50; onions, per 100 lbs, \$2.50.

Sweet potatoes—Per 100 lbs, \$3.00.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per dozen, 15c; dressed, 9c to 10c; ducks, \$4.00 to \$5.00; dressed turkeys, 15c.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 18c; Eastern, 1c per dozen.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5c; mutton, sheep, 7c per pound; lamb, 5c; pork, 5c per pound; veal, small, 6c.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5c to 6c; salmon, 5c to 6c; salmon trout, 7c to 10c; flounders and soles, 3c to 4c.

Provisions—Hams, large, 11c; hams, small, 11c; breakfast bacon, 10c; dry salt sides, 5c to 6c per pound.

San Francisco, Feb. 16, 1897.

Potatoes—Salinas Burbanks, 90c to \$1.10; Early Rose, 75c to 85c; River Burbanks, 60c to 80c; sweets, Merced, \$1.50 to \$1.65; Los Angeles, \$1.50 to \$2.

Onions—\$2.00 to \$2.55 per cental.

Eggs—Ranch, 15c to 16c per dozen.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 21c to 22c; do seconds, 18c to 19c; fancy dairy, 17c; seconds, 14c to 15c.

Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 10c; fair to good, 7c to 8c; Young America, 11c to 12c; Eastern, 14c to 14 1/2c.

Wool—Choice mountain, 6c to 7c; poor do, 4c to 5c; San Joaquin plains, 3c to 5c; do foothill, 6c to 8c per pound.

Hay—Wheat and oat, \$7 to 10; best barley, \$7.00 to \$8.00; alfalfa, \$5 to \$6.50; do oat, \$8 to 7 per ton.

Tropical Fruit—Bananas, \$1.00 to 2.00 per bunch; pineapples, \$2 to 4.

Citrus Fruit—Oranges, navel, \$1.75 to 3.00; seedlings do, 75c to 1.25; common lemons, \$1.00 to 1.25; good to choice, \$1.50 to 2.00; fancy, \$2.25 to 2.50 per box.

Apples—Common, 60c to 75c per box; Eastern, \$1.00 to \$2.00 per barrel.

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AN ACTIVE ALTERNATIVE
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IT RESTORES STRENGTH.
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Mr. Lincoln Nelson, of Marshfield, Mo., writes: "For six years I have been a sufferer from