

proposition therefore is to establish co-operative farming communities on a semi-socialistic basis.

Each colony will have a block of land two miles square, or four square miles, containing 108 farms of twenty acres each. In the center will be a plat of common property containing 360 acres, in which each person who takes a farm of twenty acres will become owner in part. This part, however, cannot be sold or otherwise disposed of. It always remains the property of the community, while the twenty acre farm is negotiable; the owner can do with that what he pleases. In the central plot the houses of the colonists will be situated together with the stores, meeting house and other public buildings. Every man gets a house located in this central plot together with his farm, but he is at liberty to build on his farm too and live wherever his convenience is best suited. Outside the circle of 108 residences will be 170 acres of public pasturage and gardens, all common property. The organizers of the colony will plant the farms for the buyers and only offer the land for sale when it is made self-supporting. Then the purchasers are expected to pay the cost of it all in yearly installments, of the products and profits of the soil.

The plan as outlined seems to possess many features of a commendable nature, and with good management it ought to be a success; the minor details would, of course, have to be adjusted as the development of the community would require and in accordance with the experience gained. The fundamental principle, that labor ought to be directed and applied to the great sources of production, is certainly correct. And that this country could be made to sustain a much larger population than it now has, if a greater proportion of labor were expended on the soil, cannot be doubted. If it is true that 480,000,000 acres of agricultural land is idle in the United States, there ought to be work enough for every unemployed laborer who is willing and able to be self-sustaining and contribute his share towards the prosperity of all.

#### ENGLAND SCARED ABOUT INDIA.

The dispatches have lately made reference to the uneasy feeling prevailing in England on account of the probability of an uprising in India before long. People all over the United Kingdom are rehearsing to each other around the fireside the incidents of the terrible Sepoy revolt in the fifties, which at the time attracted the attention of the world, but which at this time are almost forgotten.

The cause of that insurrection was the dissatisfaction with European rule prevailing in India, and only waiting for a suitable opportunity to break out. This came when the government resolved to introduce in the army a new kind of rifle with greased cartridges. This was considered an attack on the religion of the natives, inasmuch as they were required to tear the cartridges with their teeth, thus bringing their mouths in contact with animal fat—a sacrilege

in the eyes of the Hindoos. The government withdrew the new cartridges, but the excitement had already reached a point beyond control. The cry of assault upon creed and caste was raised and soon the revolt rolled its thunders over the provinces of the peninsula. Europeans were massacred in great numbers. The Mogul dynasty was proclaimed with capital at Delhi, and for the next two years the government had its hands full in restoring peace and order.

The fact that the rebellious spirit then manifested has never been subdued entirely, although kept in check, is admitted and the fear of a repetition of the events is natural.

The present panic owes its origin to the discovery that thousands of mango-trees throughout the province of Behar have been smeared with mud mixed with pig's and cow's hair. The work was done with such secrecy that no clue to the authors of it has been obtained. The supposition is that these daubs of mud are a secret signal to the initiated to hold themselves ready for some great event, and the question is, What great event can there be prepared in secrecy except an attempt at an insurrection? Another explanation is offered by Indian officials, who suggest that the episode is nothing but an attempt to divert Hindoo pilgrims from one sacred shrine to another. This theory, however, is not accepted as satisfactory.

It is well understood that the Indian people are suffering under the rule of England, and their condition has not been bettered by the recent financial experiments in the country. A correspondent from London to a New York paper says stories are told of taxation so fearfully increased that a native who last year was assessed at 4 rupees now pays on 45, and this dissatisfaction has been augmented by the work of surveyors who have radically altered the land boundaries in some districts, to the infinite disgust of the people. The idea among the natives is that the Europeans cannot carry on a successful campaign in the heat of the summer, and many are therefore apprehensive that before long the English will have to fight for their lives in India and reconquer the country.

#### GUILTY OF CONTEMPT.

From the ruling of Judge Merritt in the case of the Carterite leaders, charged with contempt of court in stealing a train on the U. P. railway, which road is in the hands of a receiver, we apprehend that there will be little dissent among the sober-minded and law-abiding element of the community. Barring Carter himself, those who were adjudged guilty openly confessed that they had committed the act complained of, and if they get their deserts they will be given free food and lodging for the larceny in addition to that which they are now receiving for the contempt. In this view of the case, the extreme mildness of the sentence of five days' imprisonment will be excused; otherwise the punishment will hardly be deemed as at all fitting to the crime.

As to the man Carter, who disclaimed any participation in or knowledge of the act of train-stealing, but who as the leader of the "army" and as its most open-mouthed champion cannot be said to have shown any too much respect for peace, order, respectability and good sense—he deserved in all conscience and propriety a taste of the same medicine administered to his underlings and associates. There is no particular honor in the role which the group are now called upon to enact, but such as there is he ought to be given his due share of; where glory is being distributed generously among the "colonels," it would be manifestly unfair to leave the "general" undecorated. In conclusion the NEWS may be permitted to suggest that whereas Mr. Carter's followers have less to fear from anybody else than from Mr. Carter, if that gentleman has anything to fear more than from himself it is from those who in this controversy have maladroitly tried to pose as his friends.

#### DESTRUCTIVE STORMS.

California is known as the land of fruit and flowers and balmy summer, and to those who fancy that it is free from disastrously cold spells it will be interesting to read of the effects there of the storm of Monday and Tuesday last. Wind, rain and snow combined in a most unpleasant manner fatal alike to the interests of live stock owners and to tillers of the soil. The destruction among sheep was especially severe, and of the large number that were being herded in the hills it is estimated that at least one-third have perished. From Souora to Strawberry, a distance of 32 miles, it is said the roadway was strewn with dead sheep. At one place near Fresno 4,000 were found frozen to death in one heap. The snow was two feet deep on top of them. There were thousands of animals which could not be reached on account of snow, and if they escape freezing there is likelihood of starvation before the snow melts. In the Sonoma and Bennett valleys immense damage was done to crops. Corn, potatoes and beans were laid low, and many vineyardists will lose the greater portion of their grape crop.

Following close upon the disastrous drouth in the Golden state, this visitation makes it appear as if the people there are the objects of a series of afflicting events that will work severe hardships upon them notwithstanding the rich and varied resources of their state. For a year of disaster to follow in the wake of a year of financial depression such as has been experienced would make a burden heavy to bear.

While sympathizing with California in her misfortunes, Utah has reason to be grateful that the elements have dealt kindly by her, and that notwithstanding some measure of hard times produced by the machinations and the unwisdom of men, the rains and the snows, the winds and the sunshine have been so controlled by an almighty Power that the industrious husbandman and the careful flockowner have full promise of abundantly rich returns for their toil. And by the way, the remarkably constant immunity which Utah's vales enjoy from the