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moving from homestead and pre-emption any part of the lands, excepting such portions as are actually needed for the reservoirs themselves, and later attempted legislation plainly indicates that speculation is the foundation of the exemption. The public lands should be reserved for actual settlers and not in any manner subject to speculative absorption.

AMERICANS complained of many of the questions asked by the census enumerators this year, but in Germany the people submit to far more rigid scrutiny of their domestic affairs without a murmur. Even the income is obtained, the rent of the building occupied and other matters which even Superintendent Porter had not the hardihood to include in his little catechism?

ALBANY'S mines up the Santiam are attracting the attention of men of capital, and they will be worked in a way that will prove to the world that there is untold wealth there. This fact is already beginning to be demonstrated.

THE MATTER OF STORAGE RESERVOIRS, to gather the superabundant moisture during the rainy season, and distribute it over the region of arid lands for irrigation purposes during the dry season is one that has engaged the attention of the public to a large degree, and the action of congress in the matter has been accepted with approval for it was looked upon as being sure to lead to the desired result.

When congress made the appropriations to commence the work, the people generally approved. Even when Major Powell's suggestion to remove the arid lands from the settlement made, there was no real objection raised, as it was supposed that such an action would be needful for the entire success of the work. When, however, it is apparent that the removing of those lands from the market was only a subterfuge, and the real object in so doing was to get them in shape so that speculators could gobble them up as soon as there was a prospect of their becoming valuable, it puts an entirely different aspect upon the subject.

IN commenting upon this matter and the opposition to the exemption clause by Senator Stewart the democratic Alta says: "Senator Stewart inaugurated the irrigation policy. He gave to it that profound study exertion, which he has always devoted to his Senatorial duties. He and other Western Senators secured an appropriation for an examination and survey of the watersheds and reservoir sites of the arid region. This appropriation was made in the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill, which passed October 2, 1888. While that bill was in the hands of a conference committee a provision was inserted withdrawing from market and reserving all reservoir sites and all lands that could be irrigated by the construction of reservoirs. Senator Dolph of Oregon says that it is believed that this extraordinary provision was drafted by Major Powell and inserted at his instance. Senator Dolph says that neither the land commissioner nor the secretary of the interior was consulted about this extraordinary legislation in an appropriation bill, nor did the public land committees of the house and senate know of it. Dolph, himself a member of the Senate Land Committee and chairman of the sub-committee on changes in the land laws, did not know of it is change and its scope until within three months.

As construed by the Attorney-General and secretary of the interior, and no doubt correctly, this legislation will withdraw from entry all land in the arid region. The lands which are arable without irrigation cannot be segregated from the arid lands without the survey contemplated by the law, therefore all the land laws are suspended. The region covered by this covert legislation, as marked out by Major Powell himself, is bounded on the north by the Dominion of Canada, on the south by Mexico, on the east by a line drawn through the middle of North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Texas, on the west by the Cascade mountains, through Washington and Oregon, the Sierra Nevadas in Upper California to the latitude of Santa Cruz, and thence south to the Pacific Ocean. It will be seen then, that Major Powell, by a few lines in an appropriation bill, as to which he consulted no member of the cabinet, no one in the General Land Office, and probably no member of the land committees, suspended the operation of all the land laws of the country over an area equal to two fifths of the domain of the United States!"

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