

## EDITORIALS.

## GRASSHOPPER PESTS.

EVERY people has its troubles and every land has its drawbacks, but islands must be peculiarly favored so far as grasshopper or locust visitations are concerned, because the 'hoppers having the sea to cross islands are not very likely to be visited by them, and further should the insects effect a lodgment on an island, when they take to wing again the chances are that they will fall into the briny deep, which is not favorable to their reproduction or sustenance.

On a great continent, however, the case is different, and these pesky insects, once there, are there for ever, or at least for many, many years, in one part or another.

Utah has had a liberal share of grasshopper attentions in years past, and may be fairly excused from any future experience in that direction. Our neighbors east of the mountains are beginning to have a little experience of the peculiarities of intimate grasshopper acquaintance. Some of them are scared, and, as the telegrams declare, are fleeing from the scourge. Others are fighting it, and with some success. During some of the late cold spells in what are called the Northwestern States, Minnesota for instance, the people were rejoicing in the presumption that the inclement weather was death to the grasshopper, but since then the same people have had cause to think that the Utah familiar epithet of "iron-clad" is not inapplicable to this devourer, for a little frost is found to have no worse effect than benumbing the insect for a time, and until the revivifying rays of Old Sol break forth again, when the grasshopper's friskiness becomes renewed, and is found to be as brisk and vigorous as ever.

In Colorado the grasshoppers are doing considerable damage. The Greeley Sun says that the farmers of that place have been fighting the insects with fire and flood, and have destroyed immense numbers, thus averting a great amount of damage. The Sun says the most successful plan of destruction tried there is to run ditches through the land and drown out the 'hoppers.

The Boulder News says that J. P. Leshar has guarded his land from the locusts by pouring ten cents' worth of kerosene every morning above the head gate. The oil "floats on the surface, and is held in place by a board whose edge touches the water. Under this board it ekes out gradually, making a film or scum over the current floating down. This ditch becomes the river of death to the locust, and millions perish, while the gardens survive."

The "Locust Killer" is the name of a farm machine used in Boulder county for the extermination of young locusts. Perhaps we had better extract from a Colorado paper something about this machine, as follows—

"It is concluded by leading farmers, says a writer in the Boulder News, that had these machines been put in motion when the grasshoppers began to appear this spring, every field of grain could have been saved. As it is, there is to be 'war to the knife' for what remains. P. A. Leyner, who has the honor of introducing the 'killer' into the Boulder valley, enthusiastically declares that hereafter he will triumphantly snap his fingers in the young locust's face. Pitch pine is used for fuel, and our Colorado zephyrs fan it into a miniature hell—but as it is somewhat expensive, Wise & Son propose to build a machine that shall burn coal. An experiment which they have already made, shows that a burner constructed of heavier material, and on a little different plan from the present killers, can be made, in which 'nut coal' can be burned, (at a cost of less than \$1 per ton) and be a perfect success. The farmer whose crops have already been destroyed, may sow again, and with a burner exterminate the 'hoppers before the grain is up. The team drawing the burner should be driven in a circle—thus are the 'hoppers continually driven in front of the machine and 'corralled.'"

Land plowed deeply in the Fall

is declared comparatively free from young grasshoppers.

Many of the Colorado farmers have resolved to plant corn, which will be more likely than wheat to mature, and will be worth quite as much per acre. It is also asserted that barley sown as late as July 4 will mature and do well. One farmer is instanced, who, in 1865, raised \$4,000 worth of grain by sowing after the locusts had flown away.

**ADULTERATED LARD.**—A correspondent of the London *Pharmaceutical Journal*, suspecting impurity in commercial lard, analyzed a number of samples, and found in them large quantities of some farinaceous substance. In one lot of 105½ pounds he found 22½ pounds of foreign matter, and in another lot of 43½ pounds he found 12½ pounds of similar matter. The analysis of some American lard showed the presence of 10 to 12 per cent. of water, two to three per cent. of alum, and one per cent. of quicklime.

**AN UNPLEASANT ACQUAINTANCE.**—Col. Anthony, brother of Susan B. Anthony, recently shot at Denver, has been anything but a pleasant neighbor or acquaintance, according to the following from the *St. Louis Globe*—

"Colonel Anthony was a man of uncommon energy, strong passions, and ardent prejudices, quick to anger, slow to forgive and good at hating. His relations with political rivals and antagonists were almost uniformly unpleasant. He held to his opinions with marked pertinacity, and expressed them bluntly, freely and with little apparent concern as to consequences."

**RAILROAD INTO ARIZONA.**—The California papers circulate the following—

"The Santa Barbara Press says that about thirty gentlemen, well known for their broad views, sagacity and enterprise, with ample means to carry out the project, held a meeting and resolved upon organizing to construct a railroad from that place eastward to Lyon's Station, on the Southern Pacific route, with the intention ultimately to continue it on to Arizona. The Press is certain that these men mean business, and is greatly elated in consequence."

**A BEER PRESERVING FAUCET.**—A Cleveland, Ohio, invention, recently patented, professes to be the only beer preserving faucet in the world, and destined to supersede all others. If this faucet will preserve beer so that it cannot be drunk by anybody, the use of the faucet will be worth an immense amount of money to the country. In fact "there's millions in it," and millions more if it will do the same good thing with liquors and wines.

**BRECKENRIDGE'S LIVER.**—A Louisville dispatch in various eastern papers gives the following concerning the injury to General Breckenridge's liver, of which he died—

"An important surgical operation was performed upon General John C. Breckenridge, at his home, in Lexington, Ky., on Tuesday, by Dr. Gross, of Philadelphia, and Dr. Sayre, of New York. His chest was penetrated by tubes inserted between the ribs, and some relief was afforded. The physicians are of the opinion that the General's liver was injured by a blow received during the war from a fragment of a shell, and that his present suffering is due entirely to that cause."

**EXTREMELY SATISFACTORY.**—The New York Post says of the recent alimony decision—

"Judge Lowe's decision is extremely satisfactory, and not the less so because, according to the account given of Ann Eliza last summer by our correspondent in Utah, it appeared that her notion of the proper relation of the sexes was acquired late, and for purposes which present a speculative aspect."

## IRRIGATION.

So long as there is sufficient rain at proper times, there is no necessity for irrigation. There is not sufficient rain in Utah during much of the summer, therefore irrigation is necessary to successful agriculture. In many localities there is not sufficient water in the creeks readily available for extensive irrigation. But there is abundance of water more remotely available.

There are two sources of water which can be used for irrigation—above ground and below ground. The water found above ground, in the creeks and lakes, is the best and generally, though not always, the most easily available, as, for instance, where it can be run on the cultivated land by the force of gravitation alone. But sometimes it cannot, lying below the land desired to be irrigated. Artificial force must then be employed to raise the water if it is to be used. The artificial force will be that either of animal, wind, steam, or, in case of a stream, the stream itself working upon a water-wheel.

Vast quantities of water run to waste all around us during those portions of the year when irrigation is not needed or is little needed. If these were saved in reservoirs of sufficient capacity, a great quantity of land now uncultivated or poorly cultivated owing to present lack of available water, would be brought into a high state of cultivation.

There are not only streams and lakes of water above ground, but there are streams and reservoirs under ground, and these can be made available for irrigation. These subterranean streams and reservoirs vary in depth from the surface, in this city, say from nothing to a hundred feet. Sometimes they push to and through the surface, forming springs and miry places. Generally speaking, large amounts of water in the underground streams and reservoirs are available, for irrigation, at depths varying from three to twenty feet. They can be brought above the surface by artificial power. They can be pumped up, and in some instances they can be tunneled or syphoned out.

Holland is famous for raising vast quantities of water by wind-power. Wind-power is extensively used either for that or other purposes in other European countries, as well as in this. It is used for that purpose in this Territory, but not extensively. "An Old Farmer," in the Fresno (Cal.) Express, talks in this way about using this subterranean water supply for irrigation—

"Some may say a garden cannot be raised without water, and that San Jose valley has its artesian wells, which we have not. But have we not a remedy? For the sum of \$50 we can have a well, pump and windmill. For four months in the year, and at the very time we want water, we always have plenty of wind to run our windmills. I can assure the farmer that a common four-inch lift-pump will raise as much water to the surface of the ground as do most of the artesian wells in the San Jose valley."

The worst of wind-power is its fitfulness and uncertainty. Still, there is a great deal of wind hereabout at different times, and a large amount of water might be raised by that means in the course of the season. A self-regulating sail or turbine wind-mill is one of the least expensive and least troublesome of all kinds of artificial powers, and the construction and manufacture of these engines have been brought to great nicety and perfection. The only objection to them, so far as we have heard, is the one named—fitfulness and uncertainty, but that objection is to the wind, not the mill. The wind bloweth when and whence and whither it listeth, and thou canst not tell when nor whence it will come, nor when nor whither it will go. But the mill is always there, always available, always ready to work, night or day. It requires no feeding nor firing up, no setting agoing and no stopping, except it brings you too much water, and then the surplus can run to waste, as does most of the water now in the above ground streams.

**THE MENNONITES IN KANSAS.**—The Russian Mennonites in Arkansas Valley, Kansas, 3,000 in number, settled there last year, located a town about six miles west of Marion Centre, and called it Guadanau, or Vale of Peace. They were attracted to Kansas because of a provision in the militia law of that State "that all persons who on or before the 1st day of May in each year, file with the clerk of their county an affidavit that they are members of a religious organization, whose articles of faith prohibit the bearing of arms, shall be exempt from militia duty." This amendment, with descriptions of Kansas lands, was translated and sent to Russia.

The Topeka Commonwealth says of the Mennonites—

"They are a quiet, inoffensive, plodding and honest people. They seem to have no other worldly ambition than to earn an honest living."

"In all their faces, of both sexes, a mean countenance cannot be found. They are ungainly in figure, and the women are cross-grained and ugly, though, possibly, a portion of their ugliness may be attributed to their painful plainness of dress. No display of jewelry, silks, fine bonnets, elegant head-dresses or high-heeled shoes is made by these ladies. They labor in the kitchen, and for amusement they spell their male lords in the field with the plow and hoe. They have no use for Harper's Bazar, or a Chickering. The men have no political ambition, while, as is well known, they have an inherent aversion to military operations and glories. They are opposed to both military and civil law, and no officer of any kind can be a member of their community. They have their own local government, and all disputes are settled by arbitration. Being non-combative and indisposed to avail themselves of the protection of our civil courts, it is to be feared that some of our avaricious Jayhawkers, who have no respect for the moral law, will cause them trouble whenever they obtain portable property worthy of purloining. None have, as yet, obtained naturalization papers, and the prevailing sentiment among them is against naturalization, but doubtless their necessities will force them into citizenship."

"They are delighted with Kansas, and have gone to work in their new homes with all the energy and enthusiasm of youthful pioneers."

**IMPROVED SANDSTONE.**—A Dresden engineer has discovered a method of impregnating well-dried sandstone with soluble silica and alumina, causing the stone to become lighter in color, some kinds intensely white and translucent, and capable of the highest polish, equal to that of the purest marble. The inventor in fact imitates marble of every color by adding mineral colors to the liquid used for impregnation. This improved sandstone is said to cost considerably less than marble, and to be better capable of resisting the injurious action of fire.

**FEARFUL FOREBODING AS TO GRASSHOPPERS.**—The Kansas City Times says—

"It cannot be disguised that there is quite a grasshopper panic prevailing in Western Missouri just now—a fearful foreboding as to the amount of damage that may be done before the wings be grown that are to take the locusts away. Farmers are discouraged, and yet trying to bear up under their misfortune, are talking about obtaining seed corn of quick growth for late replanting. In such a state of affairs, when there is no grain in a country, and money is scarce, and disheartened people are indulging in gloomy anticipations of famine, liberality to neighbors is self-sacrifice."

**LIFE INSURANCE.**—At the annual meeting of the American Social Science Association at Detroit, Elizur Wright, a well known insurance expert, read an elaborate

essay on the best means of adapting life insurance to the circumstances and pecuniary ability of the poor. He recommended life insurances to abandon their palatial and extravagantly furnished offices, abolish the present enormous salaries paid to officials, cut down the fancy commissions allowed to drummers and agents, and apply the principles of economy and honesty to every branch of the business, as at the present time life insurance costs a great deal more than it ought to do, and therefore is a luxury for the rich only.

**A NEW DEPARTURE.**—The New York Herald has the following—

"RICHMOND, Va., May 14, 1875.

"Considerable interest has been excited here for the past two days over the change in the Internal Revenue Collectorship of this the Metropolitan District of Virginia, caused by the resignation of Rush Burgess. Speculation as to his successor has been rife, but to-night there are strong grounds for the belief that the President is about to tender the appointment to a distinguished and gallant young ex-Confederate General, a West Point graduate, who is a conservative in politics, belongs to an old Virginia family, and is very popular throughout the State. This movement on the part of General Grant is regarded as one full of significance in the inauguration of a new line of policy in his Southern appointments. It would seem to indicate he was breaking loose from carpet bag influence by which he has heretofore been governed, and is bent upon trying what virtue there may be in an honest effort to conciliate the better classes among the Southern people. Should this appointment be made, of course it will be looked upon as an open declaration of war upon the carpet-baggers by the President, and it will probably drive all of that class into hostility against his administration."

**A SATISFACTORY WATER FILTER.**—The Washington Star says that the long time desideratum, a satisfactory water filter, has at last been supplied, and thus describes the same—

"A water filter made to fasten to any hydrant, which, by simplicity of design and effectiveness of operation, seems to fully supply the want. It consists of a cast iron cylinder 12 inches long by six inches diameter, within which is another one of hard-burned brick, the latter of two inch thick wall so adjusted as to leave a space between the two cylinders, and make two distinct chambers, one in the centre of the brick tube, and the other between it and the iron one. The water is introduced by pipes through the cap of the cylinder, fitted close against the ends, and the natural pressure of the water which may be admitted into either chamber forces it through the pores of the brick cylinder, and it is discharged through the bottom cap as clear as crystal, running through the faucet in sufficient quantity for practical purposes. The course of the water through the brick tube can be reversed instantly by turning a cock at the top, which completely cleanses the filter of all sediment. When the full flow is needed a turn of the faucet at the bottom admits the water through without filtration, and at the same time carries off all accumulated impurities."

"A comparison of the Potomac water, before and after it passes through the filter with a microscope or even by the naked eye, shows most palpably the repulsive nature of the water originally, and the wonderful transformation effected by this process. The features of this most important invention may be summarized by saying that the water is filtered by passing through hard burned brick, (the oldest and best process of filtration,) and the filter possesses the advantage of being self-cleaning, and of being moreover of almost everlasting durability."

Hydrate of chloral as a stimulant is fast taking the place of opium, hasheesh, etc., in England, and to some extent in this country. It kills in about three years on an average.