

Daily Democrat.

THE RUSSIAN FAMINE.

From the mass of figures which has been collected to show the huge deficit in the grain crop of Europe one fact stands out in appalling prominence—the existence of a state of famine in Russia.

Already there are reports of peasants eking out existence on grass boiled in water, of people dying of hunger in the streets of the overcrowded towns and of parents trying to sell their children to save them from starvation. The reserves of grain in the country have been used up and the harvest which is being gathered is less than half a crop. Wheat is 100,000,000 bushels short, and rye, the staple food of the peasantry, is short at least 300,000,000 bushels. Instead, therefore, of being able to export 90,000,000 bushels of wheat and 60,000,000 bushels of rye, as is the case in ordinary years, Russia must import 250,000,000 bushels of grain to feed her own people.

But there is no evidence that Russia can do anything of the kind. According to Stepanak, a letter from whom is published in *Free Russia*, the relief fund of the Empire, held against such emergencies, has been reduced to 11,000,000 roubles, not a twentieth of the sum needed to cope with the present distress.

The credit of the Russian government has never been so poor as it is today, and the destitution of the peasants, who pay 85 per cent. of all the taxes, means a loss to the national treasury of probably half its ordinary income. There have been five partial famines in Russia in the last eight years, but for a parallel to the one now threatened it is necessary to go back to 1840.

A disaster of such magnitude is calculated to command the sympathy and aid of the civilized world, whatever may be the verdict on the errors of policy and administration which tend to make it worse.

Jas W Lucas an ex-confederate soldier at Louisville, Ky., has succeeded in getting a pension with large back pay. It is said he simply made the attempt in a spirit of jest knowing how the department under Raum was being run. His papers were all prepared without a single misstatement of the facts. He made affidavit that he served in Co. D. 2d Reg. Ky. Cavalry, (Confederate) and his application was signed by his ex-confederate commander. The claim went through with a rush and Lucas got the money. And yet if the *News* says a single word about the old soldier pension lumbag, the old soldiers yell 'bloody murder' and republicans and democratic bosses shake their heads and say we do an unwise thing. The pension system is the biggest fraud ever permitted to run at large unmuzzled. It's bigger than the McKinley bill, bigger than Quay's stealings, bigger than grandfather's hat. It is a gigantic fraud perpetuated for purpose of gaining votes.

A bird called the "sap sucker" was recently discovered sucking the eggs of a farmer at Eastman, Ill. The bird, with its keen, owl-like bill, had contrived to suck dozens of eggs, picking holes in them, but using very little of the contents. He was shot and the depredation ceased.

The cattle baron has passed away in Texas, and his immense pastures are being cut up into farms. A 20,000-acre pasture was cut up into farms a few weeks ago, and it realized at auction an average of between \$7 and \$8 an acre.

According to a Japanese belief the Mikado is descended from the gods, being one hundred and twenty-first in direct line of descent. Shintoism, the Japanese national religion, recognizes 8,000,000 gods and saints.

In the museum of the Dead Letter Office at Washington, D C, there is a piece of parchment upon which is penned a copy of the Lord's prayer, written in fifty-four different languages.

M Marey, by arranging his own apparatus, has succeeded in photographing the flight of insects, the exposure of the plate being necessarily not over 225,000th part of a second.

At the Dunlap Station in New Zealand, 200,000 sheep were sheared this season, and James Blakely broke the record by shearing 212 sheep in a working day of eight hours.

"The McKinley bill's at work."—St. Louis *Republic*. Yes; and the dinner pall brigade is at work, too.—*Capital Journal*. Well, yes, they are at work. They have to be in order to pay the extra tax on tin.

Within the Antarctic Circle there has never been found a flowering plant. In the Arctic regions there are 762 different species of flowers.

The accumulated saving of the working-people of Massachusetts would pay one-third of the national debt.

Glue from whale refuse is a new article of commerce in Russia.

CHOICE MEATS

Emerick & Baker,
Opposite Bohmer's Iceery Stable, next
to or to Waltham's Packing Co's show.

A Neapolitan physician has recently described a wonderful case of hysteria in one of his female patients. The case has been prolonged and aggravated, the peculiarity being in the fact that the lady thus afflicted annually (usually in the month of June) sheds both finger and toe nails. This remarkable change is preceded by a tingling sensation, especially in the thumbs and great toes, followed with suppuration at the bed of the nails. From the time of the first tingling sensation at the root of the nails, a week scarcely elapses before every nail on toe and finger has been spontaneously shed like the skin of a snake or the shell of a crab. The learned M D attributes this curious affection of the nails to a disordered nerve function.

Steamer Charleston has been ordered to Shanghai.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOUND.—In the street in front of the DEMOCRAT office, a boys coat, in good condition. Call and get it.

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AN ILLUSTRATED HORTICULTURAL monthly journal, edited by Prof. E. R. Lake. No farmer or fruit grower can afford to be without it. It PAYS whoever takes it, \$2 per year. \$1 six months, 20 cents a single number. Address, D. H. STEARNS, Portland, Oregon.

NOTICE OF SALE OF BONDS OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, OREGON.

Notice is hereby given that as authorized and provided by an act of the legislature of Oregon, entitled, "An act to incorporate the city of Albany, and to repeal all acts or parts of acts in conflict herewith," filed in the office of the secretary of the state of Oregon, February 18th, 1891, and also as provided by ordinance No 217, of said city of Albany, Oregon, the Common Council of the City of Albany, Oregon, will issue and dispose of bonds of said city at par value, to the amount of \$75,000 in denominations of \$500, payable 20 years after date of issue, with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually. Sealed proposals for the purchase of said bonds will be received by the treasurer of said city until the hour of 2 o'clock p m, Tuesday, the 1st day of September, 1891, at which time the proposals submitted will be opened and considered, and said bonds will be sold to the highest and best bidder therefor. The city treasurer hereby reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Albany, Oregon, July 30th, 1891.
H. FARWELL,
City Treasurer.

The Road to Wealth

Cannot be successfully traveled without good health. To reach wealth or any coveted position in life requires the full possession and operation of all the faculties kind nature has endowed us with. These conditions cannot exist unless the physical being is in perfect working order, and this is impossible when the liver and spleen are torpid, thus obstructing the secretions, causing indigestion and dyspepsia, with all their accompanying horrors.

DR. HENLEY'S English Dandelion Tonic exerts a specific influence over the liver, excites its healthy action, resolves its chronic engorgements, and promotes the secretions; cures indigestion and constipation, sharpens the appetite, tones up the entire system, and makes life worth living.

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Opens September 14th, 1891.

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