

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

The *Western Rural* takes strong grounds in favor of building good earth roads throughout the west as among the most desirable needed improvements for the benefit of farmers generally and the traveling public at large. It points out clearly the advantages they would prove in the way of profit in farming.

M. Baillon has grown peas in a box of such a construction that the leaves and branches of the plants can be immersed in the water without the roots or the soil in which they are growing becoming damp. He has kept peas alive for two months without giving the roots any water whatever, the soil being virtually quite dry.

In the early days in the American colonies men who owned a plow, had a strong team and went about the country plowing for farmers as they do at this day with ditching machines. Then it took one man to drive, one to hold the plow, and one to bear on the beam.

There is no question but that cows which are giving milk in the winter do not have as much to eat as will make them most profitable. They who give a couple of quarts of bran twice a day, and a fair allowance of fodder, do not know what it is to feed cows, so as to make them profitable. A cow should have three-quarters of a pail full at a mess, mixed with warm water, and this three times a day; or a feed of ten pounds of roots, say sugar beet, at noon, would be better.

If discontented farmers' wives, sons and daughters, who think the delight of city life worth realizing, could walk through our streets to-day, and read the one thousandth part of the misery and apprehensions that haunts the hearts of all classes and making lines on their faces, they would thank God for the peace and seclusion and abundance gathered in the gardens of their homes. Thousands of men and women were at the beginning of winter thrown out of employment.—*Rural New Yorker*.

According to *The Husbandman*, Luther S. Smith, of Chemung Co., N. Y., raised last season, on one acre of land, a crop of corn which by weight was 242 bushels and 24 pounds, and by measure 241 bushels. The variety was the common eight-rowed yellow.

France reports a single grain of wheat which produced last season 56 stalks, each with a head of its own, and all carrying in the aggregate 1,551 grains.

Late London papers announce the receipt in the markets of that metropolis "a large consignment of grouse or prairie fowl from America." They were in a good state of preservation, and sold for \$1.12 to \$1.25 per brace.

An ear of well ripened corn, "fit for seed," was exhibited at the agricultural show at Manchester, Nov. 25. This was from a field on the borders of Chat Moss, a bleak, unprotected locality in the north of England, and a very unfavorable one for the successful growth of so tender a plant as maize. The same variety has been ripened also in the southern part of the country. It is not, therefore, impossible that this crop may soon be thoroughly acclimated in England, and that farmers there may be enabled to compete with us in the production of our peculiar staple.—*N. Y. Tribune*.

Aprupo of the question, Do varieties wear out? *The Gardener's Magazine*, London, quotes "Mr. Taylor of Fencote" as authority for the statement that a potato known as "Old Americans" has been grown in the same garden for 60 years, without change of seed, and has never been known to be affected by disease, while the crop has invariably been a good one.

Hungary has the most highly civilized sheep yet heard of. A trustworthy observer in the Theiss district writes to *The Journal* of the Royal Agricultural Society of England that tobacco is largely cultivated there, and that "Sheep do very well upon it in a green state as a forage crop."

In its application to veterinary practice homeopathy seems to have been generally successful. Whether or not this is the effect of the medicines or, as some profess to believe—considering the homeopathic dilutions to be non-effective for good or evil—of the absence of medicine, may be questioned by those inter-

ested either way; but the fact is vouched for that a bad case of inflammation of the lungs in a mare was speedily cured by doses of tincture of aconite given alternately with bryonia every twenty minutes. Camphor and colycinth are said to have afforded speedy relief in recent instances of colic, and fourteen cows with pluro-pneumonia were all cured by homeopathic prescriptions.—*N. Y. Tribune*.

NEWS NOTES.

Some of the Colorado farmers are already sowing wheat.

Coal at Denver sells at \$5 per ton delivered.

The champion lady skater in Canada is reported to be a delicate young man.

The editor of the *Brooklyn Eagle* says he has a copy of that book for which there is a reward of £1,000 offered. This is the tenth Richmond in the field.

The system of co-operative farming is being extensively tested in the South; and the universal verdict from that region is favorable to the plan.

Mr. Harry G. Bohn, of London, whose well known series of libraries of standard works have popularized good literature throughout the world, has finally retired from business.

The London *Athenaeum* announces that Charles G. Leland has in the press a work entitled "Fu-Sang, or the Discovery of America by the Chinese Buddhist Priests in the Fifth Century."

Mr. Proctor, the royal astronomer, has written a letter to prove that the earth can not be drawing nearer the sun, as the length of the year has not changed since the days of the Chaldean astronomers.

The Turks have calculated that within two hundred years more they will have conquered the world. The statement is made in all seriousness in an Arabic newspaper, which is published under Turkish surveillance.

The little town of Columbus, Ga., pays out \$18,000 weekly to operatives as wages, or \$936,000 a year. It brings to Georgia more money than any other town in the State. Manufacturing does it.

The mining excitement in Potter valley is running high. They have found gold, silver and quicksilver. It is said there is not a foot of the hills surrounding the valley, north, east, west or south but what has been staked off for a mining claim.

The proposition to permit U. S. Grant to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* in time of peace is an actual declaration of war upon the rights of the people in one-half of the United States to the protection of the laws.—*Ex.*

We are compelled once more to put the solemn question: Is the millenium at hand? A Grange out in Illinois cannot find a man willing to accept the presiding office, and in sheer despair has dissolved itself. We have no doubts about the story—or, rather, we have no doubt it is a story.—*Cleveland Herald*.

At a dancing party in Western Kentucky, the other night, to which several women came with their babies, some young men changed the clothes of the infants while their parents were dancing, and mixed them up generally. The following day there was a great row, and as the families lived miles apart, it took several days to unmix the children.

Bill King, ex-postmaster of the House of Representatives and much wanted by the Ways and Means Committee, is a modest man. He shrank from the attentions that the committee desired to pay him, and so fled to Canada. Fearing his royal name might lead the loyal Canadians into paying him still greater honors, he sank the King and became plain Bill Smith or Bill Jones, or some other plebeian personage.—*Cleveland Herald*.

A few days since the wife of Captain J. Boyd Espy, of Espyville, left her baby boy lying in his crib while she busied herself about her household duties. Her attention was attracted shortly after by the child making a strange noise, and on going to his crib found their cat with its mouth and nose pressed into the babe's mouth, and his paws on either side of the child's head. It was with considerable difficulty that the child was re-

moved. Mr. Espy, who is known as one of the most respectable citizens, furnishes us these facts and vouches for their correctness.—*Conneautville (Pa.) Courier*.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* reports the last grand flourish of Colfax's lecture on Lincoln, in which the disingenuous credit mobiler said of the great rail-splitter: "Having reached the topmost round in the ladder of fame, he stepped into the skies." The New York *Sun* refers to the conclusion of Colfax's career by saying that, "Having reached the office of Vice-President of the United States, he was proved to have taken the Credit Mobiler bribe, and then lied and committed perjury, like other Christian statesmen, in hopes that he might thus hide his shame. And then stepped down and out."

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, FEB. 9.

REPORTS ON TERRITORIAL SURVEYS.

Mr. TOWNSEND, by unanimous consent, submitted the following resolution; which was read, and referred under the law to the Committee on Printing:

"Resolved by the House of Representatives, (the Senate concurring,) That there be printed four thousand copies of the annual report of the geological and geographical survey of the Territories for 1874; two thousand copies for the Department of the Interior and two thousand copies for the Smithsonian Institution."

He also by unanimous consent, submitted the following resolution; which was read, and referred under the law to the Committee on Printing:

"Resolved by the House of Representatives, (the Senate concurring,) That there be printed and bound in quarto form one thousand copies of each of the final reports on the geological survey of the Territories, for distribution by the Smithsonian Institution."

AMENDING THE REVISED STATUTES.

Mr. POLAND. This work of revision was done by three commissioners, the work being divided between the three. There was occasionally some matter that was left out. We have endeavored, as far as in our power, to supply every omission of that kind. I shall be glad to answer any question in reference to any one of the matters we have corrected; but I feel it my duty to call the attention of the House to two matters that otherwise would have escaped their attention. The committee have felt bound, as we assured the House when we had the revision before the House at the last session, that it was the intention of the committee to make no change in the law whatever—we have felt it our duty where any error has come to our notice to bring it before the House, that it shall not be said there has been any change of law through the action of the committee that has not been sanctioned by Congress.

On the fifth page of this bill, beginning at the ninety-sixth line, section 1842 is amended by adding thereto the following proviso:

"Provided, That so much of this section as provides for making any bill passed by the Legislative Assembly of a Territory a law without the approval of the governor shall not apply to the Territories of Utah and Arizona."

The commissioners who made the revision were undoubtedly authorized by the law under which they were appointed to make changes in the law to a greater or less extent, so as to produce harmony and symmetry. These territorial acts providing for the formation of Territories were all alike in their general scope, but there were differences in detail in their provisions, and perhaps there was no part of the work of the commissioners where they had done more in the way of change than they had in these acts establishing Territories. They endeavored to make them symmetrical and to make them all alike, so that these minor differences between the various acts they struck out, making them all substantially alike.

The organic acts establishing the Territories contained provisions

that where a bill passed by a territorial Legislature was disapproved by the governor or he refused to sign it the bill might be passed over veto or his objection by a two-thirds majority of the Legislature, but that provision did not apply to the Territories of Arizona and Utah. The organic laws of those two Territories give the governor an absolute veto upon the acts of the Legislature. But the revisers in going over the territorial laws struck out this difference and put Utah and Arizona on the same footing in this respect as the other Territories, and in a great many other particulars they had assimilated the territorial acts. Before this revision was accepted by the Committee on the Revision of the Laws under the act passed at the end of the last Congress, Mr. Durant was employed to go over the work of the commissioners and strike out every change they had made. The committee determined that it would be impossible to get the work of revision through Congress if it contained any new legislation. They therefore employed Mr. Durant to go over the work of the commissioners and eliminate every change which the commissioners had made, but this change he failed to notice, and the committee have therefore deemed it their duty to bring it before Congress with a proposition to make the law precisely the same as it was before in reference to the Territories of Arizona and Utah.

There is one other matter immediately following this on the same page. I will read the paragraph:

"Section 2169 is amended by inserting in the first line, after the word 'alien,' the words 'being free white persons, and to aliens.'"

Mr. POLAND. I demand the previous question.

The previous question was seconded and the main question ordered; and under the operation thereof the bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time; and being engrossed, it was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

Mr. POLAND moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed; and also moved that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

The latter motion was agreed to.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE REVISED STATUTES.

Mr. POLAND. I am not yet through with reports from the committee on the Revision of the Laws. I now report back a bill (H. R. No. 4535) providing for the distribution of the Revised Statutes of the United States, with an amendment.

The bill, which was read, provides that the Secretary of State is hereby directed to furnish, for the use of the Senate, one thousand copies of the Revised Statutes of the United States, and for the use of the House of Representatives three thousand copies of the same, to be distributed to the members of the present Congress.

Mr. RANDALL. It is proposed that these Revised Statutes shall be published at a fixed price, to be sold to anybody who may desire to purchase them.

Mr. POLAND. These Revised Statutes are already printed, and the price has been fixed by law. This bill merely provides for their distribution to members of Congress.

Mr. RANDALL. I wish to ask the gentleman whether we ought to make this provision for their distribution when they can be purchased by everybody at a very small percentage above cost?

Mr. POLAND. I ask that the amendment of the committee be read; it is to add an additional section.

The Clerk read as follows:

"SEC. 2. That the Secretary of State is hereby authorized to make arrangement with persons engaged in the business of selling books to keep for sale the Revised Statutes of the United States, but in any such arrangement it shall be provided the same shall be sold at the government price to all purchasers; and the Secretary may allow to any such person keeping the Revised Statutes for sale such part of the 10 per cent. above the actual cost as he may deem just and reasonable."

The SPEAKER. Does the gentleman wish the bill to be referred to the Committee on Printing?

Mr. POLAND. No; I desire it

shall be put on its passage. It merely provides for the distribution of these documents. They are published under the direction of the Secretary of State. He is required to sell them at cost, with 10 per cent. added. It is, of course, inconvenient the Secretary should be required to do this business himself. Therefore the second section merely authorizes him to arrange with booksellers throughout the country to keep these books for sale, to be sold at the Government price, and further, to allow them such part of the 10 per cent. above the cost as he may deem just and reasonable.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time; and being engrossed, it was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

Mr. POLAND moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed; and also moved that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

The latter motion was agreed to.

THE DELEGATE FROM UTAH.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from New York, [Mr. Smith,] the chairman of the Committee on Elections, rises to what he claims to be a privileged question.

Mr. SMITH, of New York. I call up the report of the Committee on Elections in regard to the charges made against the Delegate from Utah Territory.

Mr. GARFIELD. I hope the House will go into Committee of the Whole now.

Mr. LOUGHRIDGE. I raise the question of consideration in regard to the question submitted by the gentleman from New York, [Mr. Smith.]

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from New York, [Mr. Hale,] the colleague of the gentleman now on the floor, raised a point of order on this report of the Committee on Elections. The Chair does not see that gentleman in his seat at this moment.

Mr. SMITH, of New York. Two gentlemen raised the point of order; the gentleman from New York [Mr. Hale] and the gentleman from Massachusetts, [Mr. Butler.] The gentleman from Massachusetts is here now.

For two weeks the Committee on Elections has been endeavoring to get the floor to report this resolution. It would be a very unseemly thing that a resolution like this should be adopted in the very closing days of this Congress; and if the House refuse to consider the resolution now, its action would be equivalent to tabling the resolution. I have myself no feeling about it. The committee simply desires to discharge its duty.

Mr. GARFIELD. It would require two days' debate.

Mr. SMITH, of New York. We propose to have it disposed of in two hours. That is the understanding between the gentlemen who will make the leading speeches on behalf of the majority and the minority of the committee. The gentlemen representing respectively the majority and minority of the committee have agreed that the debate shall be limited to two hours.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will read the resolution reported by the Committee on Elections.

The Clerk read as follows:

"Resolved, That George Q. Cannon, Delegate from Utah, being found, upon due consideration of the evidence submitted, and not controverted by said Cannon, to be an actual polygamist, and to have married his fourth wife, having three other wives then living, in the month of August, 1865, in open and notorious violation of the law of July 1, 1862, forbidding such marriages and declaring the same to be a crime punishable both by fine and imprisonment, and it appearing that he still maintains his polygamous practices in defiance of law, is deemed unworthy to occupy a seat in the House of Representatives as such Delegate, and that he be excluded therefrom."

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Loughridge] raises upon this resolution the question of its consideration at this time.

Mr. DAWES. Back of that is the other question, whether it is before the House at all.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thinks not. Until the question of consideration is decided the resolu-