

# THE COLUMBIA REGISTER

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## GIANT RIVER TUNNELS.

### TAKE PLACE OF BRIDGES IN CONNECTING NEW JERSEY AND NEW YORK.

#### Completion of Borings Under Hudson River—One of Greatest of Engineering Feats.

After half a century of speculation on the practicability of tunneling the Hudson river from New Jersey to the island of Manhattan, it is now possible to walk dry-shod from Jersey to New York. The twin bores have been completed; that is, they have been cut through and cased in, though of course some finishing touches are yet to be put upon them. It was a few days ago that in the presence of the engineers, the directors and a dozen reporters, W. G. Oakman, president of the Hudson Companies, split an old brick bulkhead with a hydraulic jack and completed the first Manhattan-Jersey tunnel system. There was a six-inch gap in the wall. A gang of "ground hogs" rammed the breach a little wider, and the party crawled through into New York city.

The old wall that was cut through was seven feet thick. It is the relic of a former failure to tunnel the Hudson. Twenty-three years ago the engineers of the old Hudson Company, after cutting a considerable distance under the river, abandoned the enterprise and walled in the unfinished work with this brick bulkhead.

Two tube-tunnels run parallel beneath the Hudson river, the work of boring them being done under direction of the New York and New Jersey Railroad Company, but this company entrusted the actual performance of the work to the Hudson Companies.

The present tube has been two years in the course of construction. The tubes will cost when completed about \$13,000,000, and the entire work will cost about \$30,000,000.

#### Fifteen Feet in Diameter.

The tubes are 5,700 feet long, 15½ feet in diameter and are intended for one track each, with a sidewalk for workmen. Two tubes have been started on the New Jersey shore, to run under the river to Cortlandt and Church streets. These tubes will be 16½ feet in diameter. The tubes just completed will connect on the New Jersey shore with the Pennsylvania and the Lackawanna terminals. In Manhattan one branch will connect with the subway under Fourth avenue at Astor Place. Another branch will run to Sixth avenue and Thirty-third street. A trip through the entire length of the tunnel from the subway to Hoboken will cost only five cents. About six hundred men have been employed in the tunnels.

Cars will be running through these tube-tunnels in eighteen months. The safety of transportation in the tunnel needs no demonstration, for trains will run in a steel tube the strength of which to resist pressure has been carefully worked out. Being laid from fifteen to fifty feet below the river bed, it cannot be affected by the action of tideswater. The tube is a steel-lined hole in the earth, and except for

collisions due to operating blunders the risk of travel ought to be nil.

#### Many Tunnels to be Dug.

It having been proved practicable to tunnel beneath the Hudson river, the Pennsylvania Railroad undertaking will be pushed rapidly, and it may be expected that in course of time every trunk line coming into Jersey City will have its own tunnel. The East river piercings do not present much of a problem. In less than five years trains ought to be running from Philadelphia to Boston with no water to be crossed.

It is believed that within ten years electric trains will make the trip from Philadelphia to New York in one hour.

#### NO TURKEY STUFFING

#### Christmas Dinner Incomplete Without This Old-Fashioned Addition.

The latest and most obnoxious crank in the gastronomic line is that deluded epicure who asserts that Christmas turkey must be served without "stuffing." He says it is an anomaly, a thing without reason, an insult to the completeness of the bird. He even declares that it detracts from the sweet flavor and delicate aroma of the king of fowls. Thus he thrusts himself into the public arena, a most unwelcome "butter-in," striving to accomplish the downfall of an historic institution. He is not a true American. He has never tasted "stuffing as mother made it"—the real Simon-pure article, spooned out of the deep recesses of the royal bird in great crumbly masses that fill the room with rich aroma and the heart of man, woman and child with joy unconfined.

It is the soul of the turkey, is stuffing. With the bird itself one is always bothered about what part he will have—whether white meat or dark; whether a wing, a thigh, or a drumstick; whether the wish-bone, the liver, or "the part that went over the fence last;" but for the stuffing, American sentiment is universal. The only question is: How much does one dare to eat? And then that entrancing, sagey odor, from the mysterious "farbs" that enter into the making—as sweet as the summer breeze over new mown hay—as delicate as the fragrance of orange blossoms on a wedding day. And perchance, in addition, we shall catch the sublime suggestion of an onion, wafted into our quivering nostrils, and recalling some dear departed maternal spirit who ministered to our boyish wants in days of yore.

Turkey straight, without stuffing? Not while there is breath to sound a protest. It is the mission of civilization to mix with naked nature the toothsome miscellany of tradition; to blend the work of nature and man; to sweeten with our best endeavor the plain blessings of an all-wise Providence. That's what gave us "stuffing," and until the heart of man grows cold,—until the race loses its teeth and lives on pills and tablets and predigested pap, its multitudes will insist on turkey as mother served it. Down with theories. Give us stuffing or take the turkey back.

## FORTUNE FOR A ROSE.

### A WONDERFUL NEW VARIETY WHICH BRINGS THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

#### Is a Ravishing Pink and Crimson Tea—One to Two Hundred Thousand Dollars Expected Profit—Other Huge Figures for Flowers.

A Washington gardener has originated what is believed by expert florists to be the finest rose ever grown—the Queen Beatrice. It is a tea of a peculiar shade of pink with a touch, in the bud, of light crimson. Its particular merit lies probably in the fact that none of the beauty of its coloring is destroyed either in natural or artificial light. Added to this it has a fragrance equal to, if not superior to that of the American Beauty. The rose grows on straight and sturdy stems from two to three feet long; its parents are the two well-known va-

rieties, Liberty and Madam Chatenay, the former, one of the most popular crimson varieties, but uncertain in the production of perfect blooms. Queen Beatrice has none of the faults of its parents and combines all of their good qualities; it is resistant to insect and mildew attacks, and capable of forcing on the hothouse bench.

It was originated by Peter Bissett, and will be put on the market by Florist F. H. Kramer, of Washington. Bissett is the head gardener of Mrs. Gardiner Hubbard, the widow of the late Gardiner Hubbard, at one time president of the National Geographic Society. She is the mother-in-law of Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone. The new rose was produced at her beautiful suburban residence, Twin Oaks, just outside of the national capital.

The leading florists of the country have known of the existence of this rose for a year and have made various tempting offers for it, but it remained for Florist Kramer to offer \$30,000 and finally secure the beauty.

Such a fabulous sum for a rose seems insignificant, however, when it is remembered that but a few years ago Thomas Lawson of "Frenzied Finances" fame paid \$30,000 for a mere carnation, while the greater amount of \$125,000 was expended for the "Fiancee" carnation. It is hinted that Mr. Lawson cleaned up over \$100,000 out of the Lawson pink and the buyers of the "Fiancee" carnation easily doubled the amount expended.

Origin of the American Beauty.

And yet the "American Beauty" of whom every flower lover is fond has a very, very sad history. A number of years ago a Washington gardener who made only a specialty of garden roses, received from abroad a shipment of plants, among which was a "mongrel." This, with out-of-door culture produced very large and fragrant blooms. It attracted the attention of Thomas Fields, a Washington florist. Nothing was known by him of the forcing qualities of this rose in the greenhouse, but as he rather liked its color and general appearance, one afternoon while her husband was absent, he purchased the single plant from Mrs. Ready for five dollars. Ready, when he returned and was told of the sale, believed that his wife had asked too much for the flower. Fields experimented with the plant and found that it exceeded even his fondest hopes. He named it the "American Beauty" and probably cleared \$25,000 on this one deal. To-day Ready is still a gardener, doing odd jobs for people around town—spraying up gardens, supplying rich earth and planting shrubs.

## THE PUBLIC LAND FRAUDS.

### PRESIDENT'S PUBLIC LAND COMMISSION RECOMMENDS RADICAL CHANGES IN LAWS.

Richard Hamilton Byrd.

Three men went out west to seek their fortunes. One located in the Middle West—not the Middle West, perhaps, as it is generally known, but the central section of the western half of the United States—in the desert country. He started his successful career by taking up a government claim under the desert-land act. He was in the cattle country—the cow country—and he made his strike in cattle.

His friend went further north, still in the desert area, close to the Canadian line—in the sheep country. He took up a government homestead claim and commuted it.

The third man went into the far northwest—the Oregon country of Lewis and Clarke—and he took up a government timber claim. He located in a land where lumbering was done. And these three men became great cattle and sheep and timber kings, and incidentally landlords; and their operations while widely different were singularly similar. They filed on their government claims and at the earliest possible moment each man "proved up and sold out" for cash to larger land grabbers. And so they learned the mode and got their start toward land grabbing themselves.

The desert entryman was supposed under the law to live at least three years on his 320 acres and to expend during that period \$900 in constructing irrigation ditches and other improvements, and make it his home. This was what was promised for the law when it was slipped through Congress. As a matter of fact, this man spent a day with a team making a fake irrigation reservoir and then another day running a couple of furrows around the land, making oath that this constituted an irrigation system for its reclamation. Then within six months he "proved up," made the required payments to the government, and secured a patent to his land.

The homestead entryman, who, under the law, must reside continuously on his claim, erected a slab, one-room shanty, 10x12 feet and during a period of fourteen months slept in it just five times. This was the extent of his home making. Then he, too, made oath of what he had not done, offered the required payments to the government and secured title to his land.

The timber entryman went into the finest timber section of the United States—the dense forests of the far northwest—and under the timber and stone act, selected 100 acres of land, the timber standing upon which was worth \$75 an acre, and swearing that he wanted it for his own personal use, purchased it from the government at the fixed price of \$250 an acre and immediately disposed of it. So that within fourteen months these three men had secured from Uncle Sam an aggregate of one square mile of government land for their own benefit and use as homes, and sold it out to

No nation has ever been so reckless or has been so mercilessly robbed of its public land resources as has the United States. Since the early history of the republic, land in vast tracts has been granted to individuals and corporations, and in spite of the public attention which of late years has been directed to the matter, the absorption goes on at an alarming rate. It seems difficult for the man who has lived in the west for years to realize that there is any good reason why he should not debauch and buy out hundreds of others who are willing to sell their birthright as American citizens, thus enabling him to acquire a domain which would have been princely in the days of feudalism.

The three men above cited count their holdings to-day by the hundreds of thousands of acres, but there are western corporations and individuals whose figures mount up even into millions of acres. One can ride or drive all day through their territory, the



HON. W. A. RICHARDS, Chairman Public Lands Commission.

only signs of civilization being barbed wire fences and roaming herds, where should be hundreds and thousands of prosperous farm homes.

When President Roosevelt came into office he found government aid to irrigation a question of growing popularity. He recommended its consideration by Congress. A national irrigation law was enacted. In his following message he officially recognized the basic fraud of land laws and the menace which they afforded to the homesteading irrigation law and the next year he appointed a Public Land Commission composed of three eminent public men, well qualified to investigate the land conditions in the west.

#### Need for Land Laws Legislation.

These officials were W. A. Richards, Commissioner of the General Land Office; Gifford Pinchot, Chief of the Bureau of Forestry, and Frederick H. Newell, Chief Engineer of the National Irrigation or Reclamation Service. And this commission after a year and a half of field investigation made a short official report to Congress,



THE NEW QUEEN BEATRICE ROSE.

or \$200,000 will be made from this flower.

#### Attempted Graftings.

Various artifices have been tried by clever but unscrupulous people to obtain specimens of the "Queen Beatrice" rose, many coming into the Kramer establishment where a huge bouquet of the blooms was on exhibition, offering to purchase at large prices a single flower for a boutonniere. Others have gone so far as to order elaborate funeral designs with the proviso that nothing but this particular kind of rose be used. These were only dodges to obtain the healthy wood for slipping and growing, for the best time to make rose cuttings is either just before or immediately after the plant comes into bloom.

#### Grown at Gardiner Hubbard Mansion

One Washington florist who originated the "Ivory" rose—a handsome white flower, and a sport of "Golden Gate"—was unwise enough to sell cut flowers, thereby enabling the purchasers to propagate the variety cheaply.

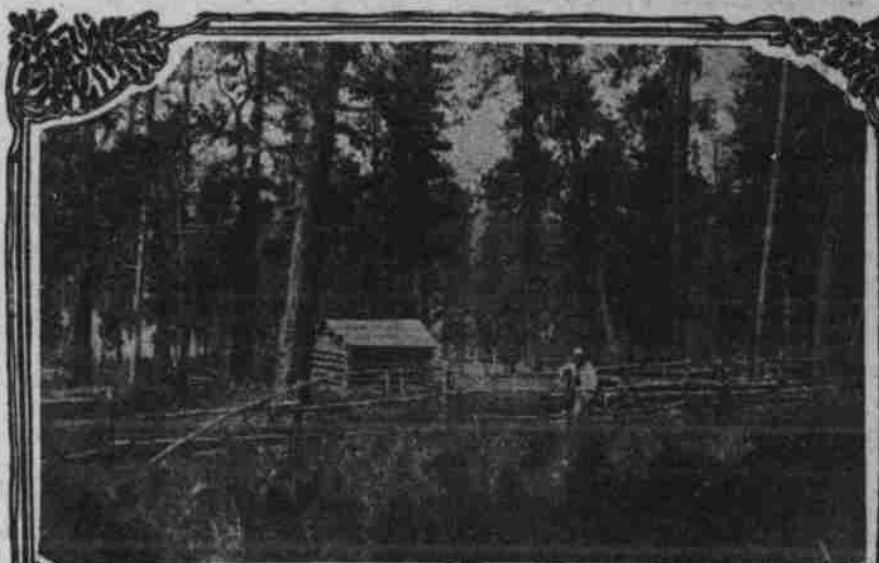
The Washington Florists' Club recently awarded the new "Queen Beatrice" rose a certificate of merit, the first of the kind ever given by the club. The new flower is so striking and beautiful that every member of the club consented to the award.

#### Comfort on Uncle Sam's Ample Breast.

"Cupid is one of the best-recruiting officers that Uncle Sam has," confided one of the sergeants attached to the recruiting headquarters. "Back of nearly every enlistment there is a woman in the case. Lovers quarrels chase a lot of fine lads into the service. Your romantic youth gravitates to the recruiting office after a serious break with his sweetheart as naturally as a duck takes to water. It seems to him the most fitting way in which to sacrifice himself when love's young dream is apparently dispelled. Way down in his heart he nurses the idea of making his erstwhile innamorata sad, and it's the army or navy, with the possibility of death in battle, for the possibility of death in battle, for him. Again, other first class material is recruited by the desire of young fellows to sport a uniform before their girls. In such cases Cupid does his recruiting through vanity. But in both ways he manages to fill up big gaps in the ranks of Uncle Sam's fighters."

One of the richest boys in the world is the adopted son of the late millionaire, Zeigler. He is fourteen years old and will inherit nearly \$20,000,000.

Edwin Booth for a long time averaged twenty-five cigars each day.



HOMESTEAD ENTRY IN EASTERN OREGON OF JOHN J. MURPHY. Made to Secure Valuable Timber Lands.—Entryman is cook in an adjoining Lumber Camp

those who were buying hundreds of such claims and then went looking for further speculation.

#### Typical Cases of Fraud.

These three cases are cited simply because they are typical of thousands and hundreds of thousands of instances which could be related of the great west where the government still owns half a billion acres of land, although another half billion have passed into private ownership under the various loose and really fraudulent land laws with which the statute book is clogged.

which was published as Senate Document 154, 58th Congress, 3d Session. It is herewith published in part, showing as it does the necessity for energetic action by Congress on one of the most vital questions of the day, namely, the correction of the national abuse which is taking away from the American homeseeker the opportunity to acquire a piece of land and rear thereon a home for himself and his family. This subject will be further considered in next week's issue, which will include an additional section of this report.

58TH CONGRESS, 3d Session. SENATE DOCUMENT NO. 154.

### PUBLIC LANDS COMMISSION

#### MESSAGE

FROM THE

### PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

SUBMITTING

### THE SECOND PARTIAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC LANDS COMMISSION, APPOINTED OCTOBER 22, 1903, TO REPORT UPON THE CONDITION, OPERATION, AND EFFECT OF THE PRESENT LAND LAWS.

To the Senate and House of Representatives: I submit herewith the second partial report of the Public Lands Commission, appointed by me October 22, 1903, to report upon the condition, operation, and effect of the present land laws and to recommend such changes as are needed to effect the largest practical disposition of the public lands to actual settlers who will build homes upon them and to secure hereon the fullest and most effective use of the resources of the public lands. The subject is one of such magnitude and importance that I the larger features which require immediate attention without waiting for



THE UNCONVENTIONAL SARAH.

It was Thomas Carlyle who said that all genius was akin to savagery. Sarah Bernhardt exemplifies this in the bucolic of her chateau in Paris. Mme. Bernhardt is a perfect barbarian in her defiance of all the conventionalities regarding color schemes. Her sleeping room is hung in royal purple, decorated with peacock plumes. Over her Louis XVI. bed is a canopy made of unspun silk taken directly from the silkworm cocoon. A great splash of crimson satin, in the form of a shield, adorns the center. The walls are hung in old tapestries, and in the interstices

of the hangings are row after row of tiny monkey skulls, the eye sockets of which are illumined with electric lights.

The "divine Sarah" has parted with her pet tiger, and now has for a companion a large and ugly baboon, whose ears have been pierced so that they may carry huge rings of solid gold. Bernhardt is said to look as young as she did twenty years ago. Her face is without wrinkles, and her step is as spry and her manner as vivacious as when she first electrified her native city as an actress.