

The Future of the Earth.

Dr. Winchell, President of Syracuse University, has recently published an essay on the "Geology of the Stars" which will be of interest to all who are troubled as to the future of the earth.

AGRICULTURAL AND MINERAL LANDS.—Private inquiries having been made of the Attorney-General on the following subject, the question was referred by him to the General Land Office, and Acting Commissioner Curtis makes this statement: "On lands that have been entered or patented as agricultural lands, upon which valuable mines were known to exist at the date of such entry, parties owning such mines are in no way debarred from acquiring title thereto upon compliance with the laws and instructions regulating the disposal of mineral lands, as by express provision of the laws no title can be acquired to mineral lands under the Act regulating the disposal of agricultural lands. In all cases where lands have been returned as mineral lands upon the township plot, or where affidavits are filed with local land officers, alleging that the lands are more valuable for mining than for agricultural purposes, it is the duty of the Register and Recorder to cause a hearing to determine their true character, before allowing their entry under the pre-emption and homestead laws."

FREE MASONRY IN NEW YORK.—From the report of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York, lately in session, we copy these statistics: Six hundred and thirty-five Lodges have made returns. There were 5,000 initiations and 925 affiliations during the year; total, 5,915. Demitted, 1,781; expelled, 51; suspended, 32; stricken from roll for nonpayment of dues, 2,403; restored to membership, 297; died, 803. Total number of Masons in the State, 79,079. Washington Heights Lodge, No. 156, surrendered its warrant, leaving 665 warranted Lodges. Eleven Lodges were incorporated during the year.

The Lafayette Courier says the wagon road to Tillamook will be opened by the 10th of July.

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