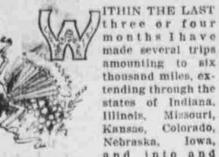
FARM, AND GARDEN, districts whose attention and energies MATTERS OF INTEREST TO

Some Up-to-Date Bints About Califyation of the Soil and Yields Thereof-Horticultures Viti-ulture and Fioricultures ??

AGRICULTURISTS.



and into and through Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia.

In these several trips have been a close observer from the car window, and though had been over most of the routes traveled, it was no less interesting to me this time, for the diversity of soil and climatic influences are perceptibly noticeable as we pass through the different sections of country.

No where do the methods of farming present a better appearance of thrift and home-like surroundings than in sections where diversified farming is systematically engaged in from year to year, by which the farmer grows as many or nearly all the staple crops required to meet the demanda of his own wants, and by converting the products thus grown to a higher rate of values ready for use, such as beer, park, mutton poultry, eggs, butter, etc. The all corn, wheat, cotton or what not class of farmers are us unly more dependent upon others and the uncertainties of market influences that cause an unhappy condition in their accounts.

The crops in localities appeared to be exceptionally good, but in many, short to a very poor crop, and believe the corn crop has been very much overestimated by the reports. Cern is selling too low to be of any practical value to the producer in districts where le cents per bushel is as much as it now commands.

Of a middle states farmer it has been said, "plenty of cora, plenty of everything," which I would take to mean he has plenty of cheap food to allow liberal feeding for the various kinds of stock, converting it into many useful articles necessary for "getting on well."

In some sections of the West corn does not mean so much for the situation or the producer has not the advantages of obtaining those results, and is compelled to submit to the inevitable by taking what ever he can get after freight and commission are paid .--Miello, in Farmer's Review.

Manures.

The dead plant is prepared for feeding the growing plant through the action of microdemes or bacteria or, to use a name that will become general ever tried Dr. Braden's plan for imamong farmers, ferments; low orders of proving muddy roads by covering the plant life similar to what raises bread low places with straw, coarse hay, or ripens cream. There is much to learn | weeds or other such trash? We thought regarding the processes, but it has been the idea worth trying in places where fairly well settled that each successive | marsh grass abounds, on the borders of step is taken by a different living organism. The practical value of this ing could be applied very easily and comes from the necessary conditions to have the dead plant-manure changed to soluble plant food-and this is under it will, it would be another case in the control of the farmer. According to Warrington ammonia is made first, nitrices next, then nitrates. The plant us. The plant whose root cures snake may feed on all of them, as all are soluble, but the organisms may change ammonia and nitrites to nitrates before the plant feeds upon them, as conditions favorable to plant growth favor nitrification, that is, heat and moisture suitable, together with the ingredients | road material a trial before we laugh necessary to form the nitrates, which manure supplies. Light is not favorable to nitrification. So we conclude that manure spread on the surface in dry weather must wait until rains wash it into the soil. If it is put on lightly, in the spring, grass may cover and shade it so that the organisms can work. If manure is plowed under in our soft from four to six inches the moisture and heat will be suitable for forming nitrates or soluable plant food. If manure is packed solidly in a pit it will not nitrify if kept wet and cold, and if put in a great heap in winter, while the-weather is cold it will not produce nitrates until turned over in the spring, because the oxygen in the air is a necessity in the process. A heap of manure left in the barnyard all summer will waste on the outside, because it gets too much air, while at some distance from the outside it will have proper conditions for nitrification. and when rains come they will dissolve the nitrates and wash the solution away. So manure heaps carried over should be covered to avoid this, and kept moist and cool to prevent fire fanging or loss of ammonia in gaseous shape. A loose heap of manure will thus waste away, and in the fall a load of it is of no more value, if as much, than a load of green manure. We must then spread the green manura at once on the surface or plow it under, or put it in condition to make nitrates and then keep the rains off. It is not practical to put manure in cold storage, nor to build houses for it. The best we can do is to put the fresh manure on the land. There is no loss from sun drying, and when rains come they will wash it into the soll, where the ferments can reduce it to plant food .- Prof. James Wilson.

were devoted to other occupations than agricultural pursuits, but there was enough of a surplus to export to the value of \$553,215,347, 75 per cent going to European countries. The agricultural exports of the country constituted 69.68 per cent of the whole.

The secretary of agriculture estimates that there are 40,000,000 of the total population who do not live on farms, so that one-third of the population only was engaged in producing the vast amount indicated by the figures given. The year covered by the report, comparatively speaking, was not a good one for the farmers. In many sections of the west there was a total failure of crops in consequence of long-continued drouths, so that a much better showing would have been made had the year been an average one.

Forestry in India.

Government forestry seems to be a success in India. The inspector-general of forests for India is now in this country and he gives an interesting account of the management in that country. He says it has taken eighteen years of legislation to get the kind of laws needed, but they have succeeded. Now the permanency of the big forests is assured and the government will get a handsome income from them. The government is gradually obtaining possession of all the forest lands and now has \$0,000 square miles of wooded country under supervision. The government at intervals gives notice that it intends to take a certain piece of forest land so many miles in size, and claimants have six months in which to appear and prove their claims. An individual or town, probably, has a descriptive right to take building timber from the forest in question. That right is proved and settled permanently, and thereafter only such trees as are marked by the inspector can they would become suspicious of Rusbe cut. In Burmah alone there are over 1,000 different kinds of forest says: "Russia is Germany's enemy totrees and the study there is to propagate the valuable species and weed out those that are not .- Rural Life.

Tillage and Fertility-The fact that the rocky particles of the soil are the source of phosphoric acid and nitrogen, and that they are derived by dissolving of the rock, makes tillage a source of fertility, since it tends to the more rapid disintegration of these rocky particles. If these particles were as easily dissolved as the grains of sugar or salt, our soil resource would sooner be destroyed by excess of moisture or by too frequent cultivation. One of the great sources of depletion of soil is the too frequent cropping, which means double or triple depletion. First, the crop, be it hay, grain, wool, meat or milk, taken from the farm, removes fertillty. Second, the tillage unlocks the phosphoric acid and potash from the rock, and makes a larger portion available for the plants. Third, the land left bare much of the year declines in the per cent of nitrates. This last is a more important source of loss than is commonly understood.

Fill Up the Holes .- Has any reader

THE FUTURE OF RUSSIA.

Austrian Legislator Who Belleves She Desires to Conquer the World.

From a pamphlet by a member of the Austrian Legislature: The czar rules over a territory more than 9,000,000 square miles in extent. That is twice as much as China, two and a half times as much as the United States, five times as large as all Europe, forty-one times as large as Germany, and fifty times as large as France. Russia's population is more numerous than that of any two European powers outside their colonies. and Russia's population increases much faster. At the end of the century it will be greater than that of the triple alliance, Russia follows the expansive force within her, and aims at the rule of the world. The czar regards himself as the king of kings, and the same view is held by his people. To this very day one may hear Russians make the naive assertion that the crimean war was nothing but a rebellion of the French, English and Turks against the power of the czar. The Russians want Constantinople because they regard themselves as the heirs of eastern Rome. In Asia they mean to obtain the empire of Genghis and Tameriane. Can Europe defend herself against Russia? Napoleon I, was of the opinion that a warlike, enterprising czar could soon reach Calais with his army and become the supreme ruler of Europe's destinies. But Russia is not given to sudden impulses; she advances slowly. The triple alliance was created because the powers of Europe see the danger. but coalitions like this nearly always lose the right moment to act, and Russla knows well how to make use of the jealousies of the European powers. If the French politicians could judge calmly they would see that they risk their colonies in their hope to regain Alsace-Lorraine, and cla. A French statesman very justly day; to-morrow, when we have overcome Germany, Russia will be our enemy." But common sense alone does not rule the world; passion, teo, has its influence. Many years must pass before the French give up their ideas of revenge. The only defense against Russia is strict watchfulness on the part of the triple alliance, assisted by England. Under these circumstances Europe may experience surprises greater than the most pessimistic now expect. Rusia can count upon France's assistance, and may suddenly find allies among the Slavonic nations. And, Russia has the advantage of autocratic leadership. The powers which form the triple alliance cannot act without a council. Russia, therefore, has the initiative, and can choose her own time for the attack. It is difficult to say whether the diplomats of Europe will be equal to the emergency. This much is certain: The balance of power is turning more in favor of Russia, hence all who value the civilization of west-

A Question of Ancestry. Abraham Hayward, the famous Quar-

ern Europe cannot fail to regard the

future with apprchension.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

COMPARISON WITH REED'S CON-GRESS IS ODIOUS INDEED.

While the Country Suffers Reed and His Presidential Boom Stand in the Way -Opinion of Leading American Journals.

In his jaaugural address to the house Speaker Read intimated that he should favor the adoption of a do-nothing policy by congress. He said in substance that the last republican congress was applauded for what it did, and that probably this congress would receive applause for what it failed to

Speaker Reed, to the extent of his power, so far is enforcing on congress do-nothing policy. Congress met and Reed was elected speaker Dec. 2. The president's message was delivered next day. Since that time nothing has been done except to adjourn from day to day or to adjourn Thursday to the following Monday. The republican members are scrambling and quarreling over committee places, which are valuable, as the committees control legislation, and in this congress nearly all legislation will be stuffed with boodle.

It is useless to say that Mr. Reed came among a lot of strangers, was elected unexpectedly to the speakership and had to make himself acquainted with a throng of new men before he could organize the committees. It has been understood for a year that he would be elected speaker of this congress. The members commenced their term of office March 4. He has had over a year to learn all about the merabers of the body that has chosen him as its presiding officer. He might have had his committee appointments ready in three days after congress met. Especially he should have been as ready then as he is now to select the chairmen of the leading committees, for in nearly all cases they will be men with whom he has been associated in the house for a dozen years or more.

The appointment of the committees has been delayed so long that the members already are scattering to their homes for the Christmas holidays. This indicates that the committees are not expected to meet and consider measures of legislation until long after the new year opens, and perhaps not then. As soon as the names of the committeemen are announced an adjournment will be had to the second week in January. It will be the middle or the end of the month before the members get back again and settle down to business.

The republican common scolds and disturbers of the public peace have denounced President Cleveland from Washington several days while negotiations relating to Venezuela were suspended and the report of Secretary Carlisle on the condition of the treasury awaited his approval. This is mere self-stultification. The republicans know that they could not do anything either with Venezuela or the finances

expense of the many or to enrich any at the expense of others is robbery.

No matter what may be the position of a little handful of senators who call themselves Democrats, this is the position of the Democratic party as authoritatively declared.

It follows that the president and the secretary of the treasury would be disloyal to their party as well as to their own convictions of duty if they were to recommend such an increase of duties as the Republicans propose, Any such increase would put five times as much in private pockets as it would put in the public treasury

New duties on articles not produced in this country on a commercial scale. such as tea and coffee, would produce revenue without taxing the people, to enrich classes. But why recommend anything such thing to a Republican house of representatives? Everybody knows that nothing would result .- Chicago Chronicle.

Three Truths for the Farmer.

Philadelphia Record: If the American farmer will consider this matter calmly and without prejudice, he will become conscious of three truths. First, that a triff levied for "protection" must increase the price of everything he buys, because the production of such things can be, and has been, limited by the trusts and combinations which have monopolized their manufacture, Second, that it can add nothing to the price of what he sells, because it is not within the power of any possible combination of farmers to limit agricultural production, and the price of the surplus must necessarily regulate the price of all. Third, that the only possible outlet for this surplus is to be found in foreign markets; and a protective tariff bluders its sale in those markets, because in order to be protective it must forbid the acceptance of the only things that foreigners have to give in exchange,

Sherman's Contradictory Course.

Boston Post: Senator Sherman adrocates a step backward to McKinleyism in order to increase the revenue He says that all the present trouble comes from the reduction of duties by the Democratic tariff. How does Senator Sherman reconcile his advice with the fact that the Democratic tariff has produced \$35,000,000 more in its first year than the McKinley tariff produced in its last year? Why should a productive tariff be changed for an unproductive tariff? Five years ago Senator Sherman and his Republican associates fixed up the McKinley tariff to reduce the income; the surplus in the treasury under four years of Democratic administration had accumulated too greatly. Aided by Republican extravagance, the McKinley tariff did the business only too effectually. Does Senator Sherman mean to say it would

New and Old Style Statesmen.

not a money-sack or the tool of money-

sacks. He did not go to Wall street to

find his bosom friends and advisers.

He believed in the people and held it

to be the duty of all officeholders, from

president to constable, to serve and

represent them, not to attempt to rule

them in defiance of their will and

against their instructions. He was a

man to love and to trust, and the world

loses much in losing him. And it has

certainly lost him. The Brices, the

Smiths, the Quays and the Gormans re-

Ohio the Officeholder's State.

maintains her old reputation of get-

ting to the front. Fifteen members of

the present congress from other states

are natives of that state, including sev-

en senators and eight representatives.

Among these are Senators Elkins of

West Virginia, Allison of Iowa and our

own "tall sycamore of the Wabash"

Representative Hitt, though elected

from Illinois, is a Buckeye by birth

and a Hoosler by marriage. Repre-

sentative Hull of Iowa, formerly lieu-

tenant governor of that state, though

Indianapolis Journal: Ohio still

New York World: The American statesman of the old school had his failings. But he was a man. He did not sell himself to corporations. He was

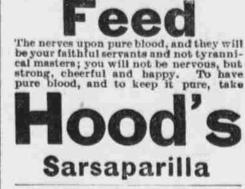
work the other way now?

Earliest Vegetables Always Pays

That's so, the editor hears Mr. Market Gardener say. Well why don't you have them? Simply because you don't plant Salzer's northern grown seeds. His vegetables are bred to earliness and they never deseppoint you. Salzer is the largest prover of vegetables, farm seeds, grasses, clovers, potatoes, etc.

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Value of Farm Products.

The annual report of the secretary of agriculture, which has just been issued, states that the farm products a large number of people in the rural | yield they have ever borne .- Ex.

sloughs. A large amount of such fillcheaply there, and if it is found to do the work satisfactorily, as we think which nature provides an easy remedy for the ailments she permits to befail bite is said to grow always in places where venomous serpents abound. Where bad roads are apt to be in their worst condition, in the low ground, the reeds and the tough, coarse grasses do most abound. Let us give this cheap at it as foolish to think seriously about. -- Indiana Farmer,

Profit in Apples .- Apples pay if the producer can get 20 cents a bushel for them on the tree. The only hope of making the raising of fruit pay is to ship it to Europe, where good apples are scarce. For this purpose the utmost care must be observed in packing. The rest of the crop that cannot be consumed at home and made into cider. cider jelly and vinegar can be fed profitably to live stock. Apple-fed pork is a delicacy. The people of the United States, too, ought to eat more apples than they do. Nothing is more conducive to health and long life. This year they will have a chance to indulge their appetities with the choicest fruit, which is abundant.-Ex.

Cultivated or Uncultivated Trees,-The Nebraska agricultural station has issued a bulletin from which the following practicable conclusions are drawn. Trees in cultivated ground have darker and more vigorous foliage than those in sod ground, with less yellowing, dropping of leaves or wilting in hot, windy days. Apples averaged fourteen per cent greater weight on cultivated than on pasture land, and 17 per cent greater than on mowed land. As to moisture, for every 100 barrels of water in twenty inches depth of soil or sod land, there were 140 in cultivated land. Evaporation, as anyone might suppose, was found proportionate to the velocity of wind.

Apples in Missouri. -- Missouri is claiming to be a formidable rival to the best known apple growing states. Apples are a surer growth in Missouri than in either New York or Michigan because of the milder climate, it is asserted. In the Ozark country the crop has failed only three times in the past twenty-five years. This year Missouri alone will furnish from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 worth. Orchards of hunfor the year ending June 30 last are dreds of acres are no great noveliy in estimated to be worth \$2,300,000.- the prolific Ozark country. Ex-Secretary 000. The products of these farms of Agriculture Norman J. Colman has were not only sufficient to feed 6,000 pear trees and 2,000 apple trees, all the town and city populations and the latter bending under the heaviest

terly reviewer, once thought that he would like to have some ancestors, so he walked straight to a picture dealer's. Selecting a portrait of a cavaller in half armor, with features not quite unlike his own, Mr. Hayward made a bid for it, at President Cleveland because he does but deeming the price asked too high, he went his way. A few days later Mr. Hayward went to dine with Lord Houghton, and was astonished to find the picture in the dining-room. Seeing to the end?-Chicago Chronicle, Dec. that it attracted his guest's attention, 16. Lord Houghton said: "Very good picture that! Came into my hands in a curlous way. Portrait of a Milnes of the commonwealth period-an ancestor of mine." "Ah, indeed!" said Mr. Hayward; "he was very near being an ancestor of mine."

An Important Invention.

Walter T. Forbes of Atlanta, Ga., has invented a process for decorticating ramie fiber, which is on exhibition at the exposition. "The work of Mr. Forbes," says the Atlanta Constitution, "is at the moment displayed in the Royal Kew gardens, at the Haarlem exposition in Holland, and also in Austria. Mr. Forbes is now in England, and every fiber process known to that people has been pitted against him. Nevertheless, his process, being the cheapest and most effective ever invented, has stood the test. His fiber has been woven into the finest yarns ever seen, and has been woven into cloths that are as beautiful as those that used to come out of India."

Making Hades Boll.

Then up spake the North Dakota man: "We had a paper out in Northwood called the Headlight. It began business by saying:

"The Headlight proposes to boil hell down to a half pint and to administer it at a single dose." Just after this anthing disastrous. A merry Christmas nouncement the office took fire and to the scattering solons. There are burned to its foundations, whereupon Major A. W. Edwards, then of the Fargo Argus, but now of the Daily Forum, said in his cool, clever way:

"'It seems that while the editor of the Headlight was boiling hell down to a half pint, the blasted thing tipped over on a red hot stove-and there you are.' " -The Newspaper Maker.

Swimming Should Be Taught.

The Volunteer Life Savers of New York have sent a request to the board of education and to the city superintendent asking that swimming be taught as a part of the school curriculum, Colonel J. Wesley Jones says that the reports for the past year show that a great number of children's lives have been lost from inability to swim, and suggests that swimming be taught regularly in the public baths or in large tanks provided in the basement of schools.

until their congressional committees were appointed and organized. Probably they will not do anything then. Speaker Reed says that they expect public approval "for what they fail to do." Why, then, are they indignant not move actively forward, spur them to action and force them to abandon a policy of do-nothingism which they declared at the start they should follow

Accomplish Nothing. Pressure of public business will not.

Chronicle, December 20.

As to Party Disloyalty.

own party if they should recommend

an increase of duties to meet the neces-

It can indeed be that they think just

this. Their own party has declared

through its only authoritative organ, its

national convention, that taxation for

any other purpose than that of raising

revenue for public purposes is unjusti-

sities of the government."

it seems, deter the hard-working representatives of the United States in congress assembled from taking their regular Christmas vacation of eighteen days. Thus far in their session they have accomplished only the election of a partisan speaker-who was in fact elected a year ago last November-and the passage of a single resolution other than those to adjourn. A majority of the members of the house declare that the treasury is in dire need of more revenue, but they have done nothing to provide it; they insist the sheep will not grow and be woolly-like the

they have done nothing to temper the

main.

hind a speaker afraid of his boom pub-New York World: Senator Thurston lic legislation lags obstructed. It is of Nebraska has introduced in the sensome years since the Republican party ate a bill so obviously in the interest had a good chance to save the nation of the Union Pacific road that there and, now, that opportunity offers, its is small room for doubt that he is still representatives in congress turn from the paid attorney of that corporation. the task of saving and rush away to His proposition is to have the governunearned Christmas dinners. The ratment's claims, growing out of subsidy tle of knife and fork succeeds their bonds issued to aid the construction of clamor for the renewal of McKinleyism. the road, disposed of at auction, no bid Having satisfied their appetites for of less than 50 per cent to be accepted. spolls, they turn from duty to another Of all the schemes evolved to discount gorge. Clearly it is to be a do-nothing the government's equity in the Pacific congress, but a Republican congress road subsidy this, perhaps, is the boldusually is when it does not do someest.

Democrats Court Investigation.

few issues of public policy which will Pittsburg Post: The Republicans not be in better hands while they are propose a sort of drag-net investigaaway than when they return .-- Chicago tion of the several executive departments, particularly the treasury. That is right. Go ahead, gentlemen. The Cleveland administration is ready to A Chicago newspaper which once show its books. The severest scrutiny was able to discriminate a difference will more than compare favorably with between taxation for public purposes Republican administrations, and only and taxation for private benefits has serve to show that as an executive ofthis to say: "It cannot be that Presificer the more he is investigated the dent Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle stronger the president will be with the think they would be disloyal to their

lican papers are very non-committal regarding the rascalities that are being uncarthed in Republican Philadelphia. How they did lampoon Democratic New York and Tammany during the Lexew investigation. Have the stories fiable and wrong. It has declared that of Philadelphia's wickedness reached the exercise of the taxing power in | the clergy? Will they discuss it at the such wise as to earith the few at the regular weekly meeting today?

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