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BRITISH VIEWS OF NORTH-ERN REGIONS.

A series of impressions under the title of the Yellowstone Park, written by an Englishman gentleman on the occasion of the recent Villard excursion, has recently been published. The writer is equally extravagant in his statements, and entertaining. As an instance, he says our government sells rich soil in tracts of 150 acres at rates varying from 45 to 60 cents an acre. One firm—Dalrymple, Alton, Glastin & Chennery—ultimately succeeded in securing 55,000 acres at such prices, 30,000 of which are under cultivation in Dakota. But he does not say—perhaps does not know—that government lands are valued at \$1.25 an acre when sold to an actual settler. He tells a significant truth when he says that the Northern Pacific Railway company has sold 13,000 acres of such lands at prices ranging from 88 to 812 per acre. He inspected one farm—that of Mr. Dalrymple—which was twelve miles square, and which was one undivided field of wheat. On it one hundred reaping machines were ready to garner in the harvest. "While the harvest lasts," he says, "there are transported over the Northern Pacific line to Buffalo as the objective point, by way of Duluth, from 25,000 to 30,000 daily, requiring some 35 to 50 railway cars." And yet the yield is but twenty bushels an acre, where under an English system of cultivation it would reach thirty bushels. There are but six or eight weeks of warm weather in the country, during which this magnificent cereal region is developed. In winter the cold is so intense that the average temperature through the season is 20 degrees below zero, it sometimes going as low as 50 degrees. There is some government land left about there yet, however, several millions of acres still being open for settlement. This is useful information that the writer gives to his countryman and to others, and that will undoubtedly be taken profitable advantage of by a portion of the many desirous of securing homes of their own in an opened-up wilderness.

After this pleasant outlook for coming settlers, comes a lamentable complaint over the dinner-tables of the out-of-the-way and magnificent vastness of prospective prosperity. Flora McFlimsey, with all her wealth and over-burdened wardrobe of expensive and elegant dresses, had "nothing to wear on the occasion of a certain fashionable entertainment. So the agreeable writer to whom we refer could get nothing to eat on his interesting excursion. He did once at a way station get buffalo meat for dinner, that "was almost equal in flavor to English beef." But it was generally impossible to obtain decent food. The "hotels" on the line were either "shanties," or "miserable log-huts," at which "certain sorts of food were on hand," and which must have been travesties or notable hostilities elsewhere. "In a bewildering number of small dishes, or plates, they are all huddled together before the unfortunate guest at once. If the waiter—I beg pardon for writing such a word—would give half, or quarter the quantity, the appetite might be preserved and an attack commenced. The traveler hardly knows with which dish to begin, and wishes that the shanty, or hotel, proprietors would kindly place on his tables knives which would cut asunder rather than tear the meat. Some of my lady companions had to give up eating the meat for the sufficient

reason that they could not cut it." From which statement it is presumed that he used fingers and teeth in lieu of knives and forks. And his irritation did not stop here. "The traveling public of America," he says "must be exceedingly temperate—only tea, coffee and milk being served at the table." And yet he had journeyed from New York to the Yellowstone and back, having a taste of both Chicago and St. Louis tables on his peregrination. Did he ever order claret or champagne at his dinner? Or did he expect the wines to be furnished without extra charge? This country is not the place for him, that is evident. The Villard excursion has demoralized him. Wines without expense to the imbiber may be expected on a festive occasion; but his expectation of anything of the kind at an every day table, without money and without price, indicates that it was about time for him to go back home when he did.

Household Hints.

Salt and water is good for the catarrh when inhaled through the nostrils.

A little baking soda placed upon a burn will soon remove the fever.

Lamp tops, when boiled occasionally in a little soda and water, are as good as new.

Lemon rubbed on the face and hands tends to remove freckles and whiten the skin.

When drying the face always rub down, as rubbing both ways tends to roughen the skin.

Boiled sweet potatoes left over from dinner are very nice for breakfast when thinly sliced and fried.

When peeling onions place a pin tightly between the front teeth. This prevents the tears from coming.

Pan cakes are easier to pour when prepared in a tin kettle with a spout. A small one can be purchased for the purpose.

Using a rubber comb is often detrimental to the hair. Persons with a great deal of electricity in the hair use a bone comb.

A hall window may be made very pretty by pasting on it stained glass paper, which can be purchased for a small sum of money and easily applied.

Never wash in warm water before going out in the cold air. Such a practice will roughen the skin. Warm water should only be used before retiring.

Silver or silver-plated knives should be wiped with a damp cloth and thoroughly dried as soon as the meal is over. If left for a half hour or so, they are apt to be stained.

Pretty and serviceable winter dresses for small children can be made of a dark-red Canton flannel with the rough side turned out. They should be made in the Mother Hubbard fashion.

A very palatable dish can be made of mashed potatoes and a little finely chopped meat of one or more kinds, mixed together, flavored with salt and pepper, and fried in small flat cakes.

To brighten the eyes for a ball or party, a very harmless device is to eat a half hour before leaving home a lump of sugar on which is ten drops of cologne. This generally proves effective.

Very pretty and inexpensive curtains can be made of cheese cloth, and bordered with rick-rack or cheap lace, ruffled. The cheese-cloth washes nicely and should be stiffened with a little cheap starch.

A very odd and pretty hanging basket can be made out of an old clay pipe. Fill with rich earth, and plant a few creeping vines. Suspend from a bracket by a gold or silver braid.

Oatmeal is excellent for the skin. Soak a cupful in a little water for three or four hours. Apply to the face and hands before retiring and do not rub off. Dry oatmeal rubbed on the skin after a bath is also very beneficial.

Flannel cakes are great delicacies for breakfast these cold mornings. Take a quart of prepared flour, one egg, a cup of sweet milk and a spoonful of sugar. Mix with water into a batter, then fry in a hot pan with a little lard or butter.

Every one who can spare the room should have a nursery for their children. It saves the rest of the house and allows the little ones more liberty. A wainscoting of newspaper pictures pasted on the walls will make an interesting feature of such a room.

Potatoes are much better when steamed than when boiled in the water. Put a pot of water on the fire and when it is boiling place over it a tin with a perforated bottom, holding the potatoes. Put on this tin a tight cover and in a half-hour the potatoes will be done, and will turn out white and mealy.

A handsome ottoman may be made of an old soap-box. Pad the box with old pieces of carpet or cotton, taking care to have it smooth and firm. Then cover with an old broche shawl, or a dark red merino dress, an old rep certain redvel, or any similar material. Chintz will also prove a pretty covering.



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To The Public.
WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, NOTIFY the public that we have bought the scow "Annie." Parties who have any claim or claims against said scow should notify us within 30 days, before the money is paid, and make arrangements accordingly.
OLAF THOMPSON,
D. V. CARTER.
Astoria, Or., October 25th, 1883.

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