

HOUSE MAY KILL IT.

Little Chance of Favorable Action on Homestead Bill. Washington, Jan. 18.—The supporters of the free homestead bill fear that the measure has been killed, so far as this congress is concerned, by the action of Speaker Reed in referring it to the house committee on public lands for the consideration of the senate amendments.

The senate amendments greatly widen the scope of the bill, extending its provisions to all public land states, and it is doubtful whether the house committee will sanction the changes. The bill's supporters fear that if the committee does not make an adverse report, it will keep the bill and take no action on it before adjournment, which course would effectually dispose of it.

Washington, Jan. 18.—The proceedings in the house today were very tame. It was private bill day, but the whole time was consumed in passing through the house bills favorably acted upon in committee of the whole before the holiday recess. The widow of the late Major-General Gibbon was the beneficiary of one of the bills passed carrying \$100 per month to the widow of Major-General W. A. Nichols, of another, carrying \$75 per month. The free homestead bill, which came back to the house with senate amendments, was referred under a ruling of the chair to the committee on public lands.

Age for Retirement. Washington, Jan. 18.—A bill fixing the age for retirement from the classified civil service was introduced by Representative Gillette, of Massachusetts. It provides that any officer in the classified service held by a person who at the time of the passage of the act is over 62 years of age, shall become vacant in three years. Any officer in the service shall hereafter become vacant when the person holding it becomes 65 years old. Veterans of the civil war and their widows are excepted from the provision.

For the Purchase of Cuba. Washington, Jan. 18.—Representative Spencer of Mississippi, has introduced in the house a bill as follows: "The secretary of state is hereby authorized to offer to the government of Spain a sum of money not to exceed \$200,000,000 for the purchase of the island of Cuba. And the sum of \$10,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary to defray the expenses of pending negotiations, is hereby appropriated."

WAS BLOWN TO BITS. Dynamite Exploded in Miner Dendau's Cabin. Seattle, Jan. 18.—In attempting to thaw out a few sticks of dynamite by placing them on a hot stove, F. Dendau was instantly killed and horribly mutilated at Black Diamond Thursday. Thursday morning about 10 o'clock, Dendau, who is in the employ of Lawson Bros., took ten sticks of the explosive to his cabin to warm them up. From that time until noon he was alone, and the exact manner in which the accident occurred can never be known, but during the noon hour, when all hands were at dinner, a terrific explosion was heard. Everybody rushed out and found the entire side and part of the roof of Dendau's cabin had been torn away and hurled against the side of another cabin sixty feet distant. The interior of what remained of the cabin was a total wreck, everything in shreds and fragments, with the body of Dendau in the midst. Some flying missiles, presumably a bit of the stove, entered his head near the right eye, going directly through the skull and leaving a hole two inches square; the right leg was broken in two places between the hip and knee, and the flesh of the whole right side hung in tatters. Death must have been instantaneous.

BLUE CUT ROBBERY. Alleged Leader Claims There is a Conspiracy to Convict Him. Kansas City, Jan. 18.—John Kennedy who was indicted as the leader of the gang which twice held up and robbed Chicago & Alton trains at Blue Cut, wrote out and signed a statement today charging that there was a conspiracy to convict him. There seems to be some grounds to substantiate his statement as regards John Land, an important witness against him. It is given out, moreover, from authoritative sources that the robbers secured almost \$30,000, and not \$2,300, as first claimed by the express company. For the conviction of the men concerned, it is also said big rewards have been offered. In 1882, Land, who lives in the Blue Cut locality, was convicted of perjury in falsely swearing that three of his neighbors had been connected in the Jesse James train robbery of that year near Independence. Land is a state witness in the present case.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 18.—Today, a ukase was published which refers to the necessity of the resumption of his mintage. It seems likely that the council's decision on the currency question will be prolonged, and as the country is anxious to settle the doubts which have arisen as to the cash values of gold coins, it orders the minting of imperials of a value of 15 instead of 10 roubles, 1000000, however, being of exactly the same weight and fineness as existing coins.

Fell Into Molten Metal. Rossland, B. C., Jan. 18.—George Braddon, a slag-pusher at the smelter at Trail, while pulling away at a pot today and walking backward, tripped and fell into another red-hot pot of molten metal that was in his path. Braddon was burned from his neck to the calves of his legs, and there is slim chance for his recovery.

President of Ecuador. Lima, Peru, Jan. 18.—General Medardo Alfaro has been elected constitutional president of Ecuador by 24 votes.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade. The past week has proved an undecided one in the wheat markets. While there has been no weakening in the basic position of wheat, and while, indeed, the position today is stronger than a week since, the bears have upon two or three occasions raided the market and lowered the price. To our minds these fluctuations prove nothing against the deal. We don't know but prices will be lower, and are not talking about what will be the results, but we write of the foundation of the markets, and leaders must manage the rest. The winter wheat, usually two-thirds of the aggregate crop, is depleted to smaller remains in farmers' hands than for years. Consumption must soon resort to spring wheat, and that reserve is undoubtedly small. We are breaking away slowly from foreign prices and before harvest it will be a home demand and supply.

According to expert testimony many of the believers in wheat who have been watching the upward march of values for the past two months have been rather doubtful of its stability, in view of the cheapness of other cereals and their product. The fact that corn has entered the list as a competitor for bread consumption led to a halt in the advance and many traders were greatly influenced by this circumstance. The argument is made that flour is being adulterated to such an extent with corn meal, and the call for corn meal is increasing at such a rate that the demand for cash wheat will gradually become curtailed, and, with a lessening of the demand, perforce a decline in price. One writer in discussing this phase of the wheat situation asserts that such a use for corn meal and other substitutions for wheat must be only credited to restricted areas. The theory advanced is that poor people who would most likely use this adulterated article as a human food do not buy flour, and hence the first argument fails to the ground.

Market Quotations. Portland, Or., Jan. 19, 1897. Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, \$4.50; Benton county and White Lily, \$4.50; graham, \$4.00; superfine, \$2.80 per barrel. Wheat—Walla Walla, 83@84c; Valley, 86@87c per bushel. Oats—Choice white, 40@42c per bushel; choice gray, 38@40c. Hay—Timothy, \$13.00 per ton; clover, \$8.00@9.00; oat, \$8.00@10.00; wheat, \$8.00@10 per ton. Barley—Feed barley, \$18.00 per ton; brewing, \$20. Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.00; shorts, \$16.50; middlings, \$26. Butter—Creamery, 35@40c; Tillamook, 40c; dairy, 22 1/2@30c. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 65@70c; Early Rose, 80@90c per sack; California river Burbanks, 55c per cental; sweets, \$2.00@2.50 per cental for Mercery Jersey Red, \$2.50. Onions—85c per sack. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$6.00; turkeys, live, 10c; ducks, \$4@4.50 per dozen. Eggs—Oregon, 17 1/2@18 per dozen. Cheese—Oregon, 12 1/2@13; Young America, 13 1/2@14 per pound. Wool—Valley, 10c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8c. Hops—0.60 per pound. Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3.00; cows, \$2.25@2.50; dressed beef, 4@4 1/2c per pound. Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$3.00@3.25; dressed mutton, 5 1/2@6c per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, \$3.25@3.50; light and feeders, \$2.50@3.00; dressed, \$4.00@4.50 per cwt. Veal—Net, small, 6c; large, 5 1/2c per pound.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 19, 1897. Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, \$5.25; Novelty A, \$4.75; California brands, \$5.00; Dakota, \$5.50; patent, \$6.25. Wheat—Chicken feed, \$2.7 per ton. Oats—Choice, \$3.4@3.5 per ton. Barley—Rolled or ground, \$2.2 per ton. Corn—Whole, \$2.2 per ton; cracked, \$2.8; feed meal, \$2.3. Millstuffs—Bran, \$16.00 per ton; shorts, \$19. Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, \$24; oilcake meal, \$28. Hay—Pugot sound, per ton, \$9.00@10.00; Eastern Washington, \$13. Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 24c; select, 23c; tubs, 22c; ranch, 18c. Cheese—Native Washington, 12 1/2c. Vegetables—Potatoes, per ton, \$16@18; parsnips, per sack, 70c; beets, per sack, 60c; turnips, per sack, 60c; rutabagas, per sack, 70c; carrots, per sack, 35c@40c; cabbage, per 100 lbs, \$1.25; onions, per 100 lbs, \$1.1@1.25. Sweet potatoes—Per 100 lbs, \$3.00. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 85c; dressed, 10@13c; ducks, \$2.00@2.50; dressed turkeys, 15@16c. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 16c; Eastern, 15c per dozen. Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5 1/2c; mutton, sheep, 6c per pound; lamb, 5c; pork, 5c per pound. Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5@8; salmon, 5@8; salmon trout, 7@10; flounders and soles, 3@4c. Provisions—Hams, large, 12c; hams, small, 12 1/2c; breakfast bacon, 10c; dry salt sides, 6c per pound.

San Francisco, Jan. 19, 1897. Potatoes—Salinas Burbanks, 70@80c; Early Rose, 70@75c; River Burbanks, 50@75c; sweets, \$1.50@1.60 per cental. Onions—60@85c per cental. Eggs—Stores, 21@23c; ranch, 24@27c. Butter—Fancy creamery, 25c; do seconds, 18@20c; fancy dairy, 17c; seconds, 14@16c. Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 11@11 1/2c; fair to good, 8@10c; Young America, 11@12c; Eastern, 13@14c. Wool—Choice mountain, 6@7c; poor do, 4@5c; San Joaquin plains, 3@4c; do foothill, 6@8c per pound. Hay—Wheat, \$8.00@11; wheat and oat, \$8@10; oat, \$6.00@8.00; barley, 5.00@6.50; alfalfa, \$8.00@7.50; clover, \$6.00@8.00; stock, \$5.00@6.00 per ton. Tropical Fruit—Bananas, \$1.00@2.00 per bunch; pineapples, \$2@4. Citrus Fruit—Oranges, navel, \$1.50@2.50; seedlings do, 75c@1.25; Mexican limes, \$6.00@6.50 common lemons, \$1.00@1.25; good to choice, \$1.50@2.00; fancy, \$2.50@3.00 per box. Apples—Fancy, \$1@1.25 per box; common do, 40@50c.

Tea is better fresh—if it isn't, what does the grocer mean by telling you that he has some tea just come from abroad? Fresh doesn't mean just picked; it means just roasted. Schilling's Best is roasted as fast as your grocer wants it—no faster—in San Francisco.

Gladness Comes to Young Men. Be sure that every one of you has his place and vocation on this earth, and that it rests with himself to find it. Do not believe those who too lightly say: "Nothing succeeds like success." Effort, honest, manful, humble effort, succeeds by its reflected action, especially in youth, better than success, which, indeed, too easily and too early gained, not seldom serves, like winning the throw of the dice, to blind and stupefy. Get knowledge, all you can. Be thorough in all you do, and remember that though ignorance often may be innocent, pretension is always despicable. But you, like men, be strong and exercise your strength. Work upward and upward, and may the blessing of the Most High soothe your cares, cheer your vision, and crown your labors with reward.

A certain youthful curate was taken to task by the archbishop of Canterbury for reading the lessons or the service in an inaudible tone. Whereupon the young man replied: "I am surprised that you should find fault with my reading, as a friend of mine in the congregation told me that I was beautifully heard." "Did she?" snapped the bishop, and the fair young curate collapsed. His lordship had once been a young clergyman himself, and he knew a thing or two about the "friend."

MOTOR AND MISERY. Compressed air as a motive power for street railways will in time supersede electric wires and the trolley. Necessity and invention make rapid changes, but some old, sure, unfailing methods will hold good for all time. The nerves are the electric wires of the human system, and often "jangle out of tune," as when neuralgia slips the trolley of the system and it grinds and grinds with pain. The old motor for the cure of pain is Dr. J. C. Schilling's Cure. It always acts as electric influence on the pain-stricken nerves, and will send a current of cure through the disordered wires, and bring about a perfect restoration. Nothing new can improve upon what is known to be the best and surest in the treatment of painful diseases.

William B. Phillips, of New Madrid, Mo., is credited with a total of 1,350 squirrels in three days' hunting on Little River. So anxious to prolong this rapid transitory existence of ours here on earth, should foster his digestion, negatively by abstaining from indigestible food, and actively by the use of that peerless stomachic, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, when he experiences symptoms of indigestion, such as flatulence, biliousness, fever and ague, biliousness and constipation.

For lung and chest diseases Piso's Cure is the best medicine we have used.—Mrs. J. L. Northcutt, Windsor, Ont., Canada. CATARRH CANNOT BE CURED. With LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease, catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. It is prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is regular in its action. It is composed of the best tonics known, and the system which they act upon, directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & Co., Props, Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, price 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

The light of the moon is only about one-sixth hundred thousandth that of the sun. Gladness Comes. With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It therefore is of important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists. If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.



Coloring Butter in Winter. There is no moral wrong in coloring winter butter, provided it be made of cream that has not acquired bad odors from feed or from exposure. We have known farmers to color butter that was made for their own use. They claimed, and truly, that the yellow color made the butter more appetizing, though the taste was not changed. But a strain of Jersey or Guernsey blood will impart more color to winter butter, and so also will feeding with corn stalks. The stalks of corn are better feed for milk cows than is timothy hay, but where stalks are the principal feed some corn or corn meal ought always to go with them.—American Cultivator.

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THE FARM AND HOME

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO FARMER AND HOUSEWIFE.

Clover Should Be Sown Thickly in Order to Destroy the Weeds—A Farm of Ten Acres Enough—Keeping Appliances in Pits.

The Use of Clover. Farmers who sow clover seed thinly, with the expectation that it will spread so as to fill the vacant spaces, make a great mistake. It will spread, but so slowly that weeds, which abound in all soil that is rich enough to produce any crop, will crowd and stunt it. On the contrary, if the seeds are close enough together, and the soil is in good enough tilth and richness to make a clover plant each two or three inches square of space, the clover will go very far toward crowding out the annual weeds, like ragweed and chickweed. These start very early, but their early growth is slow, and they are completely hidden under the broad leaf of clover when it gets its third, fourth and fifth leaves. Where the clover once gets the start, it will keep it. We have seen in grain fields in June or July good clover growths, and have examined under them the soil with a microscope, finding there thousands of weeds that had germinated and put out one or two leaves, only to be smothered down by the larger clover growth. It is well known to farmers that the second year crop of clover, if a good seedling, fills the soil so that nothing else can grow. But the first year's clover crop cannot smother biennial weeds like red root, shepherds' purse and th plantains. These start in the fall, and are ready in spring to make an earlier growth than the new-born clover can be.—American Cultivator.

Raising Good Cows. I think I should ask that I might give this faith to those engaged in dairying, viz: That you can raise dairy cows with the absolute certainty of success, and no guesswork about it—cows that will make from ten to twelve pounds of butter a week—and it all hinges upon the proper selection of both of the dam on one side and the sire on the other. It is not a theory. I have had a fine chance to travel and observe for the last eight years, and I know what I am talking about. If there is anything to make me feel wild it is to see a farmer keep a lot of worthless cows and breed and feed a cow that will not pay for her keep.—Cow Culture.

Straw for Fattening Stock. With cattle, horses or sheep as feed very concentrated and nitrogenous foods they will often show a decided liking for grain straw, which if fed on alone could not be eaten in sufficient quantities to sustain life. What this fattening stock seeks in the straw is first more of the carbonaceous element of food, and secondly, something that will distend their stomachs while furnishing little nutrition. In this respect the domestic animals are wiser than man, who, when he can get it, overloads his stomach with indigestible food, and then resorts to drugs instead of to more bulky food for relief.—Exchange.

The Elberta Peach. So many varieties of peaches are introduced with a great flourish only to be discarded in the course of a few years. Some kinds, however, seem to insure permanent popularity, which is a sign of their value. The Elberta peach is one of these. It seems rather to grow in popularity—as the years roll by. It is considered the most desirable of all the yellow flesh peaches—Crawford's Yellow excepted. Possibly some of its popularity comes from its high coloring. It is one of the darkest of all, in this respect approaching a nectarine.—Meehan's Monthly.

Deep Draining. Deep draining is a protection against damage from droughts. That may seem paradoxical to some—that we drain to get water out of the soil and drain to get water into the soil—yet we know from personal observation that growing crops over and under the drains, in time of severe drought, will show almost as much superiority over those growing on undrained land as would be seen by comparison of the same lands in an excessive wet time.—Ex.

Pure Water for Hogs. No more animal is more likely to suffer from lack of water than is the hog. This is mainly because this stock is often fed milk or swill, in the latter usually having more or less salt in it, and both utterly unfit to take the place of water. Fattening hogs especially should be given as the water they will drink as it keeps them from becoming feverish, which injures the quality of their pork.

Farm Notes. If trees are pruned properly while young the necessity of cutting off large limbs will be avoided. The first month of milking will decide the question of whether the heifer should be kept in the dairy or turned to the butcher's block. Do not attempt the raising of too many varieties of apples. If for home use they should be timed to come in at all seasons; but for market too many kinds will make a great deal of trouble, without yielding a corresponding degree of benefit. Let neither the early nor the late supply consist of more than one or two varieties.

All machinery, wagons, etc., that are not under shelter will be exposed to snows and rains, and consequently rendered almost worthless for use in the spring. If it is cheaper to buy new tools every year than there is an excuse for neglecting the tools, but it is generally the case that the farmer who does not take care of his implements has but little interest in his farm. Are pure breeds high? This may be considered by examining the methods in England. No farm in that country contains any but choice beef cattle, as the farmers endeavor to excel in choice beef. Although the English farmers have been using the Shorthorn breed of cattle for over a century, yet it is nothing unusual for a choice bull to sell for \$1,000. They want only the best to be had, and they find it pays to use no other.

When looking over the prices quoted for any article produced on the farm, and which is to be sold, it may be noticed that there is quite a difference between "inferior" and "extra choice" grades. The difference between 3 and 4 cents per pound is but 1 cent, but it represents \$2.50 on a 250-pound hog. Only the "extra choice" brings the highest price, and no farmer should sell anything that cannot be so graded. Good beef cattle should not weigh less than 1,000 pounds each, and as it is not difficult to make every animal in a herd weigh 2,000 pounds, the cause of lack of profit in cattle can be easily pointed out—inferior stock. At the fairs many of the "prize" steers are the result of using pure-bred Short-horn or Hereford bulls with common cows and pushing them with liberal feeding. Any farmer can do the same. No prize steer has ever yet been seen that was not a pure-bred or grade animal.

British Wheat Imports. The London Times says: "The subjoined table, which gives the value of our imports of wheat from various countries for the eight months ended Aug. 31, shows that the United States has profited appreciably by the partial failure of the supplies usually put on the market by its competitors:

	1896.	1895.
Russia	23,412,000	24,407,000
United States	6,040,000	5,350,000
Argentina	1,331,000	2,745,000
India	512,000	1,530,000
Australasia	2,669	885,000
British North America	631,000	323,000
Other countries	1,288,000	827,000
Totals	£13,214,000	£16,073,000

Thousands of Tons of Dust. According to the estimates of Mr. J. A. Udden, who has studied the remarkable phenomena of dust and sand storms in the arid regions of the West, every cubic mile of the lower air during an ordinary "dry storm" contains at least 225 tons of dust, while in severe storms of this kind as much as 128,000 tons of dust and sand may be contained in a cubic mile of air. Dust storms sometimes last for twenty or thirty hours.

Cycle Chair for the Ameer. A strange vehicle, called a cycle chair, has been constructed in London for the Ameer of Afghanistan. It consists of a miniature carriage body, upholstered in green morocco and embellished with the Ameer's arms. This is placed in front of two parallel bicycles, to be propelled by attendants, and is steered by a small wheel in front. Holes are made in the floor, through which the Ameer can exercise his legs on treadles when he feels like it.

MIRACLES IN MEDICINE.

The Wonderful Progress Made Within the Past Few Years.

Diseases That Our Mothers Thought Incurable Now Cured by Paine's Celery Compound.

It is difficult, almost impossible, to overestimate the importance of recent advances in medicine and surgery. In surgery there is the application of the X-ray in determining complicated fractures. In medicine there is the serum-treatment for germ diseases, and more important still, the extended use of Paine's celery compound in the treatment of the many diseases that arise from a faulty or impaired nervous system. This class of ailments causes more suffering and earlier deaths than all others, and that is why so much public prominence was at once given to Paine's celery compound when its discovery was first announced by Prof. Phelps of Dartmouth college. The rapid and sure way that Paine's celery compound cures neuralgia, rheumatism and nervous debility is marvelous even in the eyes of this wonderful-working quarter of the century. Ancient miracles were contrary to natural laws, whereas the remarkable power of Paine's celery compound to make people well, comes from a better understanding of the natural causes of disease. That wonderful set of nerves known as the "sympathetic nervous system," that knits every part of the body together and harmonizes all, is understood today as never before. Many persons are not aware that any such nerves exist. They do not know that nothing goes on in any part of the body that every other part does not instantly "know of." The closeness of this sympathy is familiarly illustrated by headaches, indigestion, rheumatism, neuralgia, etc. About every case of sleeplessness, nervousness and dyspepsia is a "sympathetic strike" by brain, nerves or stomach, induced by the lowering of the general health. People who think to get rid of these troubles by some medicine that disregards the general health of the body are on the wrong track. In getting such diseases as neuralgia and rheumatism out of the system Paine's celery compound proceeds at once to restore a normal appetite and regulate the nerves, as the foundation for building up the health and vigor. It regulates the bowels without delay, and sees to it that the poisonous humors that are bursting through the skin, in what are, for purposes of classifying, called skin diseases, are given a ready outlet. On this basis purified blood and regulated nerves the permanent cure of every form of blood diseases, such as eczema, salt rheum, had complexion, is now assured by this really wonderful remedy. If the reader of this is not in perfect health let him simply try a first bottle of Paine's celery compound and carefully note the results.

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Advertisement for Durham Smoking Tobacco. Features a large image of a Durham cigarette pack and text: "\$250,000 To Be Given Away this year in valuable articles to smokers of Blackwell's Genuine Durham Tobacco. You will find one coupon inside each 2-ounce bag, and two coupons inside each 4-ounce bag. Buy a bag, read the coupon and see how to get your share."

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