

## EDITORIALS.

## SAGE BRUSH LAND.

THE following comes in a Colorado exchange—

"The Nevada State Journal informs the public that 'sagebrush land,' which has been looked upon as a 'synonym of sterility,' can be cultivated to advantage by the aid of irrigation, and that it will produce three or four crops of alfalfa in a year.

"Utah demonstrated the natural fertility of 'sagebrush land' before ever Nevada existed as a state. The hardy pioneers of this territory have raised all kinds of cereals and the fruits of this latitude from sagebrush land. Our finest gardens and orchards were once covered with sage, and the thousands of acres which still yield nothing else at present but the synonym for sterility, only wait the extension of canals and irrigating ditches, and the hands of working farmers, to burst forth into the glory of golden wheat and tasseled corn, the bloom of fruit trees and the blossoms of bright hued flowers. Sagebrush land is as good as any that lies out of doors."

The exact truth about anything is sometimes very hard to get at. So far as we know, sagebrush land is not "as good as any that lies out of doors," for general agricultural purposes. The best land is, the fine, friable, alluvial, black bottom land. That kind of land is as rich as land can be, as "fat as butter," and will produce almost anything for years without fertilizers and without giving indications of exhaustion. It is opulent in all the elements of fertility. Much sagebrush land is very good land, but generally it is second rate land, yet it will produce fair crops of many varieties, fruit especially, and usually of the small grains.

It is true enough that Utah demonstrated the natural fertility of sagebrush land, and indeed of all the land in this Rocky Mountain region. A service worth hundreds of millions of dollars to the nation.

## THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

THE Omaha *Herald* indorses the New Secretary to a certain extent, an important extent in these days—the extent that he is peculiarly honest. The *Herald* says—

"Zachariah Chandler will not steal money. We do not believe he will knowingly assist others to steal money. Whatever else he may be, Mr. Chandler is not a thief. To this extent we endorse the new Secretary of the Interior."

Further, our Omaha contemporary claims that the appointment of Chandler means Michigan for Grant and the third term in the republican national convention.

On the other hand, the dispatches in to-day's NEWS state that Bristow and Pierpont, and probably other members of the cabinet, are not at all pleased over the appointment, though they may not indulge their chagrin to the extent of resigning.

However, as things go, it is a thing to be thankful for to have a man in office who won't steal, as stealing, in one shape or other, seems to be the darling propensity in American official life.

## PLANT TREES.

"He who plants trees plants for his heirs," is an old saying, and to some extent a true one. If a man has nothing else to leave to his heir but a piece of land well stocked with trees, he has that which is capable of affording them a great amount of pleasure. But the enjoyment does not all go to his heirs, he can reap much of the satisfaction arising from growing trees himself, whether these trees be for fruit, timber, shade, or ornament, as many of our citizens have proved hereabout in the midst of the "Great American Desert." There are trees here, planted by the citizens, which are 12 or 15 inches or more in diameter of trunk, and

some of them, the locust for instance, make excellent firewood, lumber and posts. A man in ten or a dozen years may grow locust trees for fence posts and poles and various other purposes, and annually almost from the commencement cut a large amount of very good firewood for his own use besides. As for fruit, after three or four years the tree planter begins to see handsome returns, which increase in quantity year by year, and never wholly give out during the term of his natural life. Then again, trees greatly modify and ameliorate a climate, and this is a climate which needs considerable amelioration before it can be fairly entitled to the designation mild and genial. At present it is too harsh, too fierce, too arid, too much given to sudden sharp contrasts and unpleasant extremes of temperature to be called either mild or genial. So that tree-planters in Utah really plant more for themselves than for their heirs.

A grassless, treeless expanse of country cannot be termed very beautiful or inviting. With those two adjuncts in liberal quantity, almost any expanse, even the otherwise baldest and nakedest plain, is transformed, into a vision of beauty, an earthly paradise. Therefore grow trees and grass, but especially trees, if you wish to make your homes and country beautiful, delightful to the eye and dear to the heart.

In some States there is a public premium given for the planting and culture of trees, Nebraska and California for instance. Congress also has passed laws, not very satisfactory, it is true, looking in the same direction. He who plants shade and ornamental trees and cares for them four years, along the highways, on public grounds and about the public buildings in California, is entitled to one dollar for every tree so planted and cared for.

There is no territorial, county, or municipal bounty in Utah for the planting or cultivation of trees, but we have thought that if the money needlessly spent in vexatious and malicious litigation were judiciously appropriated to such a purpose, this Territory would soon present the appearance of a vast forest, rather than that of a bare, bleak, verdureless desert, and become indeed one of the most beautiful portions of the Union.

Now is the time to do Fall planting of trees, and to obtain trees for early Spring planting. Nurserymen and others who have trees to sell should let the public know it, and farmers and the citizens generally should recollect that groves, rows, or clumps of trees add immensely to the value and the beauty of a homestead, a farm, a town, a city, or a country. Therefore, concludingly, we say again, plant trees.

## THE PHYLLOXERA.

A MINUTE insect, that infests the roots, has caused immense damage to the vine in France, and hitherto little headway has been made in counteracting the ravages of this little destroyer. It also does considerable injury to vines in California. The insect is said to have been taken to France from the Western States of America, and following up this clue M. Planchon, a French naturalist, visited this country, in order to study the nature of the insect in the land of which it is an aborigine. He found abundance of the phylloxera in Illinois and Missouri, but they did not appear to damage the vines, which he discovered, on further investigation, to be due to the labors of another insect, which destroyed the phylloxera in large numbers. The *London Telegraph* has this to say upon M. Planchon's timely and desirable discovery—

"It is not the nestling sparrow he pressed into his service, but the nestling acarus—a species of American 'plant lion'—which lives upon the phylloxera, hunts it down, pursues it from leaf to leaf, burrows after it in the underground lairs, where it lies hid in winter, sucking the sweet juices of the root—seizes it, fastens upon it, sucks its blood as a spider sucks a fly, throws aside the shrivelled carcass and rushes off at once with insatiable ferocity in quest of a fresh victim. It is the old story of Columbus and the egg over again.

The thing is simple enough when we once know the trick. France, to her sorrow, imported the phylloxera, but did not with it at the same time import the acarus—much as Australia has imported the thistle but not the goldfinch, the rabbit, but not the stoat and fox. M. Planchon's joy when the secret first opened itself to him—when closely watching the infected Illinois vines he saw the acarus chasing his victim from leaf to leaf—can be easily imagined. Here at last was the wished-for physician—the tiny creature who was to sweep the vineyards of fair France as clear of their terrible pest as the hedgehog sweeps the English kitchen of its swarms of cockroaches. With trembling hand were specimens of this little bug collected; with tender care were they placed in huge chip boxes and supplied with their favorite food; with delight almost extravagant were they first exhibited at the Academie des Sciences, and then turned out to fight the good fight in the devastated vineyards, wherein, if they do not fight, thrive and multiply, it will not be at any rate for want of a sufficient supply of their proper food. It is the old story, after all, which we have so often heard before, of the wonderful subtlety with which nature keeps her balances ever adjusted. There is not a creature living but serves some useful purpose. Flies and cockroaches, rats and mice and other such small deer are the very best of scavengers, doing for us on the lower scale the same work that in the East is done by the vulture and the crocodile. The small birds to whom the farmer is now forced by Act of Parliament to show a certain modicum of mercy, keep down our insect plagues. Had France allowed her little feathered friends to breed as freely as they breed in our English orchards and hedgerows, she would in all probability not have had to import the phylloxera-eating acarus. We can never interfere with nature's work but to spoil it, and as we extirpate any living thing, so sure, sooner or later, will some plague rise up to warn us of our folly. So bound together, indeed, is the whole world, that, could we succeed—which we cannot—in destroying a single atom, the universe would collapse. It is but of late that we have learnt how a country depends for its rainfall upon its forests, and how forest planting is the best of all modes of checking drought. So science, which cares for the greatest things, cares for the smallest also, and can, by the importation of a tiny bug—a dozen of which could lie on a sixpence—check a calamity which was national in its extent, and at one time bade fair to threaten the prosperity of one of the most powerful nations in Europe."

## FISH CULTURE.

THE Sacramento *Record-Union* of Oct. 19 has the following in regard to fish culture in the West—

"From one of the State Fish Commissioners we learn that the quarter of a million salmon eggs, from the United States fishery on the McCloud, that were to have been hatched out in Kern River, but were destroyed in one night last week by the alkali in the water—that these eggs were one half of Charles Crocker's donation to the State. The other 250,000, which were sent over to Truckee, are doing well in Truckee River, and will probably be a success. Mr. Crocker, determined that the State shall receive all that he proposed to give, has arranged for the securing of 250,000 more young salmon, which, with the 1,000,000 contributed by Governor Stanford, will be placed in the Sacramento river next week."

"The California Fish Commissioners have received information from Washington that the eggs of the king carp, recently obtained from the Danube and Rhine, were being hatched out at Baltimore, and were doing well, and that and other supply would be received next season, from which California would be furnished a fair number of young fish, to be placed in various sloughs and other bodies of still water, they being a vegetable eating fish."

"From Livingston Stone we have obtained the results of this season's campaign at the United States salmon-breeding establishment on the McCloud river, which are as follows: Shipped to Connecticut,

480,000; Massachusetts, 80,000; Rhode Island, 200,000; New York, 80,000; New Jersey, 320,000; Pennsylvania, 480,000; Maryland, 560,000; Virginia, 320,000; Michigan, 800,000; Illinois, 80,000; Wisconsin, 40,000; Minnesota, 400,000; Iowa, 800,000; Colorado, 240,000; Utah, 160,000; for the State of California, 500,000; shipped to Canada, 80,000; New Zealand, 50,000; N. W. Clarke, for the United States Fish Commission, 1,000,000; now hatching at the establishment for the Sacramento river and its tributaries, 2,000,000. Total impregnated eggs taken 8,170,000.

## Local and Other Matters.

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY, OCT. 26.

**Names of Missionaries.**—In the list of the names of missionaries called last Sunday, and published in yesterday's NEWS, for *Lyman S. Wood* read *Lyman G. Wood*.

**Palace Hotel.**—We have received a beautiful photograph of the new grand Palace Hotel at San Francisco, with compliments of Bradley & Rulofson, of that city. It is a magnificent building.

**Brigham City.**—We learn, by private letter from Brigham City, that a large number of the people there were baptized the other day, for a renewal of their covenants, and an excellent feeling prevailed in reference to sustaining the work of the Lord.

**Waterworks Progressing.**—The pipes on East Temple Street have been laid a distance of over two blocks from a short distance north of Second South Street to Fourth South Street. The excavations on the same street north of where the pipes have been laid will probably be completed to-morrow.

**Equally Divided.**—The school report of the number of children between the ages of four and fourteen years in Brighton District shows the number there to be one hundred and twenty-two, and discloses the somewhat unusual fact that the sexes are equally divided, sixty-one boys and sixty-one girls.

**A Great Conflagration.**—It will be seen by western dispatches that the whole of the business part of Virginia City, Nevada, is a thing of the past, having been completely consumed by a great conflagration to-day. The loss of property by this extensive fire must be immense.

**Departure of Missionaries.**—The missionaries appointed for Europe at the late Conference, left on their eastward journey this morning, and expect to sail from New York on or about November 3d.

Mrs. S. P. Teasdel, who goes to Europe for the benefit of her health, accompanied by her daughter, travels with the brethren.

**Hatching Out.**—The large quantity of salmon eggs recently received by Mr. A. P. Rockwood, from the U. S. Salmon Hatching Station, on the McLeod River, Cal., and placed in the hatching boxes at Fish Farm, are already hatching out, about one tenth of them being already in that condition. That is quicker than usual, eleven days, twenty days being considered about the ordinary time.

**U. C. R. R. Market Train.**—The Utah Central Railroad Company will run a market train from Ogden and intermediate places to Salt Lake City and return every Saturday, commencing Oct. 30, leaving Ogden at 5 a. m., and Salt Lake City at 5.05 p. m. Full fare for the round trip \$1.50, intermediate places in proportion. This will be a great accommodation to the country people.

**Federal Officers in Utah.**—Washington, Oct. 22.—It is understood that the President has in contemplation the removal of all federal officers in Utah who hold to the Mormon faith, whether they are polygamists or not. There are several postmasters in Utah, who believe in Mormonism but reject polygamy, and although they are regarded as thoroughly competent, the President is disposed to fill their places with Gentiles.—*Omaha Bee*.

**Amputation.**—A few days ago a young married man, named Francis Sells, came up to the City from Nephi, his place of residence, to obtain surgical relief for a disease that he had contracted in the knee joint of his right leg. He was attended by Dr. W. F. Anderson,

who performed an operation upon the young man, but, in doing so, discovered that the bone was in such an advanced state of decay that nothing but amputation of the limb could be done for the relief of the patient, and consequently, he consenting, the leg was amputated some distance above the affected joint, the operation being successfully performed by Dr. Joseph Richards, and the patient has been doing very well ever since, all the symptoms being favorable to his recovery. Drs. W. F. Anderson and Heber Richards were present on the occasion.

The patient is staying, until able to remove to his home in Nephi, at the house of Mrs. Macdonald, in the 13th Ward, where he is well cared for. His having, unexpectedly to himself, to undergo the operation of amputation, involving a somewhat prolonged stay in the city, necessarily brings a considerable amount of expense, beyond his present ability to meet, and his case is one that is worthy the attention of the benevolently inclined, his present circumstances presenting a good opportunity for any of his friends so disposed to render him some assistance pecuniarily. He is a respectable young man, who has been in the Territory nine years, having come to this country in the company which crossed the ocean in the ship *American Congress*, in 1883. Subscriptions can be left for him with John Nicholson, at this office, or parties disposed to aid him can call at his boarding house, near the residence of Mr. Joseph E. Taylor.

## NEWS NOTES.

A woman has been sent to jail at Montreal for whipping her husband.

The Rev. Miss C. E. Angell ministers unto the Universalist congregation of Kittery, Me.

"Gail Hamilton" has undertaken to preach "Sermons to the Clergy" in her new book.

"Threatening to libel" is recognized as an indictable journalistic offense in Texas.

Florida papers report an almost total failure of the sponge crop. Big yield here.

There is still a live law in Massachusetts which fines a young man \$5 if he walks out with his girl after sundown.

A Pennsylvania printer, who is the father of twenty-six children, is puzzling himself to account for the hard times.

A Portland man and his wife have separated because they could not agree about who should pay the funeral expenses of a recently buried child.

Sewing has been taught in the public schools of Boston for twenty-three years, and it is just now discovered that it is illegal to expend public money for that purpose.

Gen. Jeff. Thompson is credited with the prediction that by the first of January the Mississippi will have cut a new channel near Vicksburg, leaving that place two miles inland.

Jefferson Davis, in his De Soto speech, said that there was but one way to restore specie payments, and that was to bring about a balance of trade in favor of the United States.

They do things rather "fast" down in Bosting, sometimes. A certificate of marriage was issued in that city a few days ago, to a woman only eighteen years old, who had been married twice before.

Dr. John W. Hennen, one of the oldest, most popular, and most eloquent of Southern Methodist preachers, has been suspended from office for one year, for trying to corrupt the virtue of Miss Naylor.

The Memphis *Appeal* says—"The fight is not to put negroes down, but it is to pick white men up from the dirt into which they have been trampled by federal radical power and carpet-bag and black insolence. Negro rights does not mean, even in the hornbook of radicalism, white wrong."

The Star glass works of New Albany, Ind., a few days since, turned out what is claimed to be the largest plate of glass ever manufactured in the United States. It is 198 inches long, 98 inches wide, which is 134½ square feet, or 90,904 square inches. It went to Indianapolis to be placed in a business block.