

THE AMERICAN SETTLER

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American Settler Directory

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Table with 2 columns: Article Title and Page Number. Includes 'The Far Northwest', 'Economic Defect of the Chinese in California', 'Longfellow's Last Poem', etc.

Those who desire to get this paper regularly if in the neighbourhood of a news-vendor, should,

enclose forty halfpenny stamps to the Publisher 127, Strand—that is, one shilling and eight pence when it will be posted to the address for a quarter. The paper will cease to be posted at the expiration of the time for which it is paid. Bills cannot be sent for such small amounts. It is requested therefore that subscribers for short periods, note the dates; and remit if desirous to continue receipt of the paper.

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Notes.

Telegrams from New York state:—"Immigration continues to be of enormous volume. Five thousand persons landed at Castle Garden last Sunday and 4,100 on Saturday. All obtain employment, especially farm hands and household servants; and Irish girls without recommendation step immediately into places at from \$10 to \$16 wages monthly. Skilled labour is in great demand. Most of the emigrants leave New York immediately for situations already obtained in the West or South. Seventeen thousand nine hundred and eighty-four emigrants arrived at Castle Garden last week."

A New York correspondent thus discusses Castle Garden at this time alive with the European influx:—"Castle Garden, just now, with its constant human inflow, is prolific of interesting incidents. The arrivals to-day foot up not far from four thousand, brought by eight different steamers, consisting of Germans, Irish, French, Dutch, English, Scotch, Slavonians, Danes, Italians and Russians refugees. These last, without doubt, are the most grateful people that come among us. "To land in America," said one of them to your correspondent, this afternoon, "is to be released from the house of bondage. There is not one of my coreligionists in Russia that would not leave the Czar's dominions to come to America, if he had the opportunity. It is not because the United States is a land flowing with milk and honey, but because we have here what we have never experienced before—human freedom."

An official connected with the Labour Bureau remarked, "These Russian Jews are a very desirable people. They have been used to such hard treatment that they make exceptionally good servants. I wish we could get a lot of Russian women over here; they are first-class house-keepers and tailoresses. As a race they are sober, shrewd, industrious and enterprising." Superintendent Jackson says applications for help continue to pour in upon the Labour Bureau from the different States. To-day 300 and upward were received and answered. The 4 1/2 P. M. train took a party of blacksmiths for Pittsburg, and at the same time a whole family, consisting of fourteen persons, were sent to work in the silk mills at Paterson."

On board the steamer Schiedam, from Rotterdam, a steerage passenger named Jacob Bakker, 35 years old, committed suicide on Monday last by cutting his throat. One of the female passengers who seemed to know all about the tragedy said, with tears in her eyes: "His native place was Holland. I never saw so sad a face on any person as his was. Yet he was polite to all of us, gentlemanly in his ways and had a kind word for every one that spoke to him. We saw that he had some trouble of a serious nature and tried to comfort him. He declined to tell us what his sorrow was. I pitied him very much and spoke consolingly to him at every opportunity. I found him to be a man of noble principle and admired him greatly."

Seven steamers sailed from New York for Europe last Saturday, (April 29), carrying 1,217 cabin passengers, chiefly American tourists. The movement towards Europe is unprecedented, and the belief is that at least 20,000 more will come this season than in any previous one. The demand for berths is unusually active. The Inman, Cunard, White Star, Guion, National, American, and North German Lloyd companies say that almost their entire cabin capacity is already engaged till July. The French, Anchor, Red Star, and Monarch lines report full engagements till June. Several lines have arranged for the provision of extra steamers in May, June, and July, accommodating the unusual demand for passage-room.

The Union Land Register of Kendall County, Texas, says "that 900 horses had just been driven through the county from the Gulf plain, where they had been bought by Miller Brothers, of North Wyoming, at from \$15 to \$17 a head." It alludes to Captain Turquand, an Englishman, formerly (if we do not mistake) in the Guards, who is beginning to realize large profits from his rancho. Three thousand head of cattle had in one day passed through Boerne for Kansas. The live stock interest of Texas was set down at

\$100,000,000. That the value of cattle is on the rise is seen from the price of meat at Chicago, which had just reached the highest since the war, 4 1/2d. per lb. The drive this year will reach nearly 300,000 head, for which Texas will get \$5,000,000 cash. Large deposits of coal, salt, and minerals have been found in El Paso County. The Southern Pacific railroad has been constructed to a point 230 miles east of El Paso. It is still advancing eastward.

Texas has this in its favour—the State is not in debt, and that an ample provision has been made for schools. It started with two great advantages: one was the ability to sell a block of land it had no use for—New Mexico—to the United States, for which it got \$10,000,000. The other was the retention to itself of all the State lands, lands now rising in value by "leaps and bounds." Large as is the area, it is rapidly being appropriated, a process going on at a compound rate of multiplication; and likely to be largely increased by the steam line soon to be laid on between New Orleans and Europe in the interest of the Southern Pacific. There are to be 25 steamers of 5,000 tons each, to carry grain here, and settlers back. Grain will come all the way from California in trucks constructed for the purpose, and there will also be quantities of cotton from Texas and live stock and ores of the precious metals from Arizona and New Mexico. The trade will be immense, and the vessels will be filled with passengers from all parts of Europe on their return voyage.

They complain in California of the way in which settlers are intercepted, though originally they may have started for the Pacific Slope. Californians are eager to have these steamers laid on, so that it may be a San Francisco line from Europe via New Orleans and the Southern Pacific road. But even then, most of the settlers will stay in Texas, for the Galveston Harrisburg and San Antonio about to become a part of the Southern Pacific, passes through one of the most inviting districts of Texas. When these steamers are plying, that country will fill up faster than Manitoba is now filling, for it will be the cheapest country to reach and the best open.

Commenting on an article to be found in another column on "Wood Pulp and Paper," the Industrial South asks, where more advantageously than in Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina could works of this description be established. They have the woods, the water, the transportation and all the economic conditions. With these, it ought not to be difficult to obtain the capital and the skill.

Street boys from New York are being distributed over the farms. In one county of Virginia, 75 have been thus disposed of under the patronage of Mrs. W. B. Astor and other ladies. The farmers apply for the young "Arabs," and the boys seem to be well treated and to like their places, and the farmers seem satisfied with the lads, though there are cases of petty theft, and a few have disappeared, turning up at their old haunts. Every one so far is encouraged, and another batch is to be distributed in September. The contract is for the boys to remain a year, the farmer giving board and clothes for their labour. But, they are sent with good clothes, and at the end of the year, they are at liberty to make their own bargain.

George B. Fleece, of Memphis, suggests a plan for keeping the Mississippi River within its natural bounds. He proposes to straighten the river by cutting across the land where the curves occur. Thus straightened, the velocity would carry the stream along, deepen its bed, and prevent the water from spreading on either side. Congress will presently take this subject up in earnest. The Memphis Appeal, which published the communication, says:—"As we passed down the river on its swollen current, we could see the numerous bends which prevented the easy flow of the waters and banked them beyond the capacity of the levees to hold them in bounds. We are, therefore, very much inclined to accept the plan advocated by Colonel Fleece as the best for guarding against the damaging effects of these overflows. His system of cut-offs, private banks or levees, to guard the most exposed lands on different plantations, and strong levees for the lower portion of the river strikes us as being both sensible and practicable, and with less attending cost. We think that it is easily and mathematically demonstrable that a continuous levee from Cairo down would fail to accomplish the desired result, unless these levees were set back from each bank of the river far enough to contain the great volume of water, and then the greater cost of such a work, and the consequent abandonment of the large area of land between the river banks and the levees are questions to be seriously considered."

The Southern Planter, a well known publication, has changed hands. Mr. T. W. Ormond, of Alabama, is the new proprietor; and Mr. W. C. Knight, the editor, is well known in Virginia, and was thrice elected President of the Virginian State Agricultural Society. The Southern Planter is an old paper, having been established in 1840. In its issue of April 15 the former proprietor, Mr. T. Jones, announces his retirement and Mr. T. W. Ormond his succession.

There is an interesting article in this number of the Settler on "Fish Culture." The idea is novel of regarding a pond or lake as a field from

which to derive a crop; but this is the view rapidly coming into vogue in the United States, and here is an estimate per acre:—"It requires about 5,000 young fish to stock a pond, of one acre in extent. Of fish weighing from one to two pounds 1,000 to the acre is a liberal estimate, and these will require artificial feeding unless the pond is very rich with food-producing vegetation."

A new industry, in which the entrails of sheep are used in the production of what is pronounced an exceedingly strong and durable article of belting, has been introduced at Oakland, California. The process of manufacture is described as follows:—"The entrails, which will average about 55 feet in length, are first thoroughly cleaned and then placed in vats of brine, where they remain some days. When thus prepared, they are not much thicker than a piece of common cotton twine, and will sustain a weight of about 10 lbs. The next stage in process of manufacture is to wind the prepared material on bobbins, after which the process is the same as in making common rope. This method is used to produce a round belt; but where a wide, flat belt is to be made, a loom is employed, and the fine strands are woven together, as in ribbon manufacture. The flat belts are made of any size, and the round of sizes vary from 1-16th inch up to 1 1/2 inch in diameter. The round belts are made either in the form of a smooth cord, or as ropes with from three to five large strands. The 3/4 inch rope is said to stand a strain of seven tons, and is guaranteed to last ten years."

Cotton manufacturing in the South is no longer an experiment. There are 197 cotton mills in the Southern States, with a capital of \$10,005,000, and producing \$24,775,000. In Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina there are 124 mills, with a capital of \$10,935,000 and an annual production of \$24,775,000.

Bunch grass is not like any grass in the States, It grows in bunches five or six inches apart, and is exceedingly nutritious. It becomes cured in July, and is as nourishing when dry as when green. It possesses the nutritive and fattening qualities of rye, barley, corn and oats; hence cattle, sheep and horses pastured upon it become very fat. The fattest venison we ever saw anywhere was made so by bunch grass. For this reason, the best beef and mutton in the world is produced in Eastern Oregon and Washington.

A correspondent of the Industrial South gives some figures to prove how profitable sheep are in in Southside, Virginia. The wool is fine, the increase rapid and certain; the weather is too uniform to entail loss, and the wool fetches on the spot from 20d. to 22 1/4d. per lb.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Fifty sheep can be bought for \$100', 'Interest on the investment, one year \$6', 'By 250 lbs. wool, common breeds \$125', 'By 50 lambs, at \$2.50 \$125', 'Balance profit \$144'.

which is more than 100 per cent. on the investment. A small flock was kept by the writer for years. One near him, was as successful with little or no attention; only seen by the owner once in two months. His flock, however, comes up every night and remains till morning, and soon acquires that habit. The correspondent invites inquiries, which can be directed to "S," Buckingham, Virginia.

A Puget Sound paper thus shows the value of timber lands of that section:—"A practical woodsman and reliable, informs us that he with others, perhaps more competent than himself, recently made a critical examination of 160 acres of land in the Samish section, about sixty miles north of Seattle. They went all over it most carefully, counted trees, computed contents, and reckoned up the vast quantity 12,000,000 feet of sawed merchantable lumber, or an average of 75,000 feet per acre. The stumpage on this tract at the low rate of 50 cents per thousand feet, would be no less than \$6,000, and at a common rate in the East—\$3—would be \$36,000. Is it to be wondered, when such facts and figures are contemplated, that the timber lands of the country are in such demand?"

Montana is large enough to hold the overflow of all Scandinavia and Great Britain. The distance across it from east to west is equal to that from New York City to Cincinnati. Its width from north to south is nearly twice that of Pennsylvania. Four States as large as Ohio could be made of it, and still there would be a considerable remnant left. The Northern Pacific will populate this immense Territory, and create those four States. Those who come soonest will share largest in the prosperity to accompany the wonderful change.

The Snake River grain-chute is a Northern Pacific institution. The hills on either side of this Washington Territory stream are so precipitous and rugged that wagon roads down to the water are impracticable. But the imperial wheat power demanded a cheap and quick delivery of grain "on board." An engineer suggested and built a wooden pipe, half a mile long, laying it up the face of the mountain. 'Twas a success. The wheat was shot down through the pipe into a warehouse, to be sacked for river and ocean transportation. This grain-pipe line charges