

THE HOMEMAKERS' SETTLEMENT

In the Great Snake River Valley, Idaho.

Irrigated Farms
Greatest Opportunity to secure a Good Home at moderate outlay.

Formed under the auspices of the

Nebraska Independent.

Grandest Plan of Home-making ever undertaken.

Produces enormous crops of Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye, Timothy, Clover, Alfalfa, Fruits and vegetables. Thousands of acres of Free Government Range for the settlers' cattle, sheep and horses.

Those contemplating a change of location, the renter, the young man just starting out for himself, and those seeking a congenial climate will be interested in our plan of Home-making. For particulars write.

THE INDEPENDENT HOMEMAKERS CO.
1245 N STREET, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

ENORMOUS PENSION PAYMENTS.

There Has Been Three Thousand Million Dollars Paid Out Since the War Ended.

From the annual report of the commissioner of pensions it appears that since July 1, 1865, the American people have paid \$2,666,904,000 in pensions, nearly three thousand millions.

The abuses of the pension system are notorious. They are so closely allied with many other abuses, political and personal, that probably there can be no hope of an immediate reform.

These abuses proceed chiefly from the demagoguery of congress, the looseness with which the laws are drawn and enforced and the reckless appeals of influential individuals.

The business of pension brokerage in Washington is one of the largest and most profitable of American industries. The persons so engaged exert a powerful influence not only upon congress itself and upon officials, but upon the fortunes of politicians generally throughout the United States.

They have been known to retire more than one congressman to private life, and their antagonism to honest and efficient commissioners of pensions has been fatal to some of them and demoralizing to others.

The general character of the present pension roll may be seen from the fact that of the 997,900 pensioners now on the rolls two-thirds are in receipt of pensions for disabilities which it is not claimed were due to any actual service in the army or navy of the United States. Under the act of June, 1890, the gates were opened for a vast number of claimants who even at the best were suffering only from the ills which all flesh is heir to. Necessarily under an arrangement which amounts practically to a service pension a great host of unworthy claimants must have been provided for.

The appropriation for pensions for the fiscal year 1901 was \$144,000,000. This is 50 per cent more money than was expended for pensions during all of the years from 1790 until 1865, and is an amount larger than is required for the maintenance of the standing armies of some of the great military nations of Europe.—Chronicle.

This Two Party System.

Albert Watkins has an article in the August issue of the Forum in which he condemns the two-party system and advocates a poly-party system. In all English-speaking countries the two-party system has long been the only system while in other countries there are many parties. To this writer it seems that the two-party system has been a necessity to control the executive as well as both houses of congress for the executive has the veto power which is equal to two-thirds of both houses. If the stronger group has the executive in the many-party system, it not only has the control of all the patronage, but control of legislation as well through the veto power. Under our system of government no reform is possible until a reformer is elected president. To accomplish anything it is therefore absolutely necessary that all reform parties unite in one effort for the election of a president and as far as presidential campaigns are concerned there must practically be two parties and not many parties.

Mr. Watkins shows up the hypocritical pro-protectionism of the anti-democrats and anti-monopoly republicans and trust advocates supporting one party and advocating one platform when a gold democrat was just as hostile to the principles promulgated in the platform of his party as was the most radical republican, and the anti-monopoly republican was a firm believer in the democratic theories on that subject. This criticism is just and well stated, but under our system of the veto power in the hands of the executive there is no way of escape except the plan invented by the populists. They maintain a third party, adopt platforms in which every member of the party believes, and in a presidential election vote for the candidate who will give assurance of enacting into law the reforms that they advocate. This is called "fusion". In it lies the only hope of any reform as long as the executive has

THE VETO POWER.

Mr. Watkins suggests that to throw the election of president into the house would be an escape. But to secure a reform president there would have to be "fusion" in the house and we might as well have it before the election as afterwards. Fusion as advocated by the populists is not only statesmanlike, but in it lies the only hope of reform under our system of government. In this populists have been practically this populists have been as practical and wise as any party ever organized under this or any other government. No sensible man will claim that it will be possible for many years to come for the populists or the Bryan democrats to elect a president, if each maintain and support a different man for that office. Without a president, nothing can be accomplished. To "fuse" is therefore not only "practical politics" but good common sense and sound statesmanship.

Stock Exchange Slang.

We have a pretty assortment of slang on the New York Stock Exchange, but it is not a marker to that which is current in what Londoners call their "house". The legalized gambling institution in Capel Court has many odd nicknames for securities. "Berwick" are shares of the Northwestern Railway, "smelts" are English and Australian copper shares, "pots" are shares of the North Staffordshire Railway; "muttons" are the Turkish loan of 1865, partly secured by the sheep tax; "Morgans" are the French 6 per cents, floated by that firm; "Singapore" are the British Indian Extension telegraph shares, "Yorks" are Great Northern Railway shares, "Leeds" are shares of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, "Dover" are Southeastern Railway shares, "Bruns" are London and Northwestern Railway shares, "Cohens" are the Turkish loan of 1869, floated by the firm of that name; "dogs" are shares of the Newfoundland telegraph.—Victor Smith in New York Press.

Fertility of Sicily.

The natural fertility of Sicily is indeed remarkable. Without the use of fertilizers three different growths—olives, vines and wheat—flourish in close proximity. Great sections already artificially watered are among the garden spots of the world. The "Plano del Cappuccini" at Trapani, on the western shore, the far-famed "Conca d'Oro," near Palermo, and the entire eastern coast north of Catania are sections which surpass in fertility the favored valleys of Tuscany. Already 10,000,000 orange trees, or two-thirds of the total number grown in Italy, flourish on the island, while cotton and linseed, the almond, the olive, the carob and the mandarin are extensively raised.

Nobody Sees Escape.

The latest invention in fire escapes for residences is being put into one of the houses building in Fifth avenue, New York. The casual observer knows nothing about it, for it is in the middle of the house. A contractor thus describes it: "We are building a sheet-iron shaft in the center of the house from the top floor to the basement. The walls are half an inch thick, and so are the doors which open on each floor. There is a spiral stairway of iron, which can be reached from any floor, and the invention is going to take where the builders have plenty of money and do not want to spoil the outer appearance of the house."

Motorman Saved Eighty Cars.

At Chicago the Logan square terminal of the Metropolitan elevated road was practically destroyed by fire. The ticket agent narrowly escaped death in the fire, which destroyed a lot of cars, a train shed, repair shops and other railway property. A motorman waiting with his train at the station saw the flame and pulled about 80 cars out of the yards before the flames reached them. Estimated loss, \$100,000.

They Get Excellent Care.

A woman who has two dogs, each the embodiment of canine health and happiness, follows these rules: She sees that they are fed regularly and that cleanliness and variety are observed. They are fed twice a day, morning and evening, on dog biscuits, a little flesh meat, vegetables and bones; game fowl, rabbit or fish bones she tabooes. A plentiful supply of water is always at hand, says the Philadelphia Times. The dogs are groomed every morning, first with a comb, and then with a brush, and washed about once a fortnight. This is always an interesting proceeding, and a very enjoyable one to the dogs—when it is over. A liberal supply of warm water, a piece of carboric soap, towels and cold water are the ingredients. "Four some warm water on the dog," directs the owner of the healthful and happy two, "and later wash, leaving the head to the last, then rinse well, finishing with cold water. Rub as dry as possible and let the dogs have a run and some little thing to eat."

Tax Doors and Windows.

In France doors and windows are taxed in over 9,000,000 houses, and returns made a few years ago showed the amount received from such taxation was just about half as much as was received from the land tax. Every railway ticket in France is taxed, and, in fact, in that country almost everything of any value or of money-producing power is taxed either by central or local authorities, or both. Everything that goes into any city or town in the shape of wine, fruit, poultry, fish or any kind of food or drink is taxed as it enters. Any person planting tables, plants or flowers in front of his establishment or an awning over doors or windows is taxed for so doing. The town authorities of Bonn, in Germany, have decreed that every projecting window or balcony shall be taxed 50 marks, or about \$2 10s, a year.

Street Car Tickets as Currency.

Portugal is suffering from a plethora of money just now. Not gold, of course, nor silver, but copper. So vast is the supply of this inferior metal that ordinary people are exceedingly chary of changing such few gold coins as they may come into their possession. The copper coinage is big and cumbersome, and it is also depreciated, so that, in order to avoid being burdened with it, it has become the custom, in larger cities at all events, to use street car tickets as currency.

Two Dead—Two Burned.

At Albany, N. Y., a frightful fate befell the family of Wilbur Alexander, a contractor. A naphtha launch exploded on the Hudson river at the "Abbey," a mile and a half below Albany, killing Mrs. Alexander and her little daughter and burning Wilbur Alexander and his son, Wilbur Alexander, jr., in a horrible manner.

Expert Swimmer Drowned.

George Belcher of Brooklyn, New York, well known as an expert and fancy swimmer, was drowned in Broad Channel, at Rockaway beach. He was giving an exhibition in deep water of how a swimmer could carry a person on his back, and his daughter, Eva was the one he carried.

Edward Kunath, Representative of the Anchor Athletic Club of New York City, lowered the world's record for climbing a 25-foot rope at the championship gymnastic contests of the Pastime Athletic club. His time 6:2-5 seconds, 1-5 of a second better than the previous record.

Plans for Colonial Army.

Count von Buelow, the Chancellor at Berlin, is formulating proposals which he will soon submit to the German states, for the formation of a colonial army.

Advices were received of a tragedy on the Hancock-Clairborne line in Tennessee near Shawnee. One report says two men were killed and several wounded, while another states that only one man, William Searles, was killed.

Beside the Prickly Pear.

BY FRANK H. SWEET.
(Copyright, 1901, by Daily Story Pub. Co.)
The brakje is a little cur of small degree, a sneaking, skulking, yelping outcast from his own kind, a poor substitute for a dog only where no better may be had. Yet, the poor brakje sometimes rises so high as to be worthy of an honored place among the St. Bernards and Newfoundlanders.

One day during the dry season a party of traders were crossing the hot, dust-yellow plain toward Kimberly. At noon they were near the summit of a small hillock, and as this offered as much air as there was stirring, they dismounted and made preparations for the midday meal.

This hillock, like most of those they crossed, had a straggling coat of karroo bushes, many of them but a few inches high, and among the karroo was an occasional milk bush, with long, finger-like leaves; and here and there was a tuft of grass or a clump of prickly pears with uplifted, thorny arms.

Presently one of the party noticed a small animal making directly toward them through the karroo bushes, and as it came nearer he recognized the intruder as a brakje.

"Throw something at the cur, Dick," he called, irritably, to one of his companions, "we wouldn't mind feeding a decent dog, but we don't want any of these cowardly mongrels skulking about and maybe following us. Never mind if you do break some of his bones."

Dick caught up a stick and threw it with skillful aim, but instead of slinking away, as they expected, the animal dodged the missile and came nearer. Again Dick threw, and again the animal bounded adroitly aside, this time coming to within a few feet of where they were sitting, and beginning to whine piteously.

"Hold on, Dick," another man called, suddenly; "I believe the brute is starving. Toss him a chunk of meat—a big one."

Dick obediently selected a piece of meat, almost half as large as the applicant, who sprang frantically into the air to meet it half way. But the offering was too large for the brakje to grasp in mid-air, and both dog and meat fell rolling upon the ground. Only for a moment, however, then the brakje was upon his feet, and seizing the prize with a firmer grip, he bounded away into the karroo bushes.

"Afraid to eat it in sight of us," the first speaker said, laconically, "that's the way with all cowardly brutes. They think somebody is trying to steal from them. This cur will sneak off into some solitary place and gorge himself. Well, if he eats all that meat he will not be hungry again for a day or two."

But apparently he was mistaken, for ten minutes later the brakje was again looking into their faces and whining entreatingly. Several of the men whistled under their breath.

"Throw him a chunk of meat, Dick," one of them called, facetiously; "don't you see the brute is starving? Whew! I've heard that a Kaffir could eat his own weight in food; now if this cur devours another piece of meat I can at least testify that a brakje is able to do so. Give him a good big chunk, Dick."

More meat was thrown to the dog, and, as before, he seized it with a strong grip and bounded away into the karroo bushes. This, they supposed, would be the last of him, but, even in less time than before, he was back again, bounding from one to another, and looking up at them with big, entreating eyes that almost seemed to speak. What little fear and hesitation he had shown at first was now wholly gone. He seemed to have read them, and to have given them his full confidence.

"What a dog!" cried several, in wonder.



Dick Threw It With Skillful Aim, dering admiration; "what capacity," and one of them added: "Here, Dick, throw him some more meat; we must fill him up, even if we have to kill a bullock to do it."

A third piece of meat was thrown to him, but this time the dog merely smelled it wistfully, and then turned back to them, an urgent entreaty in his white and in his eyes and in every motion of his quivering, eager body.

"He wants to tell us something, I do believe," exclaimed one of the men suddenly. "But he's still hungry," declared another; "that is quite evident from the way he smelled the meat. There was ravenous longing in every motion."

Apparently the dog understood that they were talking of him, for he gave a quick yelp and bounded into the karroo bushes, then stepped and looked back at them.

ARTIFICIAL NEW POTATOES.

Old Tubers Dipped in Lye to Give them New Look.

Out in California, quite a thriving industry, so it is said, is carried on in the manufacture of new potatoes. The thrifty artificers are mostly Portuguese, Italians and Chinamen, and if all goes well it appears they get about a two months' start on the market. Their method is ingenious. After the regular crop is out of the way, late in the season, they plant, having learned the correct time by experience, a crop of good keeping late potatoes. These they dig up just before the winter frosts set in, when, of course, they are small, and bury them in heaps in the open fields until spring, when the new-potato season arrives. They are then taken out and assorted according to size. While this is going on a large kettle or vat is rigged up and filled with water to which a sufficient quantity of lye is added to make the skins of the potatoes curl when they are dipped into it. A crane and metal basket are used for this purpose so as to do it as expeditiously as possible. The effect of dipping any potato into lye water, no matter how old, is to crack and curl the skin, while it at the same time hardens and makes it more firm. The resemblance of the spurious brand to a new potato is consequently so close that it takes an expert to detect the difference by appearance. After the dipping the potatoes are washed and placed in the sun to dry and the work is complete. The fraudulent article can, however, be detected by cutting one open, when by looking carefully from circumference to center a yellowish white line of watery appearance will be seen, or by putting one or two into cold water and bringing it to a boil, when a faint lye odor will be noticeable, and the water that covers them will have a slippery feeling.—Philadelphia Times.

"I found the body of a lion down there," he said, gravely. "It must have been killed a week or ten days, for the flesh has been nearly removed by birds and ants. There were evidences of a fearful struggle, a hand-to-hand encounter, I should say, for I found a long knife in the head of the animal."

"You don't mean—" began one of the list-ers, incredulously.

"Yes, I do mean just that. I believe this man and the lion fought together, and this man conquered and dragged himself up here, in the condition you see him. Furthermore, I believe that the little mongrel has since acted as assistant surgeon by licking the wounds and as sole provider."

He nodded toward the dog, which was still licking the Kaffir's face. Near the animal, and within easy reach of the man's arm were the two pieces of meat, and scattered about them were the cleanly-picked bones of small animals and birds and the broken shells of birds' eggs. The men looked at them, and then at each other. The one who had asked Dick to drive the cur away looked round with a sudden tenderness in his face.

"Yes, I see it all now," he said, slowly. "The little brakje caught animals and birds in some manner which he alone can explain, and brought them to his master. He licked the wounds, which might have been harmful. Of course he could not bring water, and the man's unconsciousness is very likely due to thirst. Probably he did not lose his reason until some time this forenoon, and then the dog hurried off in quest of food, thinking that the remedy needed. But when he brought the pieces of meat, and his master would not touch them, he must have realized that the remedy was beyond his power to provide; then he came and implored our assistance."

"Then there is another thing," his voice becoming softer, "I believe the dog has been starving himself in order to provide for his master. See how thin and emaciated he looks, and remember how he smelled that third piece of meat in camp. I suppose he felt that his moments were too precious just then to be wasted in eating. I doubt if he has even tasted food since his master dragged himself up here."

They were all silent for some minutes, looking at the Kaffir and the dog; then some one asked: "What shall we do with them?"

"Take them along, of course," was the prompt response. "A man who has been cared for as this one has must be worthy of further looking after. His wounds are apparently doing well, and I think we shall have no trouble to pull him through. We will take him down to the camp, and then carry him on to Kimberly. There I will put him in the care of the best surgeon I can find. We must save him for the dog's sake."

And they did. Before the end of three months the Kaffir was nearly as strong as ever, and by that time they had discovered that he was intelligent above his class, and that he was trustworthy and brave. When they offered him the position of hunter for their party, he accepted the place with a broad display of teeth. So the brakje became a fixture of the camp, and though, of course, his first affection was always for the Kaffir, he had enough for all the men of the party, giving perhaps the second place to the one who had asked Dick to drive him away.

Fewer people proportionately keep their own carriages in Paris than in London.

WHEN OTHERS FAIL CONSULT

DOCTORS SEARLES & SEARLES SPECIALISTS

WE CURE all curable cases of Catarrh of the Head, Nose, Bronchial Tubes, Lungs, Stomach, Bowels, Kidneys and Bladder. CHRONIC or ACUTE, MUSCULAR or ARTICULAR RHEUMATISM, Erysipelas and all other Blood Diseases.

The Combined Treatment of the Great CURATIVE POWERS, Science, Medicine and Electricity.

Properly applied cures Chronic, Nervous, and Private Diseases of Men and Women. \$100 for a case of Catarrh, Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, or Blood Poison we cannot cure if curable. Examination and Consultation Free. Home treatment by mail in all diseases a specialty. All medicine furnished. Call or address with stamp for circular, free book, and advice. Write today. P. O. Box 224 Harris, Erie, Pa.

Rich Harvests of Perquisites.

The dean and chapter of Westminster are entitled to claim as "perquisites" every article which is taken into the abbey for the purpose of the coronation, and that reverend body reaped rich harvests in 1821, 1831 and 1838.

A. M. Segar, aged 35, whose home is supposed to be at Cherryvale, Kan., was stabbed to death by Riley Swallowood, aged 19. The affray occurred in a Tacoma, Wash., saloon, the result a quarrel between the two men. Swallowood fled and has not been captured.

Charged With Bootlegging.

United States Deputy Marshal Moore brought before Commissioner Bode of Grand Island, Neb., one, Eli Warner on the charge of bootlegging. At the hearing the prisoner was bound over to the United States district court at Omaha and in default of the \$500 bond was taken to that city for safe keeping. He was operating at Nelson.

Planning Mill Burned.

The planing, shingle and sash factory of N. McGraft & Son at Lakeside, Mich., was burned, together with the finished stock. Loss, about \$30,000; insurance about half in several companies. The fire caught from a passing engine.

How Are Your Kidneys?

Dr. Hobbs' Sarsaparil Pills cure all kidney ills. Sample free. Add: Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or N. Y.

Midway Features.

One of the features, if not THE feature of the State Fair this year, has been the large array of attractions on the Midway the chief one of which has been

Miss Ella K. Ewing,

better known throughout the United States and the old world as the "Missouri Giantess." Miss Ewing was born in LaGrange, Louis county, Mo., 37 years ago, of parents whose stature and weight was only a medium of the people around them. At her birth, she weighed but six and one-half pounds and until the twelfth year, her growth was no more rapid nor phenomenal than that of other young people, but after that, her growth was rapid, until at the age of 18 years her height was the wonder and talk of the neighborhood, and at 20 she had attained the enormous height that she has today. Miss Ewing enjoys the reputation of being the tallest lady in the whole world. Captain Bates, who was on exhibition seven years, had the reputation of being the tallest man on earth, being then 7 feet and 9 inches tall, but Miss Ewing is seven inches (by actual measurement) taller than was Captain Bates. Mrs. Bates, his wife, was 7 feet, 11 inches tall, at that time the tallest woman of which a period of one thousand years past could boast, but this young lady Colossus is five inches taller than was Mrs. Bates, and is without doubt the tallest woman of which modern history has any record. Miss Ewing has been on exhibition in every first class museum of this country and of Europe, and has always attracted the attention of the public. For one year she was the feature of Barnum's big show, and was with Buffalo Bill's Wild West one year. She is a modest, refined lady, intelligent, and a good talker, and takes great pleasure in answering any questions that may be propounded her. She is an only child and is accompanied in her travels by her father and a young lady cousin. She was in the museum here eight years ago, and many of our people still remember her. Another feature is

Freeman Bros'. Electric Shows,

one of the most interesting attractions on East Midway. Among this show's attractions is an exact representation of Carrie Nation's attack upon the Senate saloon at Topeka, Kansas; a realistic description of the Galveston flood, and the grandest of all Parisian illusions, "A Trip to the Moon." This is strictly a high class entertainment, and suitable for ladies and children. Another feature is the

Museum of Anatomy,

that should be visited by every gentleman who enters the gates of the exhibition. It is an institution of learning, that should leave its impress for good on all who enter the pavilion. Don't fail to see this exhibition of the results of modern intellectual research.

Rubber Wealth of the Congo.

The great future wealth of the Congo will not be ivory, but india rubber. The rubber trade in the Free State is a recent one. About 40 years ago the first Europeans who settled in the Lower Congo regions began to export india rubber in small quantities. But it was only in 1839 that the Belgians first turned their attention to the great gutta percha forests of the Upper Congo. Since then the development of the rubber industry has been such that the Free State now holds the first place among the rubber producing countries of Africa, with an annual output of more than 3,000 tons.

Symptom of Consumption.

A man in Ray county, Missouri, became convinced recently that he had incipient consumption. Every time he drew a full breath he heard a crackling sound. The doctor discovered that the crackling sound was made by a small buckle on his suspender.

Holland Most Densely Populated.

The most populous country in proportion to its area is said to be Holland; the country having the greatest population is China.