

A STRANGE FARM.
It is located 700 feet below the level of Idaho's Plains. On Snake River in Southern Idaho, twenty miles south of the little town of Shoshone and near the Great Shoshone falls, is located the strangest farm in the world. It is nothing but a hole in the ground, 700 feet below the surface, and embraces over 600 acres. But this "hole in the ground" has been transformed into a veritable paradise.

For ages and ages this "Devil's corral" as it was known by prospectors, had been standing silent and unknown. No one had the temerity to clamber down the steep cliffs that surround it until a few years ago when a venturesome spirit, thinking that gold might be found in the depths of the rock-walled basin, made the descent. He located a mine and began to work it, but his progress is not worth recording. But Perrine, a young man from Indiana, seeking his fortune in the West, went to see the Great Shoshone falls and also took a view of this satanic corral. The place impressed him so favorably as a location for a ranch, truck farm or fruit farm that he bought the miner's claim to the basin and became owner of it.

Perrine made a survey of the place and found that there were 420 acres that could be worked. In spite of the fears of his friends he began the task of transforming it into a productive area. This was no easy job. By a great deal of hard work he managed to blaze out along the rocky descent, a trail down which pack animals could travel. To do the work necessary down in the corral Perrine had to have wagons, scrapers, harrows, plows, powder and dynamite and these had to be lowered with ropes over a perpendicular lava wall about 700 feet in height. There were also other things that pack animals couldn't carry and these had to be let down in the same manner. But the most difficult task of all was the building of a road up the 700 feet of miscellaneous precipice. The drover had some idea of surveying and with the assistance of a great deal of dynamite and powder succeeded in constructing a winding roadway, that goes in and out, back and forth, between lofty cliffs in its descent.

After infinite labor the bottom land was cleared and the soil has proved to be very productive. Among other things growing on the farm are 5,000 fruit trees. There are two beautiful lakes near by and these have been piped for irrigating purposes. In winter the weather is much warmer than on the plains above.

Death and Electricity.
A writer in an electrical magazine, in discussing the probabilities of death by an electric current, said that he at one time stood at the top of one of the Alpine peaks in a storm and had lightning pass through his body to an extent sufficient to make a loud, crackling noise and to produce long blue streams of sparks from the fingers, without any effect upon the body other than to force him to descend without delay.

It Keeps the Feet Dry and Warm.
And is the only cure for Chilblains, Frost Bites, Damp & Sweating Feet, Corns and Bunions. Ask for Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder to be shaken into the shoes. At all druggists and shoe stores. 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

Something Awful.
"I don't know why it is," said young Softleigh, "but I am always dull and stupid when I have a cold in my head."

"You have my sympathy," replied Miss Cutting. "A chronic cold must be an awful affliction."

In the Wilds of Arizona.
Coroner—What was the cause of Diamond Joe's death?

Broncho-Pete—Heart disease.

Coroner—Are you sure of that?

Broncho-Pete—Sartan—The heart was a-ace and he had it up his sleeve.

How He Acquired Them.

Ned—Here comes one of my sisters down the avenue.

Hal—Why, I wasn't aware that you had any sisters?

Ned—Oh, yes; I have three—by re-fusal.

To Cure a COLD in ONE DAY.

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He who knows his ignorance is the possessor of the rarest kind of valuable knowledge.

National and Individual Footpads.

When a man with a gun robs a defenseless man on the street he is called a footpad, and we send him to the penitentiary. If we can catch him. When a man with many guns robs a defenseless country of its property and civil rights we call that diplomacy, sometimes, and sometimes war. The moral element is about the same in both cases, or a little in favor of the footpad, who takes his chances, while his august exemplar takes none.—Louisville Times.

One Way to Wipe Out Deficit.

We observe that quite a number of moral Republican editors are pointing with pride to the gratifying increase in the internal revenue receipts. If an impetus can be given to the general drunkenness of the country the grand old Republican party will be rescued from the hole in the treasury and the ship of state will avoid the rocks.

Drinking Oysters.
It may sound odd to speak of "drinking" oysters. One would assume their opportunity to quench their thirst was fairly good, but oysters must be "drunk" or "watered"—as oysters say—before they are fit for market. The "drinking" process is simply a matter of fattening, or, to be more truthful, of fattening.

When oysters are "raised" (taken from the beds to the air) they are dumped aboard the sloops, and when a load is obtained the sloop sails for some fresh water stream. At the mouth of these streams are floats into which the oysters are dumped at full tide. As the tide ebbs, and the fresh water from the stream gradually freshens the water in the floats, the oyster opens. It appears to be drinking, but instead is simply allowing the fresh water to wash out the salt. When this is completed the oyster closes. The fresh water causes it to swell, sometimes till the shell gapes open. Thus the oyster becomes plump, and when opened looks fat and fit.

As the Republicans Reason.

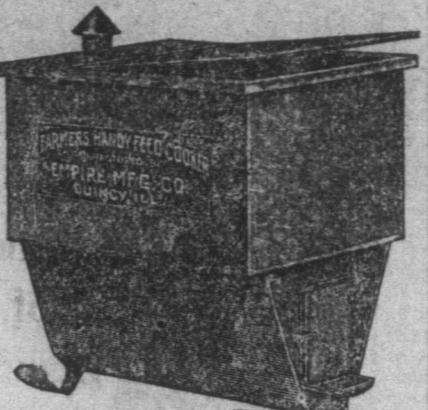
Wonderful is the logic of Republicanism. According to this system the Wilson bill brought about a deficit of \$70,000,000 fourteen months before it was passed, and now it has brought about a deficit of \$46,000,000 five months after it has been repealed.

Political Pointers.

We now have government by banks. Secretary Gage wants prosperity for the bankers only.

There is a Democratic club in your vicinity? If not, why not? The work

Farmer's Handy Feed Cooker.
We desire to call our readers' attention to the Farmer's Handy Feed Cooker, which is sold at the low price of \$12.50 for 50-gallon capacity.



By feeding poultry and stock with cooked food during the winter months, at least one-third of the food is saved; also having stock in a healthy condition, preventing hog cholera among your hogs, and insuring the hens laying freely during the winter months when eggs are always wanted at high prices. This Cooker will pay for itself in one week's time and is without doubt the best and cheapest on the market—just what its name implies. A Farmer's Handy Feed Cooker. Upon application to the Empire Manufacturing Co., 614 II street, Quincy, Ill., a catalogue, giving a full description, may be obtained. They are made in all sizes.

Dogs Trained in War.

In all the European armies save that of Britain canine intelligence is employed in the role of spies, messengers and aids to the wounded. The Italian sentries in the Alps are always accompanied by dogs! The Dutch found them in Aachen invaluable in preventing the butchery of sentinels by stealthy foes; the Russians employed them to some extent in their last war with Turkey; the French have used them in Tunis and in Algiers, and the Austrians utilize them in the detection of ambuscades. The dogs employed by the Russians are wolf and sheep dogs, and a species of St. Bernard, and equipped with packages and bandages around their necks and flasks of soups or brandy, are taught to find the hidden wounded, offer them restoratives, give the alarm, and afterward, if necessary, to draw them on little hand carts to the hospital.

The Germans use pointers, Scotch collies, Pomeranians and short-haired sporting dogs, which are trained to march silently, indicating strangers by a point or a low growl, to carry messages some miles, to obey men in the German uniform and to halt all others.

The SOLDIER ABROAD.

The Private Is Seldom Seen in the Main Streets of German Cities. The private soldier is seldom seen in any of the leading thoroughfares of the streets of the large German cities, observed a recently returned military gentleman, to a reporter, not however, because he would not like to be seen there, but because it is quite a job for him to show up in a crowded street. In Europe it is different from this country, for military officers have to wear their uniforms constantly. Indeed, many of them have no other clothing. In this country it is extremely rare to see an officer in uniform, and never unless he is going or returning from some function where the uniform is necessary, and which, as I say, is very rare. There are in all of the large cities and towns of Germany hundreds and hundreds of officers. It is an imperative duty of the soldier to formally salute every time one passes, even if the same officer passes him five or ten times in an hour. The private soldier generally takes a side street, so as to avoid meeting officers, for saluting every five minutes in a day, and sometimes oftener, which would be the case should he travel in the principal streets, gets to be tiresome after it is observed for three or four hours. The soldier is nearly always loyal, and takes a pride in saluting his superior officers, but there is often too much of a good thing in military life, as there is in other walks of life. Even in the side streets he has considerable saluting to do, but nothing in comparison with what he would have to do should he venture on the largely traveled streets. The officers are very particular in insisting on salutes, and should a soldier attempt to pass them without doing military honors, on the excuse that he did not see the officer, the result would be somewhat serious to him.

To Awaken Sleepheads.

Like all other champions of the gold standard the Chicago Times-Herald assumes that if a farmer only succeeds in paying his debts, it is proof positive of his prosperity, and further, that he ought to be supremely happy. It overlooks the circumstance that men may and do pay debts under great disadvantages. A man may have a mortgage on his farm. Grasshoppers may come and destroy a crop; drought may come and ruin another; his barn may be overturned in a cyclone, his house be consumed by fire, sickness and death may invade his family circle; still, by almost superhuman effort, and by denying himself and his loved ones many things which they need, he may at last pay the mortgage. But would this prove that the grasshoppers, the drought, the cyclone, the fire and the sickness and death were blessings and helped him to do it? According to the Times-Herald's philosophy, yes. The mortgage might surprisingly change a \$1,000 mortgage into one of \$2,000. The farmer might succeed in paying it, but would that make the act of changing the figures any less a crime, or a disadvantage to the man who is compelled to pay \$2,000 when he only agreed to pay \$1,000? No matter what robbery and extortion are practiced upon the debtor, it is all right so long as he succeeds in paying. That is the infallible gold standard practice.

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THE POLITICS OF THE DAY

READY FOR THE BATTLE.

The Democratic managers intend to inaugurate the Congressional campaign at an early day, says Senator Jones, national commander of the allied forces of Democracy. While the Republicans are quarreling and fighting among themselves over Cuba, the money question and civil service reform, the Democrats are ready to make a determined effort to capture the next House. The reports received from all parts of the country are of the most encouraging character.

According to these reports, the Democrats are practically certain to gain eight seats in Illinois, seven in Indiana, five in Iowa, four in Kentucky, five in Maryland, seven in Michigan, four in Minnesota, twelve in New York, six in Ohio, five in Pennsylvania and two in West Virginia.

This makes a total gain of sixty-three and it is not expected that the Republicans will gain more than four seats, making the next Democratic gain sixty.

According to these figures, the next House would stand: Republicans, 171; opposition, 180. It is not doubted that the Populists and the silver Republicans will stand with the Democrats in the next Congress. In organizing the House the Democrats would be allowed to name the three principal officers and the chairman of all the important committees, while one of the House officers and a number of the less important chairmanships would be given to the Populists and Silver Republicans.

"So far as the State of Kentucky is concerned," says Representative David Higginbotham Smith, of Hodgenville, Larue County, "the Republicans have had their day in court down there and have shown themselves to be unworthy of public confidence. The administration of Governor Bradley is so disastrous a failure as to amount almost to a disgrace. The men who have been sent to Washington by the Kentucky Republicans during their lease of power have not made a favorable impression on the country. The old commonwealth is back again in the Democratic column, and there it is likely to stay. At the next election for members of Congress the Democrats will carry every district except the eleventh and the delegation in the next House will consist of ten Democrats and one Republican. Silver will be the battle cry all along the line. The platform will be the same in every district. It will be such that there will be no need for fusion. The candidates in various districts will be distributed among the Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans, according to the vote polled in 1890.

Autonomy in Cuba Begins Under a Threatening Cloud.

Autonomy was formally implanted in Cuba Saturday morning by the administration of the oath of fidelity to Spain and the new constitution to the members of the colonial cabinet. Only four members were present, Senor Dols, minister of public works, being in Spain, and Senor Govin, minister of the interior, not having arrived from the United States. The new regime was ushered in under threatening auspices. It is believed that an outbreak against autonomy was only averted by extraordinary military precautions.

The Government had been in possession for several days of information that trouble might be expected on New Year's eve, the signal for an outbreak being the ringing of bells at midnight. Precautionary measures were taken with great secrecy, but enough became known to convince the intriguers and the turbulent element of the utter futility of the success of a demonstration.

Much bitter feeling was manifested over the action of the Government. The intriguers declare that the end is near when the wretches of the Spanish soldiers are turned against the only loyal Spaniards in Cuba, and ask if autonomy is to be thrust down their throats with the bayonet.

Marsal Blanco, the captain general, escorted by a number of high Spanish officials, the consular corps, army and navy officers, politicians, etc., reached the throne room at 9 o'clock a.m. A new Bible was open on a table, and upon it the secretaries took the oath of fidelity to the queen, the monarchy and the Spanish Government, placing their right hands on the Bible and kneeling as they repeated the words required. Senor Galvez, president of the cabinet, was first sworn in, and then the oath was administered to the others.

After the conclusion of this ceremony all present attended the celebration of mass by the bishop in the chapel of the palace. All present knelt down at the elevation of the host, except the British and German consuls. At the conclusion of the ceremony the captain general remained on persons who had been convicted of common crimes. Cable messages of congratulation were exchanged during the day between Senor Sagasta, premier of Spain, and Marsal Blanco.

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Pure, Delicious, Nutritious.

Costs Less than ONE CENT a cup.

Be sure that the package bears our Trade-Mark.

Walter Baker & Co. Limited,

Dorchester, Mass.

(Established 1780.)

Trade-Mark.

CANDY CATHARTIC Cascarets CURE CONSTIPATION REGULATE THE LIVER ALL DRUGGISTS

10c 25c 50c

TRY GRAIN-O! TRY GRAIN-O!

Ask your grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink.

that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink without injury as well as the adult. All who try it like it.

GRAIN-O has that rich, seal brown of Mocha and Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. One-fourth of the price of coffee, 15c and 25c per package, sold by all grocers.

IN THE HOUSE OF DANGER.

He's known as a battle-scarred hero,