

COLORADO SANDS

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Enormous Salt Beds.

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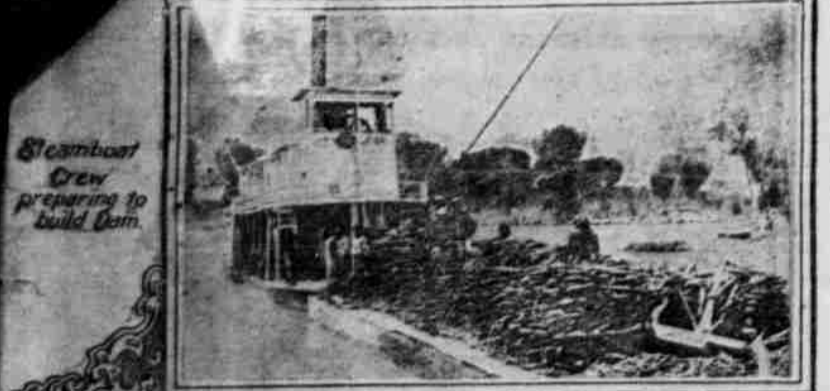
of construction on the part of the road which happens to be located by, and of some little disquietude several thousand settlers are apparently threatened. The erratic stream can be returned to the old pathway by the volume of this great water. The Sink has already become an inland sea, spreading out for miles in one direction and 80 miles another, and growing daily.

The Great Force of Nature.
Passengers on the train now exclaim with wonder as they look out on the broad sea reaching to the distant horizon, where but a short

building up its delta, higher and higher until today the bed of the river is above the valley on either side. Once it cut its banks and the stream spreads out all over the country. About four years ago a large corporation, imbued with the laudable purpose of making homes for settlers in the Salton Desert, completed a big canal leading in the river below Yuma and almost on the International boundary. The canal was a large one, 60 feet on the bottom, and carried a great amount of water through Mexico into California on to the area now called Imperial Valley. The canal heading, owing to the character of the banks of the stream, was insecure. It has always been a source of trouble and annoyance. The river resented it as an obstruction in its course and deposited great banks of silt in front of it and then proceeded to cut a channel around it. They were used constantly to the hearing open.

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Statement.
Dr. William Osler, late professor in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, met with a great deal of undeserved notoriety because he was misunderstood when he said the creative faculty disappeared usually at the age of forty years. He did not mean to convey the impression that man's usefulness ceased at that time, but that the imaginative faculty was not as active then as it was in earlier years, when men are green and raw in judgment and put forth many things that they wish to have suppressed later on. His little jest about chloroforming those who "lag superfluous on the stage" was meant to apply only to teachers who failed to move with the advanced thought and had a special humorous reference to himself, but the miscomprehension and exaggeration of the press has magnified his utterance and given it a sweep he never intended.

Must Seek New Fields.
When the acquisition of knowledge is used merely as a means through which to earn bread, that is the end of a man's career, whether he be thirty or forty or a thousand years old. Men who seek no new fields of exploration nor carry forward to fulfillment any work they attempt in early days are mere drones in the hives of life.

Dr. Osler, who is close to the sixty year line, has gone to England to take a professorship of medicine in Oxford University, which will without doubt lead to an increase of his professional fame, which did not come to him until after he had passed the half century post in his journey of life. His parting injunction to his medical associates in America, at the Washington meeting in May, was to follow the Golden Rule in all their actions, and to cultivate that moderation which is said to be the golden thread running through all the virtues. This advice is not new, but it cannot be repeated too often in an age when many men are striving to shove their neighbors to the wall in their desire to occupy the middle of the road themselves. Man is naturally a selfish animal and needs to be often reminded that he must do unto others as he would have them do unto him, even if he desires to attain more worldly success. The man who has no consideration for his laboring fellows is likely to find no consideration extended to him when the hour of misfortune comes.

Best Work Late in Life.
Dr. Osler never depreciated age, knowing that man's best work is done after age has mellowed his understanding and strengthened his judgment. There are numerous examples of what virility in age can do all along the track of history. It was seen in Benjamin Franklin, William E. Gladstone, is seen in Edward Everett Hale, Lord Kelvin, Charles H. Haswell, engineer and author, still at the age of 97 at his desk in New York, and other names will occur by scores to general readers.

It is an inflexible law of nature that the being who does not progress must retrograde. There is no place on this fearful ascent of life where, spiritually and intellectually, we are not forced to go forward lest we slip back. But it is a happy provision in nature that even in the longest life there is no arbitrarily fixed point of time where expansion must cease as if by a fiat, where there are no more heights before the soul to climb, no more views to be obtained, no broadening and extending of the vision possible. Always a new bud may be seen in the almost bough of the trunk which nourishing sap

CUSTOMS.
Cooked the the it to by 1

Rest the Bones of Pocahontas.
The proposition to bring back to the ancient city of Jamestown the body of Pocahontas, in connection with the exposition at that place, has aroused considerable indignation, both in England and in America, by people who believe that such a step is nothing more than a move intended as a side-show feature of the exposition. While it is true there have been instances of a disturbance of a grave made hundreds of years ago, as in the recent case of Admiral John Paul Jones, still the cases had much to do with the preservation of the American nation and navy; the other was the central figure in a bit of fiction surrounding the settlement of this country by English settlers. Pocahontas, it is true, was a native American, which John Paul Jones was not, but Pocahontas married an Englishman, lived and died in England, and the traditions of her later life were surrounded by all that is English.

A Bright Retort.
The ancient story of the Chinaman who, when asked at what hour the spirits consumed the food thus offered to them, replied that it was at the same hour chosen by our dead for smelling flowers we similarly place, is always pertinent to discussion of this mystery, and reflection on the story has the admirable effect of giving a new standpoint from which to study the "outlandish" custom of our useful but unloved guests. In all these things it is the thinking so that constitutes right, propriety and congruity. The Chinese ceremonies do show affectionate or pious remembrance, and whether the dead are indifferent or not, the reflex action on the living is effectively brought to bear.

Black Friday.
"Now, children," said the Sunday school teacher, addressing the juvenile class, "can any of you tell me anything about Good Friday?"
"Yes, ma'am, I can," replied a boy. "He was the colored man what done the housework for Robinson Crusoe."

A Good Buggy For Sale.
Leeville (Mo.) Light: Luke Belmont's new buggy is for sale. He got married last week, you know.

Officers and Men.
The American naval officer and the Jacky smoke and chew. This is a fact of which the Government takes official cognizance and recognizes in a way that makes such habits inexpensive incidents to life on board ship. Recently the Navy Department had under consideration the award of a contract for 150,000 pounds of cut plug tobacco, and in November next bids will be called for another supply of like amount. The contract under which the supply is now being furnished was secured on a basis of a bid of 40 cents a pound. Twenty-nine bids are now under consideration, the prices ranging from 30 1/2 cents a pound to 48 cents. The contract will not necessarily be let to the lowest bidder, but to the one supplying at the lowest price the grade best suited for the purpose.

Practical Chewing Tests.
Each bidder is required to submit a sample of the tobacco to be furnished, and these, after the factory labels are removed and secret identification marks substituted, are divided into small lots, part being sent to a chemist for analysis, and a goodly supply going to the various navy yards for distribution among officers and men for practical test, the opinion of the officers and "jackies" being taken before the award is made. Final results are reached by the process of elimination, until the selection of the chewers dwindles down to two or three samples which are bound to be favorites. These favorites are then taken up with regard to the chemical test, and the contract is awarded, so that perhaps the lowest bidder has no consideration whatever when the final result is obtained.

While heretofore the navy supplied the men with the tobacco in a very inferior article free of cost, the Government now insists upon the best grade, which it sells to the sailor at the contract price, plus a very small percentage to cover the cost of handling. Only such tobaccos are considered which are manufactured from pure leaf tobacco of the growth of the current or preceding year in which the contract is made, and which shall have undergone a natural sweat.

How to Tell Counterfeits.

Any visitor to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing where Uncle Sam is printing the much sought-after greenbacks, comes away impressed with the intricacies of the manufacturing of a paper note. Few, indeed, understand the rule of four adopted by the Government as an aid in thwarting the plans of counterfeiters. Acquaintance with the rule of four, might help many people of the outside world in detecting counterfeit money. Every note printed by the Government—national currency and not bank notes—contains a number and a letter, no two bills having the same number. These are printed, as the visitor can see, in the blocks of four as they leave the plate printer's table. For instance, a number will be found on a note, 88,383 with the letter C in the upper left hand and lower right hand corners; another bill bears the number 79,988 D; another 42,506 B. These numbers and letters have a relation for each other and are easily determined. The last two numbers on the note determine, when divided by four, the letter to be found in the two corners. Should the last two numbers be divisible by four, with a remainder of one, the letter appearing should be A; if two remain, B; if three remain, C; and if the last two numbers are exactly divisible by four, with no remainder, the letter appearing should be D.

THE DUTY OF CONGRESS IS TO AMEND FAULTY AND ANTI-QUATED LAND LAWS.

President Hill, of the Great Northern Railroad, calls attention to Enormous Disposals of Government Land Without Settlement into Homes.
From the Philadelphia Bulletin.
There will be people ill-natured enough to charge that President Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, did not come into court with entirely clean hands in the vigorous denunciation of the land-grabbers contained in his recent speech before the National Irrigation Congress at Portland. This, however, does not necessarily detract from the truth of his charges. Perhaps few men in the country are better qualified to speak upon the blighting effects of the dishonest policy which has appropriated millions of acres of valuable lands, only to exclude from them the actual settlers who would have developed them.

President Hill is a railroad manager, and railroads depend for profit upon a traffic afforded by a populous and well-cultivated country. A railroad tending through territory without farms or farmers, towns or industrial communities must suffer serious disadvantages. Where great tracts of land are owned and controlled by mere speculators, development is impossible. It is very likely that President Hill spoke by the card when he charged that those who go upon Government land at this time for the purpose of making homes are only a handful.

Rapid Disposals of Public Lands.
His figures, showing the rapid increase in area of public lands which have passed into private ownership since 1898, possess a significance that is startling. Nearly 90,000,000 acres, a total area equal to three times that of the State of Pennsylvania, have been awarded to private owners in the six years from 1898 to 1903, inclusive, very little of which—according to President Hill—has become the property of home-stead seekers. The bulk of it has become the holdings of the lumber kings, cattle barons, and speculators pure and simple. It is evident that there are more men who deserve the penalties of the law which have lately been inflicted upon Senator Mitchell, of Oregon.

The duty of Congress in this connection is unmistakable. The laws under which this vast domain has been secured by private interests with no intention of opening it to development should be repealed or amended to prevent any further looting of the public lands.

The Modern Rash.
From the Chicago Times-Herald.
He didn't have time to chew
The food that he had to eat;
But he washed it into his throat
As if time was a thing to beat.
At breakfast and lunch and dinner
'Twas a bite and a gulp and go—
Oh, the crowd is so terribly eager,
And a man has to hurry so!
A bite and a gulp and away
To the books and the ticker! A bite
And a drink and a smoke and a seat
At a card table half of the night;
A pressure, a click and a pailor,
A cloth-covered box and a song;
A weary old fellow at forty,
Who is deaf to the noise of the throng.

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