

**A GOOD SHOWING**  
Report of Brigadier-General Merriam.  
PROXY OF THE DEPARTMENT  
Abandonment of Fort Walla Walla  
Sanitary Work  
Nov. 5.—Brigadier-General Merriam has made a report to the secretary of the department of the military operations in a fairly good condition. The reports of the medical department and the medical reports indicate that there is a commendable state of efficiency and the administration of the various supply departments with economy and efficiency. The conditions which determined the success of the military operations have greatly changed, and the various departments of the army have been reorganized. The military operations in the Pacific Northwest have been a success. The military operations in the Pacific Northwest have been a success. The military operations in the Pacific Northwest have been a success.

**FAMINE RELIEF UNWELCOME**  
City of Everett Shamefully Treated at Calcutta.  
Duluth, Nov. 5.—Captain Alexander McDougall, general manager of the American Steel Barge Company, is in receipt of a letter from Captain L. La Varge, master of the whaleback steamship City of Everett, which sailed last summer from San Francisco for Calcutta, with a cargo of food for the famine sufferers of India. The letter is dated at Calcutta, September 18.  
Captain LaVarge charges that English officials at Calcutta are receiving the famine supplies without enthusiasm. The pilot came aboard the City of Everett when she approached Calcutta, and told the captain that he would have done better to have brought a cargo of guns, with which to kill off the native Indian population. Captain LaVarge says that the City of Everett was treated shamefully at Calcutta by the government, and that the treatment was specially out of place, owing to the presence of the vessel representing the generosity and humanity of the American people. There was nothing on which a claim for duty could be exacted that was not enforced, and the officials finding, after ransacking the papers for the ship, that the officials at Singapore had exempted the ship from light duties, promptly enforced them. The claim was made that the governor at Singapore had no authority to exempt the ship from paying any duties. Before leaving Calcutta, the English officials even insisted on the payment of duties for the ship's stores.

**WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.**  
Office of Downing, Perkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 711-713 Chamber Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.  
Facts established sooner or later control wheat values. Speculation may temporarily advance or depress values, but in the end the laws of supply and demand are sure to assert themselves and control values. It has been a self-evident proposition for several weeks past that conditions warranted higher values. Speculative influences have repeatedly driven prices downward, but the market has rebounded with the buoyancy of a cork upon the water. The news announcements of the week have been uniformly favorable to high-crate values. Crop advices at home indicate less than an average acreage seeded to winter wheat, owing to the protracted drought, which has been broken only in certain sections of the winter wheat belt. Receipts at primary points are falling off and promise from this on to prove smaller than last year. Export clearances continue large, 5,991,000 bushels for the week, which is largely in excess of our exportable surplus weekly. The export demand shows no signs of diminution. On the contrary, it is urgent and increasing, the last few days of the week having resulted in very large sales for export. Foreign advices continue extremely bullish. The reports of our own consuls in Europe more than confirm the maximum estimates of European import requirements. Advices from London assert that Mediterranean ports are unobtainable for Russian wheat. The French chamber of deputies has been petitioned to reduce the import duty on wheat, and some action in this direction will probably be taken sooner or later, although not necessarily at present. Russian advices, although always unreliable and largely mythical, are extremely bullish and must necessarily have some foundation on fact. The Argentine crop is still an unknown quantity. Reports are conflicting. Drought conditions some damage, and Locusts have caused some reports it cannot be assumed that the crop will be a large one in yield. Local speculative conditions are extremely favorable for higher values. Stocks on contract grain are very small, practically exhausted, and there is no immediate prospect of their being replenished. We can discover nothing in the situation at home or abroad warranting any decline in values, and would regard any decline as but temporary, unwarranted, and therefore a good speculative opportunity to buy wheat, the final outcome of which we anticipate to be much higher prices.

**AGRICULTURAL NEWS**  
THINGS PERTAINING TO THE FARM AND HOME.  
Proper Shelter for Stock-Caring for Cabbage—Advantages of a Covered Barnyard—Method of Washing Butter—Harvesting Weedy Potatoes—Notes.  
Shelter for Stock.  
One of the most important and oft-neglected matters for full consideration on farms where a few swine are kept is that of a proper shelter for them during the inclement weather of late fall and during the winter season. This is a question into which both humanity and profit enter. Nests made in heating manure piles and at the base of straw stacks furnish warmth, but are very injurious to the health of the animals; while low, dusty shelters under buildings breed vermin and disease and should be avoided. Dry, floored pens raised from the ground so the wind can blow under are very uncomfortable in cold weather, and the animals will not thrive therein until the wind is excluded below. Every farmer knows how to construct comfortable shelters, but it is too often neglected, and the pigs not only permitted but compelled to "rough it," often under the most unfavorable conditions.  
Cabbage in Winter.  
The old plan of burying, or putting cabbage in trenches during winter, or for winter use, has become obsolete, and a more simple and easy plan has been adopted. Where cabbage is grown on a large scale for shipping purposes, the best plan is to lift the cabbage and stack them two tiers deep and as closely as they can be placed in an orchard, or wood if convenient, and cover with leaves to the depth of two or three inches, the leaves to be kept in place by a slight covering of earth, says American Gardening. In this way the heads will keep perfectly sound all winter, and they can be easily taken up when wanted for shipping. For family use cabbages can be kept in the same way, only it will not be necessary to make the second layer. It is quite important to keep them a little below the freezing point. It has been suggested to keep them in some convenient building, but this plan has always resulted in failure, as the dry atmosphere is fatal; cabbage must be kept moist and cool, the slightest wilting renders it unfit for the table.  
A Covered Barnyard.  
The barnyards during the winter are often so wet and filthy that the animals are uncomfortable, which difficulty is sought to be remedied by the use of corncobstalls and other materials as absorbents. The barnyard can be rendered dry by having it higher than the level of the surrounding ground, but in the arrangement of the barnyard for the comfort of stock the next point is how to preserve the manure from loss by rains, heat, cold, etc. The only remedy is a covered barnyard, but that is expensive, though farmers would find that the saving of food, better protection to stock in summer and winter, and the saving of manure would repay any outlay in that respect, as any kind of roof that would turn water from the barnyard would answer the purpose.  
Washing Butter.  
In washing butter either extreme is to be avoided. To wash it even in granular form, until the water runs off clear, will give us a butter that will not decay or turn strong so soon as that not washed so thoroughly, but it washes out much of the flavor. On the other hand, while the flavor is enhanced by not washing, the butter will keep in after working will tend to putrefaction; for, as we all know, there is nothing which more quickly spoils and becomes ill-smelling than butter. To work out all the butter milk breaks the grain, makes the butter salty. Of course, we do not want to do this, so we will wash it in granular form through two or three waters (depending upon quantity of water used, and also upon temperature of butter), work in the salt until thoroughly incorporated, and call it finished.—Jersey Bulletin.  
Harvesting Weedy Potatoes.  
That sins of neglect will follow a man until he is duly punished is never more conclusively proven than when the neglected potato field comes to be harvested. Not only is the crop greatly lessened, but the labor of harvesting has been increased. As a matter of fact, the farmer who can and does keep his potatoes free from weeds saves labor by the operation. Sooner or later the weeds have to be uprooted. It costs less to do this while they are small. If done then, the yield of marketable tubers is so much increased, and the expense of harvesting is decreased so, that it really costs less to harvest a large crop kept free from weeds than to harvest a crop full of weeds because overrun with weeds.  
Weaning Young Lambs.  
It is always best to wean lambs from their dams before cold weather or droughts injure the pasturage. But, however good the feed, some grain should be added to keep the calf thrifty and in good condition to enter the winter. Oats are the best grain to feed to lambs or sheep, and when at pasture a gilt a day is sufficient, as it is not desirable to fatten them. Much of the future value of the sheep depends on how it goes through the first winter. It should be kept growing, and it is also making a fleece to be shorn in the spring. Both of these operations require rich food with a large proportion of nitrogenous nutrition. Oats or beans will supply this. When lambs are to be fattened add corn meal with bran and a very little linseed meal. The latter is especially good to increase the wool growth, and some may safely be given with oats and wheat bran to lambs that are to be kept for breeding.  
Making Small Cheese.  
A great deal of inquiry has been made for some means by which families with perhaps only two or three cows could make full-cream cheese for their milk whenever they might for any reason choose to do so. Families want cheese as well as butter. Some want butter as well as cheese, and again the times butter is very low, and the ordinary weather is too warm for the ordinary farmer to make a good quality of butter, because he has not the necessary conveniences for keeping milk and cream at the proper temperature. At

such times and under such circumstances if the milk could easily be made into a good quality of cheese at home, it would be a matter of much importance, nominally in the North, but especially in the South, where, as a rule, ice is not to be had to aid in butter-making.  
The Pennsylvania Agricultural College has been working on the line of making small cheese to meet the exigency of these conditions. They have been making a cheese of about seven pounds weight. This makes a cheese of good size for handling and for family use. It is reported that Prof. Hayward, of that institution, says there has been a ready sale for all that has been made in that vicinity, and more could have been sold. The price received is thirteen cents a pound, equal to twenty-six cents for butter. It is not stated whether a bulletin has been issued detailing the process, but if not, most likely one will be ere long.—Practical Farmer.  
Potatoes Under Straw.  
An Indiana farmer who has been quite successful in growing potatoes explains his method of doing it something like the following: He breaks up his ground deep and works into the soil well-rotted compost. The surface is made level and smooth and the potatoes are dropped on top of the soil in straight lines. The whole is then covered with six to eight inches of straw. During the season ashes are liberally sprinkled over them twice; the result is tubers of the finest kind. We have no doubt whatever of the success of such a plan and of the production of fine tubers, but we venture to suggest that the piece was not large in extent. When potatoes are grown by acres, any thoughtful farmer can see that the amount of straw required would be immense. No doubt for garden purposes, where smooth tubers are desired, this course would give them, but no better than to plant furrows, covering with a layer of straw and of earth which would require very much less straw. The matter of expense sometimes governs farm operations.—Germantown Telegraph.  
Onions from Seed.  
To grow onions from seed the practice now is to sow the seed in hotbeds or cold frames in winter, in order to get sets, which saves the cost of sets. Maggots do not injure the onions grown from sets as seriously as they do from seeds. A fly deposits eggs on the sides of the young shoots, the maggots from the eggs going down into the bulbs and destroying them. When sets are used they grow rapidly and get ahead of the maggots. Seed can be sown almost any time, the sets can be transplanted in the spring. After the seeds have started the young onions should not be kept too warm, as it is not necessary for the sets to be of large size.  
The Lettuce Seed Crop.  
Always in saving lettuce seed, choose that which has most leaves, and which has grown without interruption from the seed. The practice in many families is to pluck the leaves three or four times, and when at last the leaves begin to be tough, let the plant send up its seed stalks. Usually the largest crop of seed will come from the plant that has the fewest leaves. But it will not be worth plucking. Grown as lettuce for seed should be without disturbing a leaf, each plant will produce very few seed. Yet seed from this nearly seedless lettuce is worth any amount of the seed which is produced in the usual way.  
Farm Notes.  
Those who are congratulating the farmers on the higher price for wheat have overlooked the fact that potatoes are bringing three times as much as they did two years ago, and the potato crop is no small one in this country.  
The quality and size of fruit on old bushes is much improved by severe pruning or thinning of fruit, and this applies equally well to all tree fruits. The demand of the times is for quality in everything, rather than quantity, and this certainly applies to fruit growing.  
To destroy weeds in pavements and garden walks make a strong brine with salt and boiling water. Apply with a watering can. A moderate quantity of salt stimulates the growth of all vegetation; it is, therefore, a mistake to suppose that a sprinkling of salt will exterminate weeds.  
The best way to treat clover in the fall is to spread manure over the field. The frosts and rains will pulverize the manure and the covering will protect the roots, the soluble matter going below to assist in giving the clover a good start and vigorous growth in the spring, increasing the yield and benefiting the land.  
To keep bees in the winter the hive must be kept warm, and the bees give off considerable animal heat in the hive, and may thus be tempted to come out should the weather be moderate, perishing with cold before they can return. Enough honey should be left in the hive to supply them until fall plowing is frequently resorted to when the late summer and fall have been very dry and the ground is hard. The winter may bring but little rain, not enough before the spring planting season to thoroughly soak the ground, but if the land has been plowed it will absorb and retain more moisture than if left unplowed for the water to run off from the hard and packed surface.  
T. H. Hale, the great peach grower, says that in setting out peach trees you want a thoroughly prepared soil, medium-sized trees; neither a very large nor a very small one; that the roots want pretty close pruning, and they want good, clean-out pruning not such as the nurserymen give them with their machines, but a careful cutting; and if you cut very closely you will get far more rapid and sure growth.  
When barrelling apples press them in so that no apple can move from its position. If the apples are sound they will not be injured by slight pressure. It is when the skin of an apple is broken that it begins to decay, but if indented and the skin is not punctured an apple will keep in a cool place during the whole winter, and if closely packed a barrel of apples may be shipped any distance.

**AGRICULTURAL NEWS**  
WHY SO MANY REGULAR PHYSICIANS FAIL  
To Cure Female Ills—Some True Reasons Why Mrs. Pinkham is More Successful Than the Family Doctors.  
A woman is sick; some disease peculiar to her sex is fast developing in her system. She goes to her family physician and tells him a story, but not the whole story.  
She holds something back, loses her head, becomes agitated, forgets what she wants to say, and finally conceals what she ought to have told, and thus completely mystifies the doctor.  
Is it any wonder, therefore, that the doctor fails to cure the disease? Still, we cannot blame the woman, for it is very embarrassing to detail some of the symptoms of her suffering, even to her family physician.  
It was for this reason that years ago Mrs. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., determined to step in and help her sex. Having had considerable experience in treating female ills with her Vegetable Compound, she encouraged the women of America to write to her for advice in regard to their complaints, and, being a woman, it was easy for her ailing sisters to pour into her ears every detail of their suffering. Over one hundred thousand women were successfully treated by Mrs. Pinkham last year. Such are the grand results of her experience.  
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