

NATIONAL CAPITAL

Unnoticed Evils of Lumber Trust Which Senate Attacks.

SALARIES AND SEED GRAFT

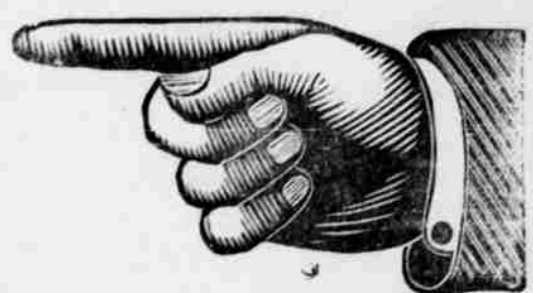
Story of the Editorial Writer Who Saved the Life of Representative Barthold's Father-in-Law During Civil War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27.—Every one will be pleased to know that the Senate is going after the Lumber Trust, through the efforts of Senator Kittredge. This combination is charged with putting up the prices to consumers by the most grasping methods. Incidentally, it has supported in preventing any reduction in the tariff. As a result the American people have seen their forests disappear, their hills denuded, exposing their bones to the ravages of floods and weather, while they have been compelled to pay enormous tribute to the lumber kings. There is no question that the operation of this trust have resulted in great evils, whose connection with the trust are not so readily appreciated. For instance, the price of lumber is so high that it has undoubtedly prevented thousands of people from building homes. In thousands of other cases home-buyers are compelled to buy brick houses in a block where they would prefer a separate lot and a tasty frame house. Instead of individual houses of pleasing appearance and individual architecture, we find rows and rows of brick barns with no distinguishing marks except the trimmings.

The prize evil of modernity is congestion of population. It is responsible for most of our physical ills and moral non-spots. These are evils so patent as to obviate argument. Any combination which tends to force congestion of population is a national enemy, and there is no question that the high-price of lumber operates in that direction. The way to smash the lumber trust is to admit lumber from Canada free. Canada has extensive forests and their clearing will give additional farm land. The admission of its lumber would protect our consumers and our forests at the same time. Why, even now it is proposed to buy millions of acres in the Appalachians to protect our water-sheds at government expense! Every one knows that the reason the "climate is changing," why we have great storms, huge floods, and generally irritating weather in the winter, is because the life-giving and life-preserving forests are silently disappearing—because the snow has no longer protection and runs at the first warm ray. We are late getting at this question, but, thank heaven, not too late, and if a crimp should be taken in the swollen purses of the lumber kings, and a stop put to their devastating operations through the agency of Senator Kittredge, and his confederates, the American people will rise and "call them blizzards."

The action of the Senate in passing the bill strengthening and reorganizing the coast artillery will meet with general favor. Attention has previously been called in this correspondence to the necessity of the measure. To provide millions for expensive fortifications and guns to defend them, without men even to take care of them, is folly, and Congress recognizes it as well as the general public. The bill will undoubtedly pass the House, though it may slightly be amended. It is generally endorsed by the press and the friends of the measure are indebted to the press for its kindly influence.

"It was due to the loyalty of the Germans to the Union that Missouri was kept from joining the Southern Confederacy," says Representative Barthold, of Missouri. "However, there was at least one German citizen of St. Louis who supported the Southern cause. He was Moritz Niedner, proprietor of the Missouri State Journal. A number of years after the war I married his daughter and became acquainted with a very dramatic incident in his career that has never been told. Mr. Niedner had as his chief editorial writer a Mr. Tucker, of Virginia, who wrote a red hot editorial attacking the North, which aroused the ire of the authorities. General John C. Fremont, in command at St. Louis, immediately took steps to suppress the paper and arrest the editor, Tucker, getting wind of it, fled, but Niedner was arrested and tried by the military authorities. He was



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convicted and sentenced to be shot. When Tucker heard of this he promptly returned to St. Louis and waited on General Fremont to whom he said, "I am the man who wrote the editorial, and I alone am responsible for it, if you must shoot any one on account of it, shoot me."

General Fremont was so impressed by Tucker's brave and manly act that he immediately issued a pardon for Niedner, and also refused to arrest Tucker. A short time after Tucker left, Mrs. Niedner was ushered into General Fremont's presence. She knew nothing of the pardon, and was greatly overcome. Throwing herself at the feet of the General she pleaded for her husband's life.

"Rise, Madam," said General Fremont, with great gallantry. "Your husband is a free man. I issued a pardon to him an hour ago."

"Whether or not the Mr. Tucker who figured in this incident is living I do not know. If he is, I should like to meet him, for undoubtedly his brave act saved the life of my wife's father."

FROM THE ANTILLES.
Chamberlain's Cough Remedy Benefits a City Councilman at Kingston, Jamaica.

Mr. W. O'Reilly Fogarty, who is a member of the City Council at Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies, writes as follows: "One bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy had good effect on a cough that was giving me trouble and I think I should have been more quickly relieved if I had continued the remedy. That it was beneficial and quick in relieving me there is no doubt and it is my intention to obtain another bottle." For sale by Frank Hart, and leading druggists.

PIONEER WIDOW BURNED.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 25.—Mrs. Anne McLea, widow of the late wealthy pioneer Donald McLea, was accidentally burned to death last night at her

residence, 132 Haight street. Her dress caught fire, and although every effort was made to save her, she received fatal injuries. She was 89 years of age.

WILL TREAT CURRENCY.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Announcement was made today that Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury, who will retire in March, will devote his last public address at the annual banquet of the Missouri society on Thursday to a comprehensive review of the currency question.

How to Avoid Appendicitis.

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