

sons and daughters. Among the former is Thomas S. Ashworth, the well known tenor singer, and among the daughters is Mrs. Chapman of East Mill Creek. Mrs. John Hill, of Mill Creek, and Mrs. Daniel Bryant. Mr. T. S. Ashworth's address is 603 Fourth East street, Salt Lake City.

I often read in the columns of your paper articles treating upon the varied resources of our State, which, if developed, would be sufficient to give employment to a far greater number of people than there are in the State at present. But I suppose we will have to be content with the mere knowledge that we possess these facilities, leaving the benefits that might accrue therefrom for some future generation to enjoy. However, I am pleased to state that another article of much value has been added to the list; one I hope will come in for immediate use. This I discovered the other day when I visited my canalgate patch, finding that it had survived the winter in good shape. The per cent of tannic acid in this root is very high, making it one of the most valuable articles in that line. I hope soon to produce it in sufficient quantities for manufacturing purposes.

W. D. WILLIAMS.

Payson, March 26, 1898.

I have before me your Semi-Weekly issue of March 2nd, 1898, and have been reading an article on Hog Millet, written by Wm. Coleman from McCook, Neb. Will he please tell us something about the culture of hog millet? He says the drier and hotter the climate the better. Does it need irrigating? at all; and if so, how much? What kind of land is best suited to it? Does it need planting every year? How much seed per acre will it grow on poor land, or must it be fertilized to obtain good results? What is the price of seed, etc.?

I also see an article in the same issue on canal building. I think the writer's views are good. He says he sent you a form of check used. Will you please publish it and any other information you may have on the subject?

L. S. H.

[As to the article on canal building, the "News" gave fully the plan and views of its correspondent. It also published, as plainly as it knew how, the description and substance of the check or scrip referred to. EDITOR.]

San Francisco, March 22.—Upon the arrival of the Pacific Coast Steamship company's steamer Santa Rosa from San Diego today, the news was received here of another horrible accident, indirectly attributable to the Alaskan gold excitement, which is believed to have cost the lives of forty passengers and sailors. Capt. Alexander of the Santa Rosa reported that early this morning, while nine miles off Point Bonita, at the mouth of the Golden Gate, he sighted a derelict, bottom up. The tug Sea Watch was immediately dispatched to the point indicated, and found the derelict to be the bark Helen W. Almy, Capt. Hogan, which sailed hence for Copper River points with twenty-seven passengers and a crew of thirteen on Sunday last. While there were no signs of boats among the wreckage, it is not believed that her passengers and crew escaped by putting off from the vessel in them, as there has been a heavy sea for several days past. Furthermore, no word has been received from the survivors, if any exist, although the derelict was sighted within ten miles of this port, and forty-eight hours have passed since the wreck occurred.

According to the tugboat men, there was a pretty stiff breeze when the Almy sailed out of the Golden Gate on Sunday last, and by night it was blowing a gale.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IN THE HOLY LAND.

Haifa, Feb. 21, 1898.

We have now safely arrived in the land of Israel. We have had a most pleasant trip; the weather has been cold all along the line according to the different climes we have passed through; still, the voyages have been very nice; the seas have been seemingly prepared to order. Our ship, Waesland, beat her own record in years over the Atlantic and landed us a day ahead of time in Liverpool. The Mediterranean had all her storming over when we got there, presumably that we might have a pleasant voyage, as we are otherwise poor sailors.

We arrived in Jaffa Thursday, Feb. 17th, and being in charge of Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son's agent, we passed the customs without any trouble and our brother Hagob Gagasian, the Armenian, who is with us also, slipped through without detention and received his pass O. K.

From Jaffa we went by land two days' journey to Haifa, where we were kindly received by the Saints.

While journeying to Haifa we put up one night at El Khedera, a Jewish colony. This is a new move, having been established since your correspondent was here before. This move is quite unlike the former Jewish colonization schemes inaugurated by the rich Jews who have supported the settlers. The Jews of El Khedera are independent and they hail mostly from Russia. They felt that as they were driven from pillar to post by the various nations and that, as they were now being persecuted by the Russian government it would be very opportune for them to go to the land of promise and make an attempt to redeem the barren wastes. They did so about eight years ago and it resulted in the founding of El Khedera. There are now over twenty Jewish colonies in the land of Palestine.

These Russian Jews formed a committee and at once set about for business. They found one Mr. Lelim Khoury, at Beyrout, Syria, who had a lot of land for sale and bought of him about 7,000 acres for \$126,000 or at the rate of \$18 per acre. This seemed stiff, of course, but they obtained a nice large piece of land. The village was remodeled and a fine location was found on a hill from which the Mediterranean can easily be seen. It is a little south of Cesarea, the former home of the pious Cornelius, probably within four miles of that ancient city. Their village is built to a hollow square opening out to the north and has now about twenty-five houses. They have splendid soil around the settlement and a well near supplies the water. They have planted many grape vines which bear well. They find a market for their grapes at Sannarin at Baron Hirsch's wine press. Figs they grow for home consumption; they tell us they are not profitable for them to market. Oranges and lemons can be grown in abundance, but these two kinds of fruits require special attention and water, they are therefore not too plentiful. To produce these fruits they have to build reservoirs and provide wells and holsting works in order to have water.

The reader will remember that Palestine is a poorly watered country outside of the Jordan valley and a couple of other places. Water is, however, raised in sufficient quantities in the most primitive forms either by buckets or by an ox and a wheel so that after all the fruit is not so expensive. Almonds, olives and pomegranates and

the like can be grown without artificial watering, the rains being sufficient. Many shade trees are planted to make the country more healthy, prominent among which are the cypress and the eucalyptus; wheat, barley, peas, horsebeans and mandrake as well as some other products, are grown for home use and exportation. Vegetables of all kinds do exceedingly well. The people looked to us to be a rather nice specimen of the Jewish race. They appeared clean and interested in their undertaking and all together we were very favorably impressed with their appearance and also with their pluck and determination. They were kind to us and entertained us willingly, and a very affable and learned man, Dr. Selim Soskins, kindly gave us all the information we desired concerning the whole scheme.

Now it is not all sunshine in building up a new country, and particularly so in a half civilized land. Right in the midst of a village of Bedouins were camped. They worked for the village and at night the men were watchmen, being held responsible for anything lost. This might seem good enough, but those black neighbors did not look very inviting. The Jews, however, said that they were perfectly safe and that no one molested them.

They had, however, a far worse enemy to contend with than the Bedouins. This enemy manages to drive them out of their village to some other more congenial place for two months each year. This enemy concealed itself in two large swamps for ten months in the year, and in August and September the enemy swarmed out in myriads of fever germs, forcing the settlers to flee to save their lives.

To remove this enemy they have had to drain at great cost and have now succeeded in draining one swamp, but the one to the west has not yet been removed, this will cost upwards of \$30,000 to drain properly. The colony is not able to do this at present, but they expect to accomplish it in course of time. Then, says Dr. Soskins, that colony will grow rapidly. In two or three years after this swamp is removed you will not be able to recognize El Khedera of the past as we have every needed facility to make a handsome and prosperous settlement here.

The houses are built largely of rock and covered with red tile which are imported from Europe, their houses are thus easily distinguished from the Arabian villages which are dirt-covered and often very horrid looking. Some of the Arabian villages are mere mud heaps and often one has to look a second time to see what they really are. Some have as much grass on their roofs as on their fields near by, so that in looking at them, at first they appear like a green mound with trenches or caves cut through a hill, but after all they are really houses with small, narrow streets running between them.

The cattle in this region are of a little different cast to those of other places; they are very small and of a black, bald-faced tendency. They are valued at about \$15 per head. Sheep and goats are worth about \$2 per head, according to kind and size. Horses here are small and very inferior, although they are said to be capable of great endurance. They are worth about \$30 per head for an average horse. The Arabian steeds of which we read are not in sight of the average man, i. e. they are very few and far between.

The colonists have demonstrated the fact that they can live and even do well. Dr. Soskins says that most of those coming from Russia are trading