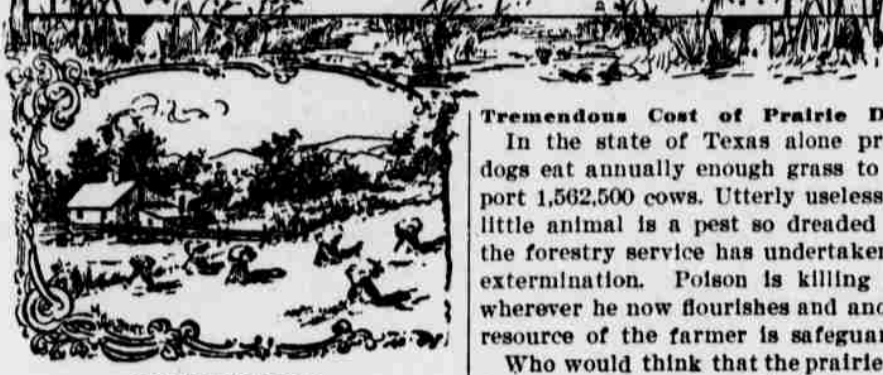


THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



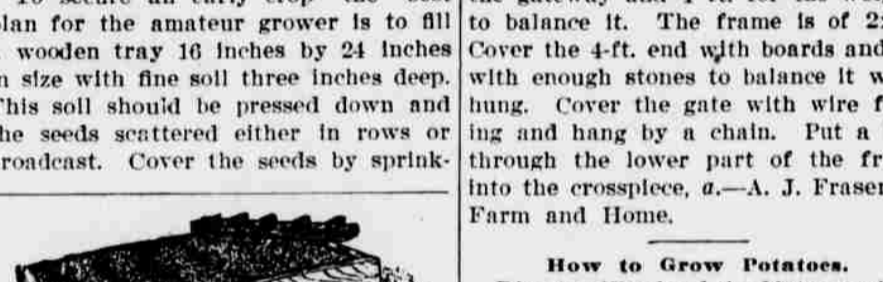
- 1600—Lord De La Warr appointed Governor of Virginia for life.
- 1643—Indians of Hoboken massacred by the Dutch.
- 1676—Indians made a raid on the town of Weymouth, Mass.
- 1724—The Rhode Island Assembly passed an act requiring a property qualification for becoming a freeman.
- 1793—William Franklin, last colonial Governor of New Jersey, took office.
- 1794—Rhode Island college was incorporated.
- 1778—First salute to the American flag by a foreign government.
- 1783—First United States bank chartered.
- 1780—The Cayugas sold their lands to the State of New York.
- 1810—Arkansas territory formed from Missouri.
- 1820—"Missouri Compromise Bill" passed.
- 1827—Charter for Baltimore and Ohio Railroad granted.
- 1829—The Alabama Legislature protested against the tariff.
- 1833—"Compromise tariff" bill passed the House of Representatives.... George McIntosh Troup of Georgia resigned his seat in the United States Senate.
- 1836—Declaration of Independence of Texas signed.
- 1837—The United States Senate resolved that the recognition of Texas as an independent nation was proper and expedient.
- 1845—The President approved a bill for the annexation of Texas.
- 1847—Americans defeated the Mexican at battle of Chihuahua.
- 1848—Louis Philippe of France abdicated.
- 1854—American steamer, Black Warrior, seized by the Cuban authorities at Havana.
- 1857—Congress authorized the people of Minnesota to form a State government.
- 1862—Union force defeated by the Confederates at Battle of Falmouth.
- 1864—Ulysses S. Grant made a lieutenant general.... Kentucky University destroyed by fire.
- 1865—John Young Beall, Confederate spy, hanged on Governor's Island, New York.... Transylvania University consolidated with Kentucky University.... United States Senate passed the \$600,000,000 loan bill.
- 1868—Disraeli became premier of England, succeeding the Earl of Derby.
- 1871—Meeting at Washington of joint high commission on Alabama claims.
- 1873—Alexander H. Stephens elected to Congress from Georgia.
- 1873—Fernando Wood moved in the House for the impeachment of Vice President Colfax.
- 1875—Rev. George D. Gillespie consecrated bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Western Michigan.
- 1877—New American theater, in Philadelphia, destroyed by fire.
- 1879—President Hayes vetoed the Chinese restriction bill.
- 1887—Scores of lives lost in the burning of the steamer W. H. Gardner near Gainesville, Ala.
- 1889—Congress appropriated \$350,000 to aid American workmen thrown out of employment by the stoppage of work on the Panama canal.
- 1890—Pan-American Congress voted for an international railway.
- 1891—Charles Foster of Ohio qualified as Secretary of the Treasury.
- 1894—War between Nicaragua and Honduras ended.
- 1895—Postmaster General Bissell resigned and was succeeded by William L. Wilson of West Virginia.... Express train on the Houston and Texas Central road held up and robbed near Dallas.
- 1903—Aldrich currency bill defeated in the Senate.... United States Senate passed the Philippine currency bill.
- 1905—Five million dollar dock fire in New Orleans.
- 1906—Iowa State Senate passed bill prohibiting Sunday base ball.
- 1908—New York State Senate refused to remove Otto Kelsey, State Superintendent of Insurance.... The first of the tunnels under the Hudson River between New York and New Jersey was opened.... United States Supreme Court decided in the Great Northern Railroad case that the Elkins rebate law was not repealed by the Hepburn act.
- Wireless for Balloons Next.**
The Aerial Navigation Company which, under the direction of Charles J. Glidden of Boston, is constructing several airships to be used in regular traffic between Boston and New York, is arranging to install a system of wireless telegraphy for this new air line. The object is to communicate with any aerial craft carrying wireless apparatus that may be flying anywhere east of the Mississippi. Special sending and receiving stations are now being constructed at Boston.

AGRICULTURAL



A Farmer's Enterprise.
An Iowa farmer has succeeded in opening up a big field for his enterprise by applying an old method to a new service. He has gone into the business of furnishing fresh eggs daily to a regular list of customers, after the fashion of the milkmen and bakers. This farmer is a man who raises many chickens and markets a large number of eggs. These he had been selling to dealers, who in turn sent them to cold-storage warehouses or to wholesalers. Finally they got to the consumers, usually pretty stale and much the worse for handling, through the retail grocer or huckster. When eggs were plentiful and the wholesalers were well stocked up, the farmer got little for them. When eggs were few and prices to consumers were very, very high, the farmer found that his eggs in the warehouses were still in competition with the producer. This man's egg route isn't an egg route exclusively. He sells dressed chickens and other farm produce, too, and when his egg wagon is going about the driver takes orders for other things which are raised on the farm.—Springfield Journal.

Starting Early Celery.
Celery growing on a commercial scale has received most attention in the "muck-bed" areas of Michigan and New York, where thousands of acres are devoted to this crop. California and Florida have taken up the industry and during the winter and spring months provide Northern cities with large amounts of celery.
To secure an early crop the best plan for the amateur grower is to fill a wooden tray 16 inches by 24 inches in size with fine soil three inches deep. This soil should be pressed down and the seeds scattered either in rows or broadcast. Cover the seeds by sprink-



WIRE-COVERED GATE THAT BALANCES.
are 12 in. apart, the board, a, and fasten a cap to the top of the frame. The gate is 16 ft. long, 12 ft. being for the gateway and 4 ft. for the weights to balance it. The frame is of 2x4's. Cover the 4-ft. end with boards and fill with enough stones to balance it when hung. Cover the gate with wire fencing and hang by a chain. Put a bolt through the lower part of the frame into the crosspiece, a.—A. J. Fraser, in Farm and Home.

How to Grow Potatoes.
Director Woods of the Maine agricultural experiment station summarizes his suggestions as to successful potato growing as follows. What he says about thorough preparation of the soil is applicable to that to be used for any crop.
Select highly fertile land, so situated that it will suffer as little as possible from either excessive rain or from droughts.
Thoroughly prepare the soil and fertilize liberally.
Keep the crop free from weeds and the surface of the soil loose during the whole season.
Do not let anything prevent the potato field from receiving constant care. Vastly more failures in potato growing can be traced to neglect of crop than to lack of knowledge.

Cost of Raising a Calf.
In an experiment to ascertain the cost of raising a calf Prof. Shaw of Michigan station took a dairy calf and kept an accurate account of the expense of feeding for one year from its birth. The amounts of feeds used in that time were 381 pounds of whole milk, 2,568 pounds of skim milk, 1,262 pounds of silage, 219 pounds of beet pulp, 1,254 pounds of hay, 1,247 pounds of grain, 147 pounds of roots, 14 pounds of alfalfa meal and 50 pounds of green corn. The grain ration consisted of three parts each of corn and oats and one part of bran and oilmeal. At the end of the year the calf weighed 800 pounds at a cost of \$28.55 for feed. The calf was a Holstein.

When and How to Prune.
It is very important that the healing process should start soon after the wound is made, otherwise the cambium will be killed back quite a distance from the exposed surface, and healing will be greatly retarded. For this reason winter pruning should be avoided, particularly in frosty weather. In the early fall or late spring the cambium is active and wounds made at this time start to heal at once, and there is little or no drying back of the cambium.

A Useful Farm Implement.

A useful but much neglected farm implement—the shaving horse.

Orchard Suggestions.
As a rule apples from orchards that are in sod culture are better and more highly colored than those from tilled orchards, but this is not necessarily so. The peach requires good culture, but this culture should not be continued too late in the season or the wood will not harden by the time winter sets in and the tree will be injured.

To Revalue State Lands.
That all the homestead lands in Michigan have been withdrawn from the market is announced by State Land Commissioner Huntley Russell. The lands will be kept out until they have been reappraised, as provided by a resolution recently introduced in the lower house of the state legislature.

remedy this state of things by erecting one completely furnished with all the newest mechanical inventions of the age. The estimated trifle of one hundred and sixty thousand pounds will be raised by the "Great Tontine," and that is simply the issuing of sixteen hundred shares of one hundred pounds share you take you must nominate a life, not less than sixty years old, that is, you must give the name of some person who has attained that age—any one you like; but he or she representing the hundred pounds share must have attained the sixtieth birthday.

"And you may take as many shares as you please?" asked Fortescue.
"Quite so," continued Carbuclle; "and name one life for the whole lot, or give a different name for each share. Now, you see, it is considered, that as all these lives start at sixty years of age, in twenty years there will be very few, if any of them, left."

"And the holder of the last life takes the pool," cried Gerald Fitzpatrick. "It would be rather exciting to find one's self one of the last half-dozen left in."

"Don't interrupt, Gerald," exclaimed the barrister pettishly; "I want to make Fortescue thoroughly understand Mr. Salisbury's great conception. The sixteen hundred shares being all taken up, and the names attached to them being all carefully registered, the 'Great Tontine' begins. With the capital thus acquired, the opera house is at once commenced, and in about two years should be finished and in full swing. As soon as that takes place five per cent per annum is to be paid to the shareholders. As the lives lapse nominators lose all interest in the affair, and the rental is divided amongst those shareholders whose nominees are still living; consequently, those fortunate enough to have made long-lived selections find their income increasing annually. The last eight, for instance, will be drawing a thousand a year interest on their hundred pounds share; the last two will have increased to four thousand a year; while the shareholder who has nominated the final life becomes the proprietor of the whole."

"That is exactly what I say," interposed Fitzpatrick. "I call it making a very suitable provision for your old age. Any of us, for instance, putting in our hundred pounds now, there is a prospect of coming into eight thousand a year at fifty or thereabouts."

"A very distant prospect, a very dim and hazy prospect," said Lakington, smiling. "No, upon the whole, Gerald, I'd rather trust to picking out the winner of the 'Wokingham's' to-morrow, and put my hundred on that, than put it into the 'Great Tontine.'"

"Yes," rejoined Carbuclle meditatively; "a hundred pounds is a good deal of money to put into such an overlasting lottery as this."

"But," replied the ever sanguine Fitzpatrick, "look what a price it is! Treble events are nothing to this. I have my little scheme, and it is worthy of Salisbury himself. What do you say, my brethren, to a pool at cards? We put in twenty-five pounds apiece. Draw a card each of you; the two highest first play together, then the two lowest, and then the two winners; and I propose that whoever wins the pool be solemnly pledged to invest that hundred in the 'Great Tontine.'"

The game was played, and Lakington won.
"Remember, Lakington," said Fitzpatrick, "you are pledged to put that hundred into the 'Great Tontine.' I have the strongest presentiment that you will eventually win it. It will be as like the luck of the Fitzpatricks to have checked eight thousand a year out of window. Anyway, I am the first of the family who ever staked as much on a hand at cards. And now I'm off to bed; I can't do the family estates any more mischief after that. I shall dedicate the next twenty years or so of my life to the framing of a compensation bill to be presented to Viscount Lakington, the then owner of the new Royal Italian Opera House."

CHAPTER II.
Amongst the little knot of land dealers, builders, surveyors, architects and others who busied themselves earnestly about the development of Llanbarlym, there were none more keenly interested than Mr. Paul Pegrarn, a solicitor residing in a country town some twelve miles from the budding watering place. Mr. Paul Pegrarn, albeit a sharp and a somewhat unscrupulous practitioner, had arrived at the age of forty without in his own opinion having done much good for himself. He was not a popular man; and though the Welsh have the reputation of being a somewhat litigious people, they at all events put their litigation but sparsely into Mr. Pegrarn's hands. He was a man of very humble extraction, his father having been a cattle jobber. He died very proud of having brought up his son as a "professional gentleman," and of leaving some four thousand pounds behind him.
Paul Pegrarn threw himself heart and soul into the development of Llanbarlym. This was the sort of speculation that he had been waiting for all his life. It had special attraction for him.
He was early in the field, foreseeing what the railway would do for the place. He determined to sink all the money he could lay his hands upon in this speculation. Llanbarlym thrived and grew in a manner that quite surpassed the expectations of those interested in its extension. The annually increasing throng of visitors had brought settlers in their wake. Lodging house keepers and shopkeepers flocked from surrounding towns to start in business in the new watering place. The first hotel was already dwarfed by a gigantic rival.

Not only had Paul Pegrarn already made money, but he saw the land he acquired increasing rapidly in value. In short, should Llanbarlym continue to prosper, in the course of a few years he would become a rich man.
One day there arrived in Mr. Pegrarn's office a dark, rather shabbily dressed gentleman, with a great deal of watch chain and a good deal of diamond ring about him; a dark, well-whiskered man of some five or six-and-thirty, with a very glossy hat. He gave his name as Mr. Hemmingby, and curtly informed the lawyer that he had come down to see if there was anything to be done with this new place—Llanbarlym. Mr. Pegrarn naturally inquired what did the stranger propose to do for himself or Llanbarlym.

"Well, you see," replied the other, "that is a thing I am not particular about. I have had a turn at a good

many 'specs' one way or another in my time. I have managed a theater, and 'run' an hotel, and may do either again some day. I have been in all sorts of companies. I have made my fortune, and 'bust up' half a dozen times. There is often a 'big stroke' to be done about a new place if a man has a head on his shoulders, and doesn't arrive too late. It's very possible I am that; but I heard a good deal about this place from a friend of mine last week, and said I would run down and look at it as soon as I had two or three days to spare; and here I am."

In due course the lawyer showed his new acquaintance over the place, expatiating on its advantages and future prospects. Mr. Hemmingby rattled away with his usual fluency, interspersing his speech with incessant questions.
Mr. Pegrarn admitted to his new friend that he had been one of the very earliest speculators in buying up land round about Llanbarlym, and owned that he had made a very good thing indeed on the transaction in various ways during the last three years, and that he fully expected to make considerably more during the next five or six. As for Mr. Hemmingby, he told wondrous stories, and darkly hinted that he guessed that there were dollars to be made in Frisco, only he hadn't quite cyphered out the "hang" of it as yet. Then Mr. Pegrarn told of his once winning the "Derby" lottery.

"Lotteries!" exclaimed Mr. Hemmingby. "If you are good at lotteries, guess you'll have to take a turn at the biggest thing of the kind that has been on hand in my day. You will have to take a ticket in the 'Great Tontine!'"

"What's that?" inquired the lawyer. "I never ever heard of it."

"Whereupon Mr. Hemmingby proceeded to explain the whole system of that elaborate lottery to the best of his ability. It took some time before he made his companion thoroughly understand the scheme. It may be that the port wine had something to say against lucid explanation on the one hand, and a clear understanding on the other, although neither of the men showed the slightest symptoms of their deep potations; but when Mr. Pegrarn had thoroughly mastered the details of the scheme he became deeply interested in it, and finally inquired whether Hemmingby himself had taken shares in it.

"I've got one," he replied, "and I've a great mind to take another; but it ain't so easy to find a life of sixty that you know and can do a bit with if he gets rickety. Why, if I found myself in it at last, and my man a bit ailing, I'd cart him round the world until he got the climate he wanted."

"Ah," replied Pegrarn, "I like that—capital idea—life you can watch over, keep your eye on, that's the thing. I suppose the life you have got is a man of whom you can take care?"

His host eyed him keenly as he replied. "No; and that's just the reason I should like my second chance to be of that kind. No, I won't name him; but I'll give you a very fair 'tip' if you think of venturing your luck. Do as I have done—pick out one of the most eminent statesmen of that age. In spite of the tremendous work they do, the balance of them go very near living out the time."

"I have it!" exclaimed Mr. Pegrarn, next morning. "Old Krabbe's the man I want. He must be about sixty, and is as hale and hearty a man as I know. He's been clerk with me now some seventeen years and never been ailing all that time. I can't call to mind his ever being a day absent or five minutes late. Father did a good stroke of business when he got hold of him; and, to do him justice, the old dad was a mighty good judge of the points of either man or beast. Old Krabbe has been a good servant to me so far. I'll just ask him his exact age, and if that's about right, put him in. Let him live to land this stake, and he shall have a new rigout and live like a gentleman to the end of his days; and he may take his oath I'll not see his valuable life endangered. That's settled. Yes, I'll put in for the 'Great Tontine,' and old Krabbe shall be my nominee. I'll write about it to-day." (To be continued.)

The Bachelors' Excuses.
At a wedding breakfast the bachelors were called upon to give their reasons for remaining single. The following were among the reasons given:
"I am like a frog in the fable who, though he loved the water, would not jump into the well because he could not jump out again."
"I am too selfish and honest enough to admit it."
"I prefer, on the one hand, liberty, refreshing sleep, the opera, midnight suppers, quiet seclusion, dreams, cigars, a bank account and club to, on the other hand, disturbed rest, cold meat, baby linen, soothing sirup, rocking horses, bread pudding and empty pockets."
"I have a twin brother, and we have never had a secret from one another. He is married."

The Grandest.
"What is the grandest thing in the universe?" asks Victor Hugo. "A storm at sea," he answers and continues, "And what is grander than a storm at sea? 'The unclouded heavens on a starry, moonless night.' And what is grander than these midnight skies? 'The soul of man'—a spectacular climax such as Hugo loved and still, with all its dramatic effects, the picturesque statement of a vast and sublime and mighty truth."

Lucky Youth.
Diggs—Lucky fellow, that young Green. He went west last spring, you know.
Biggs—Did he do well out there?
Diggs—I should say so. Why, he was able to get back without writing home for money.

Crazy.
Wigwag—I believe there's a tinge of insanity in all religious enthusiasts.
Henpecke—Yes; take the Mormons, for instance. Any man that wants more than one wife is plumb crazy.—Philadelphia Record.

An attempt to establish a municipal brewery in Berlin resulted in a dismal failure. It did plenty of business, but lost money.

The Great Tontine

by HAWLEY SMART
Author of "Broken Bonds," "Bound to Win," Etc.



THE GREAT TONTINE is a fine work of fiction, embellished with a truly wonderful and fascinating plot. It is a splendid story and deals with an original subject in a powerful way. The incidents of this sterling romance are cleverly drawn and full of great originality and interest. The characters are life-like and the serial one of the very best ever offered.

CHAPTER I.

Herbert Phillimore, fifth Viscount Lakington, had reached his twenty-sixth birthday and the end of his tether. There had been no 'holder plunger' on the race course. "The cleverest young one that has ever been out," muttered some. "How on earth does he get his information?" murmured others. The bookmakers said nothing, but continued doggedly to lay him shorter odds than ever. He bubbled soon burst, as it has burst many a time before. The Viscount was no more astute than his fellows, nor blessed with any extraordinary sources of information. It was simply luck.

It did not occur to him to retire when the smash came, to turn over a new leaf, and attempt to live upon what was left of his income; but he quite recognized that something must be done, and that the sinews of war must be raised from other resources than his own in future. He fell back, as might have been expected, upon the usual expedient of unmarried and impecunious nobility—the marrying of money. A popular, good-looking fellow of six-and-twenty, who can place a coronet on his bride's brow, has not long to seek for such opportunity.

Lakington was fortunate. He carried off the great matrimonial prize of the season from a host of competitors. A quiet, lady-like girl, who, without being a beauty, was still quite sufficiently good looking; but whose greatest charm, probably, in the eyes of the world was that she was the only child of Anthony Lyme Wregis, the great financier. To define what Mr. Lyme Wregis was, was pretty nearly as difficult as to say what he was not. He seemed to have a finger in pretty nearly every big speculation that was afloat. His enemies declared that he was a "salter of diamond fields," promoter of "bogus" silver mines, phantom railways, and every description of bubble speculation that filled the pockets of those that started them at the expense of the unfortunate dupes that took shares in them. However, whatever he touched turned to gold. He had given a park to the people, built unto himself a palace at Fulham, and was reputed to be worth more than a million of money. The Viscount's marriage was to take place the week after Ascot, and the noble bridegroom, in conjunction with three kindred spirits as reckless as himself, was at present staying in one of those pretty little houses that lie dotted around the village of Bracknell, and which had been taken by the quartette for the races.

It is the evening of the "Cup" day, and the party are lounging at the open windows of the drawing room, and languidly discussing the results of the fierce combat they have waged with the knights of the pencil the last three days.
"How did you come through to-day, Lakington?" asked Sir Gerald Fitzpatrick.

"Only so so," replied the Viscount; "I had a pretty good win over Brown Duchess in the New Stakes, but I knocked it all down afterwards, and a bit more besides. I am fourteen hundred and fifty out, and shall have to bet in earnest to-morrow if I am ever to get home."
"I say," suddenly exclaimed Carbuclle, a rising barrister, "have any of you taken shares in the 'Great Tontine'? What does your father-in-law, that is to be, think of it, Lakington? Does the scheme commend itself to the great financier?"

"Well," replied the Viscount, laughing, "as it so happens I did mention the subject to him. Now, as you know, he is no racing man—never troubles his head about it, in short; but, with a view, I presume, to suit my limited apprehension, he puts his opinion of that scheme into turf vernacular. He described it as backing a yearling entered for the Derby to be run when he was twenty years old, and remarked further that he looked to turning his money over a good many times, and making a good deal of it, between this and then."

"Well, I don't know, I rather like the idea myself. It commends itself to my mind as putting away something for one's old age," observed Fitzpatrick.
"A very broken reed to trust to, Gerald, and I most sincerely hope that you'll have a good deal more than that to fall back upon in the days to come."
"But what on earth is it?" exclaimed Fortescue. "Pray explain to me what is the meaning of the 'Great Tontine.'"
"The 'Great Tontine,' my dear Fortescue," replied the barrister, "is a scheme for the benefit of society, as originated in the fertile brain of Mr. Salisbury, the great operative impresario. He has discovered that London has no opera house worthy of the greatest metropolis in the world. He proposes to at once