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THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.

BY F. D. CRAIG, (Lessee.)

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Washington Correspondence.

The past week political circles in the Nation's Capitol, have had but little excitement. The discussion in the Senate over the Nicaragua Canal Bill has occupied the majority of the time. This bill as presented by Senator Morgan of Alabama, provides for the amending of the present charter of the Canal Company, placing the construction and management of the canal in government directors, appointed by the President of the United States. The United States Government to guarantee for the Canal Company \$100,000,000 of bonds drawing three per cent interest, and due in thirty years.

Senator Morgan made an able argument sustaining the justice, prudence and desirability of the measure.

Senator Turpie of Indiana, as it seems, has been laying low for this bill for some time, for he took the floor the day after Senator Morgan concluded, and spoke four days against the bill. He made a very strong case against it, and brought out much information, which if true, ought to kill the measure.

His arguments are likely to be answered before a vote.

The Pacific Railroads, have come to the front with a bill, authorizing the creation of a commission which shall have power to settle all causes and differences between the Railroads, and the United States Government. This commission to consist of the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General.

This measure is not likely to become a law.

As has recently been stated Senator Allen, of Nebraska, volunteered the statement that if Mr. Bryan wished to be Senator from that state he would gladly resign in his favor. He is now in receipt of numerous letters from Populists from various sections of the country commending him for his magnanimity of purpose, but assuring him that no Populists desire his resignation, feeling thoroughly satisfied with his continued championship of the principles of that party.

Senator Pepper, in talking with your correspondent over his defeat in the Kansas Legislature, said that he could stand it, but didn't want his friends to pity him, or he would feel like crying. The Senator has been a faithful, earnest, honest worker and his friends here regret his defeat.

Many republican senators telegraphed their congratulations to Senator Pritchard, of North Carolina, upon his re-election. Several also telegraphed their thanks to Representative Harry Skinner, the Populist member from North Carolina, whose efforts among his friends in the North Carolina Legislature rendered Senator Pritchard's return probable. Senator Chandler said yesterday that he, in

common with other republicans in the senate, felt exceedingly grateful to Representative Skinner. He also paid a high tribute to the character and ability of Senator Pritchard, and declared that his victory would redound to the best interests of North Carolina, which state was certainly interested in having a protective tariff. Senator Stewart spoke contemptuously of Senator Pritchard's promise to work for free silver whenever it was not brought up as an obstruction to necessary remedial legislation, and said that with a republican majority in the Senate free silver could and would never be considered as anything else but obstructive.

One of the most remarkable pieces of headgear in the House is possessed by General Wheeler, of Confederate fame, representing the Eighth Alabama District. It is not a derby, nor a fedora, nor the broad-rimmed black covering that Southern statesmen in Congress so much affect. The dashing old cavalry leader departs from all Congressional custom in the selection of his top wear, which is an ordinary black hat such as boys in the country generally select. He has a special trade-mark in the way of creasing it. There is no longitudinal furrow lengthwise this article of the General's apparel; it is creased round and round to fit the shape of the head, and to rest closely upon the crown; after the fashion that country youth affect when the knap of a hat is worn off and it has been out in the rain once or twice to take the style out of it.

When Peter Morrison walked upon the floor of the Senate under the escort of Senator Hoar, another act in a very funny comedy of Massachusetts politics was performed.

Now, Mr. Morrison is an estimable citizen, but he is not knee-high in Massachusetts Republicanism to one William B. Plunkett. For Plunkett is one of the original McKinley men in the old Bay State, in fact if it were not that William McKinley Osborne is happily in the land of the living, Plunkett might take the very front seat. Consequently, the Massachusetts delegation in Congress was quite afraid that Mr. Plunkett would want the earth, and was very much relieved when he would be content with the very small honor of being allowed to carry the electoral vote of the State to Washington. "Why, of course," said Senator Hoar; and "certainly," remarked Senator Lodge; and "most assuredly" added Gov. Wolcott; and "delighted," said Lieut. Murray Crane; and in the affirmative chorus could be heard the voice of would-be Ambassador Draper and everybody else who has any influence at all. So all these prominent and distinguished gentlemen smiled and were happy. And Mr. Plunkett was the smilingest man of all.

Now, in the electoral college rose up one Cobb—a little David, so to speak, who was to kill all the political Goliaths. He was against boss rules, he said, and he proposed that the electors should choose their messenger from among themselves. To everybody's great astonishment his motion carried, and the hitherto unknown Mr. Morrison was chosen. Mr. Morrison arrived with the precious package. In the hurry of his trip to Washington he had forgotten his letter of identification, but Senator Lodge vouched for him, and so the omission was not vital. Senator Hoar asked permission to accord all bearers of electoral votes the privilege of the floor of the Senate, and this request being readily granted, Mr. Morrison was escorted upon the floor.

Up in the gallery—outside of

the pearly gates—sat Mr. Plunkett. He, too, had come to Washington, but as a private citizen and at his own expense. From his humble and insignificant place, amid the common, ordinary crowd, he saw Peter Morrison carry off the honors that were to have fallen upon his head.

Your correspondent is reliably informed that it is the programme of the Republican leaders to prevent the election of United States Senators in the States of Idaho, Washington and South Dakota until after the fourth of March. The Populists are masters of the situation in the Legislatures of these three States, and if they can be kept quarrelling and fighting among themselves and fail to elect Senators, the Republicans will have control of the Senate when McKinley calls an extra session. If they can bring this state of affairs about, then they can reorganize the Senate, which will give them all the patronage and the making up of all the committees which control legislation in the Senate.

It is to be hoped that the Populist members of the Legislatures of the States named above, will grasp the situation, stop their bickerings and elect Senators at the earliest possible day.

A Mighty Game Cock.

A man in England paid \$1,000 for a chicken a short time ago, although the fact is not a basis for speculation as to English poultry market prices. In point of fact, the price was considered so outrageous even for a game cock that the story of the sale when it first began to circulate found few believers. But it was a genuine sale. The money was paid and the chicken taken.

It was at the Birmingham poultry show a few weeks ago that this remarkable transaction took place. The game cock in question, a fine black red, is said to be the most perfect of its kind in existence. It has a wonderful reach, is almost perfect in shape and size, while its fine tail is one of its best points. It has a fine ancestral record of prizes and triumphs and is a heavy winner itself. The owner of the bird was Hugo Ainscough, and the purchaser was, Captain Heaton, agent of the Earl of Ellesmere.—Farmers Voice.

Crimson Clover In Kansas.

We have grown small areas of Crimson clover for several years, and the effort has invariably resulted in failure. Being an annual plant and a reputed nitrogen gatherer, it was thought expedient to introduce it in one of the rotations under experiment, but it was found to do so poorly and yield so little that it was practically worthless. It can neither stand our dry summers nor the cold of our winters. When sown in late summer, as is the practice in the east, where this plant is in favor, we found that only a small per cent would survive until spring. In no case has it compared favorably in yield or hardness with the common red clover. In the eastern counties of the state it may do better, but even there I should not expect it to be worth cultivating, when red clover is so much surer. This has been the tenor of the answers given to numerous correspondents, who, having read the glowing reports of this plant from the east, were anxious to learn what it would do here.—Kansas Station, Manhattan.

Exploring the Upper Niger

After an absence of three years the expedition under Lieutenant Hourst has safely returned to Europe from the Niger. The party ascended the Senegal river and then carried the sections of an aluminium boat overland to the upper part of the Niger. On reaching this river the pieces of the boat were put together and two native boats purchased. In these the expedition sailed down the Niger to Timbuktu, where a stay of ten months was made. The voyage from Timbuktu to Lokaja, at the confluence of the Niger and Benue, seems to have been arduous, but from that point the expedition was towed by a launch belonging to the Royal Niger company to the coast at Wari. How much fresh

topographical information Lieutenant Hourst's party has obtained is not yet stated. This will depend on the highest point reached on the Niger. Reuter's message states that the expedition "first met the river Niger at Kayes," but that town is on the Senegal river. There can be no doubt, however, that much valuable scientific information was obtained, for the expedition traveled slowly and was admirably equipped. One novelty was the use of the Phonograph for reporting the native war songs. The expedition kept peace with the natives throughout the journey, in which it differs greatly from some of those previously conducted by French explorers in that region.—Nature.

Experiments On Diet.

Purdue University is issuing a series of popular monographs about food. The latest of these discusses studies and experiments made at LaFayette (Ind.) upon the dietaries of two families respectively of a tinner and a teacher. The investigation was conducted by Professor W. E. Stone, co-operating with the United States Department of Agriculture the reports being published by the latter.

The daily cost per individual in two families was respectively 18 and 26 cents, but reference to the character and the composition of the food shows very plainly that the more costly diet was not more attractive or more nutritious or in any way more to be preferred. On the contrary the cheaper diet was rational and substantial. The difference in cost was due to two causes, injudicious selection in buying, wastefulness in the use of the food. The family which spent less for its food consumed 96 per cent, which might of been eaten. These and other practical facts presented, make this an exceedingly valuable publication.—Monticello Herald.

The Farm Ice House.

A reminder of the importance of storing ice on the farm will be in order at any time during the fall and winter months.

An ice house need not be an expensive construction. In fact a rude building made of rough boards will answer the purpose. Good drainage must be provided for, also good ventilation. The drain must not admit a current of air to the ice. There must be good foundation, or bed on which the lower layer of ice is to rest and it should be covered with non-conducting material.

It is better to build early, before cold weather sets in, yet it can be built at any time. The ice can even be put in a pile, on a proper foundation or bed, and a house put over it at convenience. An old hay bay or shed can be utilized for ice storage. In an emergency ice can be kept without any kind of a building over it. In sections of the country where lumber is scarce and high in price and hay is plenty and worth but little, the walls of ice houses have been made of pressed hay.—Farm, Field, and Fireside.

Spring Planting.

One of the most serious objections to spring planting is that if the trees are to come from the nursery they will make the planting late. This may be obviated by securing the trees in the fall and heeling them in. Then they are at hand ready for planting when wanted. The ground can be plowed, matured and staked out during the winter, and this will be another help in getting the planting done early. So far as is possible the planting should be done as early as the condition of the soil will admit. While early planting is advisable there is no advantage in attempting to set out trees unless the soil is in a good condition, as one item in securing a good growth is to have the work of planting properly done. The advantage in early planting is the longer time for growth before hot, dry weather sets in, and for the soil to get well settled around the roots.

A safe rule is to set as deep as the trees grew in the nursery. To have the holes large enough to admit all of the roots without bending or twisting. The dead and injured roots should all be cut off, always making a smooth, slanting cut; and then the top should always be cut back in proportion to the roots. The soil should be thoroughly firmed, and if manure is to be applied it should be well rotted and thor-

oughly incorporated with the soil.

It is a very good plan to scatter the manure in the bottom of the hole or place prepared for the tree and then set the tree in it. Fill in the soil carefully around the roots, as it is an important item to have the roots and soil come in close contact, and in many cases it will pay after the roots are covered to tramp the soil down well. Care must always be taken to keep the roots moist while transplanting, as the drying of the roots and the failure to have the roots and soil come in close contact cause more loss than any other causes.—Farmer's Voice.

Laws of Modern Warfare.

The "laws of war," as at present formulated by the civilized nations, forbid the use of poison against the enemy; murder by treachery, as, for example, assuming the uniform or displaying the flag of a foe; the murder of those who have surrendered, whether upon conditions or at discretion; declarations that no quarter will be given to an enemy; the use of such arms or projectiles as will cause unnecessary pain or suffering to an enemy; the abuse of a flag of truce to gain information concerning an enemy's positions; all unnecessary destruction of property, whether public or private. They also declare that fortified places shall be besieged, open cities or villages not to be subject to siege or bombardment; that public buildings of what ever character, whether belonging to church or state, shall be spared; that plundering by private soldiers or their officers shall be considered inadmissible; that prisoners shall be treated with common humanity; that the personal effects and private property of prisoners, excepting their arms and ammunition, shall be respected, that the population of an enemy's country shall be considered exempt from participation in the war, unless by hostile acts they provoke the ill-will of the enemy. Personal and family honor and the religious convictions of an invaded people must be respected by the invaders and all pillage by regular troops or their followers strictly forbidden.—Ex.

"A boy will tramp 247 miles in one day on a rabbit hunt and be limber in the evening, when, if you ask him to go across the street and borrow a two inch auger, he will be as stiff as a meat block. Of course he will. And he will go swimming all day and stay in the water three hours at a time, and dive, and next morning he will feel that the unmeasured insult has been offered him when he is told by his mother to wash his face carefully, so as not to leave the score of the ebb and flow so plain to be seen under his gills. And he will wander about the bed of a dry creek all the afternoon piling up a pebble fort, and nearly die off when his big sister wants him to pick her up a basket of chips for the parlor stove. And he will spend the biggest part of day trying to corner a stray mule or a bald-headed horse for a ride, but feel that life's charms have fled when it comes time to drive the cows home. And he'll turn a ten acre field up-side-down for ten inch angle worms, and wish for the voiceless tomb when the garden demands his attention. But all the same, when you want a friend who will stand by you and sympathize with you and be true to you in all kinds of weather, enlist one of these boys."—Exchange.

Free Pills.

Send your address to H. E. Bueken & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in Constipation and Sick Headache. For Malaria and Liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from every deleterious substance and be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c. per box. Sold by F. B. Meyer's Druglist.

A Prehistoric Beehive.

A curious and interesting discovery was recently made in a stone quarry near Atchison, Kan. The quarry is on the western or Kansas bluff of the Missouri river. The area of the company's operation had to be extended, by reason of increase of orders for rip-rap stone, and 100 feet of ground in length by 25 in width was denuded of the primeval forest, and the earth above eighteen feet in depth, scraped off.

After the rock had been reached a hole of about fifteen feet in

depth was drilled into it by a steam drill. Then explosives were emptied into the hole and tamped down and a fuse attached. After all this there was a great upheaval of rock. When the workmen went to ascertain the result of the blast they discovered a great cavity in the original rock, that, as they think, had been many years ago a great beehive. There were no bees, but they account for that by the dust on the floor of the cavity. That there was honey there and palatable workmen is vouched for by all the workmen. The cavity in the rock was a perfect beehive, and in its congeries of hexagonal cells differed in no particular from the architecture of the busy bees of prehistoric as well as present times.

Whether this honey is the product of bees of this age, which had found some opening through the mountain of earth above to the rock's cavity, or whether it is honey that has been sealed in the everlasting rock since the consensus of opinion gives to it the title of "prehistoric honey."—Farmers Voice.

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Two Silver Champions.

Doubtless many of our readers, who appreciate the importance of the restoration of the bimetallic standard, would like to subscribe for and support a farm paper which while unsurpassed in its agricultural, household and other departments, at the same time has been the leading exponent of the bimetallic principle of finance. With a view to supplying this want, we have made a liberal clubbing arrangement with the Farm, Field and Fireside of Chicago. For many years this great paper has been pointing out to the farmers that low prices were the result of a contraction of standard money to the gold basis and urging them as a patriotic duty of self defense to vote for the restoration of silver.

So effective has been its work, especially during the late campaign, that Chairman Jones acknowledged to Wm. J. Bryan that it had done more towards the restoration of bimetallic than any other single agency.

As will be seen by our combination offer on another page, we can give this paper in combination with the People's Pilot, both one year, for the low price of \$1.60. This offer also includes twenty packets of the best seeds in the market from the Farm, Field and Fireside's free seed distribution, where 10 cents extra is paid for postage and packing. The Farm, Field and Fireside and the People's Pilot are two papers which Mark Hanna's bundle could not influence in the late campaign.