

881,033 received for Indian lands. Thirty-five thousand patents were issued for agricultural land, and 3,100 patents were issued for Indians on allotments of their lands in severalty, the land so allotted being inalienable by the Indian allottee for a period of 25 years after patented.

There were certified and patented on account of railroad and wagon roads grants during the year 863,556.46 acres of land, and at the close of the year 20,000,000 acres were embraced in the lists of selections made by railroad and wagon road companies, and awaited settlement. The selections of swamp lands and that taken as indemnity therefor since the passage of the act providing for the same in 1849 amount to nearly, or quite, 80,600,000 acres, of which 58,000,000 have been patented to states. About 138,000 acres were patented during the last year.

Nearly 820,000 acres of school and educational grants were approved during the year, and at its close 1,250,363.81 acres remained unadjusted.

I concur in the opinion that the commissioner of the general land office should be relieved from the duty of deciding litigated land cases; that a non-partisan court should be created to pass on such cases, and that the decisions of this court should be final, at least so far as the decisions of the department are now final. The proposed court might be given authority to certify questions of law, in matters of special importance, to the supreme court of the United States, or to the court of appeals for the District of Columbia for decision. The creation of such a tribunal would expedite the disposal of cases, and insure decisions of a most satisfactory character. The registers and receivers who originally hear and decide these disputes should be invested with authority to compel witnesses to attend and testify before them.

The appropriation for the current year, ending June 30, 1895, applicable to the ordinary expenses of the Indian service, amounts to \$6,733,035.18, being less by \$683,240.64 than the sum appropriated on the same account for the previous year.

THE PENSIONS.

At the close of the last fiscal year, June 30, 1894, there were 909,544 persons on our pension rolls, being a net increase of 3532 over the number reported at the end of the previous year. These pensioners may be classified as follows: Soldiers and sailors, survivors of all wars, 753,968; widows, and relatives of deceased soldiers, 125,162; army nurses in the war of the rebellion, 414.

These pensioners, 909,544 are survivors of the Indian and other wars prior to the late civil war, and the widows and relatives of such soldiers. The remainder, numbering 937,505, are receiving pensions on account of the war of the rebellion, and of these, 469,344 are on the rolls under the authority of the act of June 27, 1890, sometimes called the dependent pension law.

The total amount expended for pensions during the year was \$139,804,461.05, leaving an unexpended balance from the sum appropriated of \$25,205,712.65. The sum necessary to meet pension expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1896, is estimated at \$140,000,000.

Department of Agriculture.

The secretary of agriculture in his report, reviews the operations of his department for the last fiscal year, and makes recommendations for the further extension of its usefulness. He reports a saving in the expenditure during the year of \$600,000, which is covered back into the treasury. This sum is 23 per cent of the entire appropriation. A special study has been made of the demand for American farm products in all foreign markets, and especially Great Britain. That country received from the United States during the nine months, ending September 30, 1894, 305,910 live beef cattle, valued at \$26,500,000 as against 182,611 cattle valued at \$16,624,000, during the same period for 1893. During the first six months of 1894, the United Kingdom took also 112,000,000 pounds of dressed beef from the United States, valued at nearly \$10,000,000. The report shows that during the nine months immediately preceding September 30, 1894, the United States exported to Great Britain 222,676,000 pounds of pork; of apples, 1,900,000, valued at \$2,500,000; and of horses, 2881, at an average value of \$189 per head. There was a falling off in American exports of wheat of 13,500,000 bushels, and the secretary is inclined to believe that wheat may not, in the future, be the staple export cereal product of our country, but that corn will continue to advance in importance as an export on account of the new uses to which it is constantly appropriated.

The exports of agricultural products from the United States for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1894, amounted to \$628,383,038, being 72.28 per cent of the American exports of every description, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain took more than 54 per cent of all farm products finding foreign markets.

AN AGRICULTURAL CENSUS.

A further important utility in agricultural statistics is found in the elucidation of the relation of the supply of farm products to the demand for them in the markets of the United States, and of the world. It is deemed possible that an agricultural census may be taken each year through the agents of the statistical division of the department. Such a course is commended for trial by the chief of that division. Its scope would be: First, the area under each of the more important crops; second, the aggregate products of such crops; third, the quantity of wheat and corn in the hands of farmers at a date after the spring sowings and plantings, and before the beginning of harvest, and also the quantity of cotton and tobacco remaining in the hands of planters either at that date or some other designated time. The cost of the work is estimated at \$500,000.

The Financial Question.

During the last month the gold reserve in the treasury for the purpose of redeeming the notes of the government circulating as money in the hands of the people became so reduced, and its further depletion in the near future seemed so certain that in the exercise of proper care for the public welfare it became necessary to replenish the reserve and thus maintain popular faith in the ability and determination of the government to meet as agreed its pecuniary obligations. It would have been well if in this emergency the authority had exist-

ed to issue bonds of the government bearing a low rate of interest and maturing within a short period. The last session of congress having failed to confer such authority, resort was necessarily had to the resumption of act of 1875, and, pursuant to its provisions, bonds were issued drawing interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum and being the shortest time authorized by the act. I am glad to say, however, premium received operated to reduce the rate of interest to be paid by the government to less than 3 per cent. Nothing could be worse or further removed from sensible finance than the relations existing between the currency held for its redemption and the means which must be resorted to for the purpose of replenishing such redemption fund when impaired. Even if the claims upon this fund were confined to the obligations originally intended, and if the redemption of these obligations meant their cancellation, the fund would be very small. But these obligations when received and redeemed in gold are not cancelled, but are reissued and may do duty many times by way of drawing gold from the treasury. Thus we have an endless chain in operation, constantly depleting the treasury's gold, and never near a final rest. As if this was not bad enough, we have by a statutory declaration that it is the policy of the government to maintain the parity between gold and silver, aided the force and momentum of this exhausting process and added largely to the currency obligations claiming this peculiar gold redemption. Our small gold reserve is thus subject to drain from every side.

DEMANDS INCREASING.

The demands that increase our danger also increase the necessity of protecting this reserve against depletion, and it is most unsatisfactory to know that the protection afforded only a temporary palliation. It is perfectly and palpably plain that the only way under the present conditions by which this reserve, when dangerously depleted, can be replenished is through the issue and sale of bonds of the government for gold, and yet congress has not thus far declined to authorize the issue of bonds best suited to such a purpose, but there seems a disposition in some quarters to deny both the necessity and power for the issue of bonds at all. I cannot for a moment believe that any of our citizens are deliberately willing that their government should default in its pecuniary obligations, or that its financial operations should be reduced to a silver basis. At any rate, I should not feel that my duty was done if I omitted any effort I could make to avert such a calamity. As long, therefore, as no provision is made for the final redemption or the putting aside for the currency obligation now used to repeatedly and constantly draw from the government its gold, and so long as no better authority for bond issues is allowed than at present exists, such authority will be utilized whenever and as often as becomes necessary to maintain a sufficient gold reserve and abundant to save the credit of our country and make good the financial declarations of our government. Questions relating to our banks and currency are closely connected with the subject just referred to, and they also present some unsatisfactory features. Prominent among them are the lack of elasticity in our currency circulation and its frequent concentration in financial centers when it is most needed in other parts of the country. The absolute divorcement of the government from the business of banking is the ideal relationship of the government to the circulation of the currency of the country.

SECRETARY CARLISLE'S PLAN.

This condition cannot be immediately reached, but as a step in that direction and as a means of securing a more elastic currency and obviating other objections to the present arrangement of bank circulation, the secretary of the treasury presents in his report a scheme modifying the present banking laws and providing for the issue of circulating notes by state banks free from taxation, under certain limitations. The secretary explains his plan so plainly, and its advantages are developed by him with such remarkable clearness, that any effort on my part to present argument in its support would be superfluous. I shall, therefore, content myself with an unqualified indorsement of the secretary's proposed changes in the law and a brief and an imperfect statement of their prominent features. It is proposed to repeal all laws providing for the deposit of United States bonds as security for circulation; to permit national banks to issue circulating notes not exceeding in amount 75 per cent of their paid-up and unimpaired capital, provided they deposit with the government as a guarantee fund in United States legal tender notes, including treasury notes of 1890, a sum of equal amount to 30 per cent of the notes they desire to issue; this deposit to be maintained at all times, but whenever any bank retires any part of its circulation a proportionate part of its guarantee fund shall be returned to it; to permit the secretary of the treasury to prepare and keep on hand ready for issue in case an increase in circulation is desired, blank national bank notes for each bank having circulation, and to repeal the provisions of the present law imposing limitations and restrictions, thus permitting such increase or reduction within the limit of the 75 per cent of capital to be as quickly made as emergencies arise. In addition it is proposed to provide a safety fund for the immediate redemption of the circulating notes of failed banks by imposing a small annual tax, say one-half of 1 per cent upon the average circulation of each bank until the fund amounts to 5 per cent of the total circulation outstanding.

The Tariff.

The tariff act passed at the last session of congress needs important amendments if it is to be executed effectively and with certainty. In addition to such necessary amendments as will not change the rates of duty, I am still very decidedly in favor of putting coal and iron upon the free list. So far as the sugar schedule is concerned, I would be glad, under the existing aggravations, to see every particle of differential duty in favor of refined sugar stricken out of our tariff law. If with all the favor accorded the sugar-refining interest in our tariff laws it still languishes to the extent of closing refineries and discharging thou-

sands of workmen, it would seem to present a hopeless case for reasonable legislation. Whatever else is done or omitted, I earnestly repeat here the recommendation I have made in another portion of this communication, that the additional duty of 1-10th of a cent per pound laid upon sugar imported from countries paying a bounty on its export be abrogated. It seems to me that exceedingly important considerations point to the propriety of this amendment with the advent of a new tariff policy not only calculated to relieve the consumers of our land in the cost of their daily life; but to invite a better development of American thrift and create for us closer and more profitable commercial relations with the rest of the world, it follows as a logical and imperative necessity that we should at once remove the chief, if not the only obstacle which has so long prevented our participation in the foreign carrying trade of the sea. A tariff built upon the theory that it is well to check imports, and that a home market should bound the industry and effort of American producers, was fitly supplemented by a refusal to allow American registry to vessels built abroad, though owned and navigated by our own people, thus exhibiting a willingness to abandon all contest for the advantage of American trans-oceanic carriage. Our new tariff policy, built upon the theory that it is well to encourage such importations as our people need, and that our products and manufactures should find markets in every part of the habitable globe, is consistently supplemented by the greatest possible liberty to our citizens in the ownership and navigation of ships in which our products and manufactures may be transported. The millions now paid foreigners for carrying American passengers and products across the sea should be turned into American hands. Shipbuilding, which has been protected to strangulation, should be revived by the prospect of profitable employment for ships when built, and the American sailor should be resurrected and again take his place, a sturdy and industrious citizen in time of peace and a patriotic and safe defender of American interests in the days of conflict. The ancient provision of our law, denying American registry to ships built abroad and owned by Americans, appears in the light of present conditions not only to be a failure for good at every point, but to be nearer a relic of barbarism than anything that exists under the permission of a statute of the United States. I earnestly recommend its prompt repeal.

The Strike Investigation.

By virtue of a statute of the United States, passed in 1888, I appointed in July last Hon. John D. Kernan, of the state of New York, and Hon. Nicholas S. Worthington, of the state of Illinois, to confer with Hon. Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of labor, who was designated by said statute, a commission for the purpose of making careful inquiry into the causes of the controversies between certain railroads and their employees, which had resulted in an extensive and destructive strike, accompanied by much violence and dangerous disturbances, with considerable loss of life and great destruction of property. The report of the commissioners has been submitted to me, and will be transmitted to congress, with the evidence taken upon their investigation. Their work has been well done, and their standing and intelligence give assurance that the report and suggestions they make are worthy of careful consideration.

Conclusion.

I conclude this communication, fully appreciating that the responsibility for all legislation affecting the people of the United States rests upon their representatives in congress, and assuring them that whether in accordance with the recommendations I have made, or not, I shall be glad to co-operate in perfecting any legislation that tends to the prosperity and welfare of our country.

NO TRUTH IN IT.

English Government Has Not Admitted Error as to Nicaragua.

LONDON, December 3.—It is authoritatively stated that there is no truth in the statement that the English government had admitted that its Minister to Bluefields had exceeded his powers with regard to the Bluefields incident, and that he would be recalled. It is learned that Great Britain has informed Nicaragua she could not recognize certain decrees regarding land registration and other matters which Great Britain holds without violating the treaty with Nicaragua. The statement that Great Britain refused to recognize the new Nicaraguan government at Bluefields is positively denied. The question was not one of sovereignty of Nicaragua over the Mosquito coast, which Great Britain had already acknowledged in the above mentioned treaty.

DUE HAS SHE MODIFIED IT?

WASHINGTON, December 3.—The suddenly modified attitude of Great Britain toward Nicaragua is attributable, in the opinion of naval officers, solely to the positive determination of the United States to maintain its announced principles through a mobilization of warships, if necessary, rather than by recourse to the slow and unsatisfactory methods of diplomacy hitherto employed.

Impeachment Possible.

WASHINGTON, December 3.—It is stated there is good reason to believe that the Congressional committee investigating the charges of malfeasance against Judge Ricks at Cleveland thinks that there has been much to substantiate the charges against him. It is further said if the recommendations of the committee are carried out that the House will be confronted with a report calling on the Senate to sit in impeachment.

Rain Needed in California.

SAN DIEGO, December 3.—The loss of cattle in California, as a result of the long continued drought, will run into hundreds. T. Crosthwaite has lost a large number. The Rancho Arguello reports the loss of quite a herd. Other ranchers in all parts of the peninsula have suffered in a similar manner. It has been the driest season for twenty-five years.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

Condensed Telegraphic Reports of Late Events.

BRIEF SPARKS FROM THE WIRES

Budget of News For Easy Digestion From Different Parts of the States of Washington, Oregon and Idaho—Items of Interest to Pacific Coast People.

Spokane has another daily—the Morning Times.

An "Uncle Tom's Cabin" troupe is swooping down upon the defenseless cities of Eastern Oregon.

The Salem Methodists voted 76 to 5 in favor of giving women seats as delegates in the general conference.

A long-distance telephone is being put up, connecting the various scattered single mills of Whatcom county.

The Warden of the Federal penitentiary at McNeil's Island has asked for more guards, as the building is getting old and unsafe.

Albany, Or., is getting up a Dickens carnival, at which some 100 characters will be impersonated by the youth and beauty of Linn county's metropolis.

An ordinance has passed the Spokane Council reorganizing the police force by the substitution of a chief and fifteen detectives for the present regular force.

Harry Lartigue of Dayton has been arrested for complicity in the murder of Jasper Mills of Garfield county, Wash. He was taken to Pomeroy and lodged in jail.

The farmers of Walla Walla Valley will make an urgent demand on the next Legislature for the enactment of a law providing for a State Wheat Inspector.

Placer mines are still working in Baker county, Or., but the final cleanup will soon be made. The run has been the best since the palmy days of the '50s.

Marshal Hallery proposes to rid Walla Walla of hobos. Within the past week he has escorted eleven of the fraternity to the outskirts of the city and directed them never to return.

Senator-elect Leish of Yakima county, Wash., is preparing a bill prohibiting county governments from creating or maintaining a special cash fund for the payment of salaries of officers.

The Finance Committee of the Seattle Council and the City Controller have finished their work on the tax levy, which is for this year fixed at 12.8 mills, as against 13 mills last year.

The first M. E. Church of Spokane is figuring on a magnificent edifice with a seating capacity of 2,000. The pastor is Dr. McIntire, once stationed over St. Paul's M. E. Church at Sixth and Hall streets, Portland.

White river farmers complain that the filling in the trestles along the Puget Sound Shore railroad endangers their property from floods, and they have appealed to the courts for an injunction against the railroad company.

A most deplorable conflict is on at Spokane over the body of William Smith who was recently shot by Adolph Selheim. The undertakers want pay for what they have done. There is a replevin suit over the corpse, and one man has been arrested for violating a city ordinance.

E. Gilliam, Stock Inspector for Umatilla county, Or., several weeks ago advertised a reward to any one who would discover a case of scab in any of the numerous flocks of that county. He has awaited a response, but up to the present time no one has written him or called to claim the reward.

The celebrated Strand case is on trial again at Whatcom. This has been before eight tribunals and to the Supreme Court twice. Judgments for \$15,000 and \$12,000 have been rendered for Strand and reversed, and after all these years and vicissitudes it comes up smiling. It is a suit for damages for two lots taken for the right of way of the B. & B. C. Co.

The United States War Department is willing to establish an army post in the outskirts of Spokane, and has sent officers to inspect the different sites around the city, and has offered to establish a large post provided the city will donate 1,000 acres of suitable land for the post and artillery and rifle ranges. A committee of citizens is at work soliciting pledges.

The Wardner Miners' Union met the other night and discussed the strike. It is said the meeting was a stormy one. It was announced that, as the strike was on and a fight would have to be made, it might as well include a demand for an increase of wages. A motion was made that all underground men be paid \$3.50 a day. President Glass opposed such an action, and it is said, refused to put the motion. Some of the members became indignant and threatened to remove the President. He then put the question and it prevailed. There was some talk that the strikers will insist on the few men now at work in the mine coming out at once, but no action has been taken. About 250 men have been paid off, and some are leaving town. The strikers are quiet, and the general belief is that there will be no trouble.

A consensus of opinion of the captains and masters of foreign vessels in port this season, taken by a Tacoma shipper, shows them to be unanimous in their indorsement of the compulsory pilotage scheme for Washington State ports. If a law were in effect in Washington similar to that in British Columbia and in most of the States which do a great deal of shipping, it is said, a great saving would result to owners of foreign bottoms coming to the Sound. The ship Osborn, now in port loading wheat, came up from San Francisco in ballast, and was compelled to wait outside the Straits for four days on account of the heavy fog enveloping the entrance. If a pilotage law was in effect, allowing the first pilot to board a boat outside the Straits, a pilotage of \$4 a foot draught would be an incentive to pilots to keep a pilot boat cruising outside to pick up any vessel bound in. At times it would be possible to sail clear up to Port Townsend, and thus the pilot charge would be earned from the amount of towage saved. The proposition meets with the hearty indorsement of pilots, and it is probable a bill will be introduced in the next Legislature with this object in view.

When Jackson's Nose Was Pulled.

Mr. James Carrigan, a venerable Baltimorean, was living in Alexandria, Va., on the memorable occasion when Lieutenant Randolph pulled President Jackson's nose. "Lieutenant Randolph," said Mr. Carrigan yesterday, "who was at sea in the service of the government, was at the death of the purser of the vessel appointed purser, and he was charged with appropriating \$10,000 from the funds. He was tried and found guilty, and President Jackson said to him, 'You are not fit to associate with the chivalry of America.' Some time after that it happened that the president and a number of other persons left Washington to attend the laying of the cornerstone of the monument to Martha Washington. Their boat stopped at Alexandria, and Lieutenant Randolph boarded her and walked up to the president and began to take off his gloves. "I wasn't there at that moment, but I was told that the president made some remark about there being no need to remove his gloves. Lieutenant Randolph suddenly stretched out his hand and pulled the president's nose. I saw Randolph running from the wharf as I was about to go on the boat to learn the cause of the commotion. I climbed up above the crowd to get a look at the president's nose, for every one of us felt that the whole country had had its nose pulled. Just then a man named Thomas said to Jackson, 'Mr. President of the United States, give me permission, and I will kill the villain,' to which I heard Jackson say, 'Thank you, I can fight my own battles.'"—Baltimore Sun.

A Bow That Paid Very Well.

A Kansas commercial traveler, while taking in the sights in Chicago, visited one of the principal horse marts of the city and discovered in the auctioneer, who was selling a beautiful team of carriage horses, a "formerly of Kansas" livery stable keeper, of whom he used to hire teams. The bidding was exciting, and the auctioneer had evidently taken the last bid and was crying: "Three hundred and seventy-five! Do I hear four? Going at three seventy-five! Going! Going! Third and last call, and"—Just then he caught the eye of the Kansas commercial traveler, who gave a "Chesterfield bow" in recognition, which the auctioneer took for a bid. "Four hundred I have. Who'll say four fifty? Going at four hundred. Going! Third and last call, and sold to the gentleman from Kansas."

The Kansas C. T. was in a quandary how to explain the mistake, when a gentleman stepped up to him and offered \$50 for his bargain, which was accepted with alacrity. When the sale was over, the C. T. and the auctioneer had a cordial meeting, and in the course of the conversation the Kansas C. T. remarked that "politeness always pays" and produced the \$50 he had just made as an evidence of the fact. It is needless to add that there was hilarity galore when the result of the Chesterfield bow became known.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

He Came From China.

When Mrs. Booth, the famous lecturer, traveled through Maine, her attention was called by an awkward little boy who shuffled in at a way station and with the gall of innocence sat himself down in the double seat that Mrs. Booth had pre-empted. She smiled and divided an orange with him. Then she quizzed the shy little stranger in the rusty garments.

"Do you travel much, my boy?"

"Never on the cars before but twice, marm."

"Is that so? Why, where do you live?"

"China, marm."

"China! My! Aren't you a long way from home?"

"Yes'm, but I brought my dinner cos father said they'd ask like all creation for anything to eat circus day."

Mrs. Booth was very much worked up, for she thought flashed across her mind that this innocent looking youngster was gayling her. She leaned forward and asked very sternly, "Little boy, when did you leave home?"

"This morning, marm."

"What are you talking about? Where is China?"

"It's over beyond Waterville a piece. You take the stage"—But Mrs. Booth turned to her book without waiting for more information upon the topography of Maine.—Lewiston Journal.

A Tree Five Thousand Years Old.

On the island of Teneriffe, one of the largest if not the very largest of the Canaries, about half way between the Porto Santo and the summit of the famous Pico de Tyde, the highest point of land on the island, stands the considerable town of Orotava, famous for its wonderful "dragon tree," the identical botanical specimen which Humboldt pronounced "the most ancient vegetable relic in the world." Humboldt made calculations on its age in several different ways and declared that it was between 5,000 and 6,000 years old. Sir John Herschel often alludes to it as the oldest tree in the world. For at least 20 centuries the Guanches used the immense hollow of this ancient tree as a temple of worship. Its eventual career was suddenly terminated in the summer of 1867, when it was uprooted and almost entirely destroyed by a hurricane.—St. Louis Republic.

The Labor of a Watch.

The little balance wheel of a watch vibrates five times per second. Imagine that this wheel, instead of swinging back and forth like a pendulum, should roll on continuously over a given surface. Its circumference in a gentleman's watch of ordinary size is 2 1/2 inches, and it makes a sweep in each direction of about three-fourths of its circumference. In other words, it would traverse in one second a distance measuring about 8 1/2 inches. According to this computation, the balance wheel of a watch would travel in a year over a distance of 3,677 miles in round numbers, and it would take the little wheel just six years eight months to circumnavigate the globe by way of the equator.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

AGRICULTURAL WORLD

Column Devoted to the Interests of Farmers.

THE TREATMENT OF DRY COWS

They Should be Fed With Such Food as Will Furnish an Abundance of Nutrition Without Largely Increasing the Proportion of Fat.

A cow that is dry should be fed with such food as will furnish an abundance of nutrition without largely increasing the proportion of fat. It is the poorest kind of economy to let a dry cow run down in flesh, and it is almost as bad to make her fat. She should be kept in a good thrifty condition and in as perfect health as possible, for not only the health of her offspring and its future value of beef or milk depends on these things, but the value of the cow as a milker is effected for good or bad by her condition during the period of gestation. If a cow is skin poor at the time the calf is dropped, she will not give as much milk as she would if in good condition, nor can she be fed so as to increase her flow to what it would have been if she had been properly cared for. It is quite a common thing to have cows come in in the fall for winter milkers, and these are drying during that part of the year when pasturage is at its poorest and insects are most numerous, and from these two causes dairy cattle are likely to become reduced in flesh. If dry cows are not attended to at this time and given a supplementary ration they often become thin and out of condition, and when once this happens it is hard to bring them back. It follows that the best course is to prevent this from occurring, for upon attention to this matter depends the profit from keeping the cow.

Warmth in the Winter Dairy.

Warmth is as necessary in a dairy in the winter as cold is in the summer. There is no better winter dairy for the farmer than a dry, well-lighted cellar half above the ground, having double windows, a substantial stone or brick wall and a plastered ceiling overhead. With a ventilator passing into a chimney, and some simple means for warming it such a cellar is unsurpassable for this use. It may be heated in the simplest manner. A sheet-iron pipe half full of wood coals from a fire, a boiler of hot water, a small oil stove or a very small charcoal stove will be sufficient to keep the right temperature during the coldest weather. A few red-hot bricks or blocks of iron set on a flat stone may be sufficient under some circumstances.

Best Temperature of Water for Stock.

There is nothing better for all farm animals than pure well water. The temperature of it is the best possible. Warm water is nauseous to an animal as to a person; the refreshing effect of a cool draught of water we all know. Just the same we all know how ice-cold water makes the teeth ache and the whole body shiver, as it takes the heat from the blood to become warm itself. A temperature of 55 or 60 degrees is the very best for the animals in the winter, and water from any good well will be somewhere near enough to this. The water should be pumped into the troughs for use, and the troughs drained and immediately covered as soon as the stock have drunk, so that snow or ice will not gather in them.

POULTRY POINTS.

Rotten or musty feed should never be given poultry.

Hen manure breeds lice. The remedy need not be stated.

If you have a mongrel flock, at least get a pure-bred cockerel.

The roosters must be kept in good health and condition. Look well after these things.

Poultry ought not to be expected to do anything when covered with lice. It will not, if it is expected.

If a fowl is sick, take it out of the flock, both for its own sake and for the sake of the well ones.

Upon the whole it is better not to keep roosters after they are two years old. They may be vigorous longer, but there is danger.

What will prevent hens from eating eggs? We are asked. If they are fed meat, they are less liable to eat their eggs. If they persist, cut off the point of the bill.

We do not think much of a fancy poultry house, unless their owner has more money than he knows what to do with. But a good warm house, however ill-looking, is a necessity.

How many flocks will be compelled to go through the winter without having a spoonful of grit given them? A good many, and those that are have nothing with which to grind their food.

The Poultry Keeper gives the following remedy for lice on chickens: First, use kerosene freely over every portion of the poultry house. Then dip the hens once every four days in a decoction made by pouring two gallons of boiling water on a pound of tobacco refuse, and let it cool. Do this on dry days only.

In speaking of the molting process Wright says: "A little hemp seed should also be given every day at this season, at least to all fowls of value, and with these aids, and a little extra meat, or even a little ale during the few weeks the process lasts, there will rarely be any loss."

HINTS FOR THE TABLE.

Rapid eating is slow suicide.

Plenty of time should be taken.

Fish and oysters are easily digested.

An hour or two of rest should be taken after the meal.

Mere gratification of the appetite is very likely to shorten life.

Dinner should be of a lighter nature in summer than in winter.

It is not good to dine when in a state of mental or physical weakness.

A quart of wheat contains more nutriment than a bushel of cucumbers.