

WEST AFRICAN RAILROADS.

Great Britain and France Hurrying Construction of Them.

West Africa is entering on an era of railway enterprise which will have an important bearing on the political and commercial future of that part of the Dark continent. In the British protectorate of Sierra Leone a line is under construction into the interior from Freetown, which will open up a fertile country; and in the Gold Coast colony another has already been built from the coast of the Tarkwa gold fields and is being prolonged to Koo-massie, the capital of the former kingdom of Ashanti. Owing to its military importance a railway has been carried at considerable cost from Lagos, in the colony of Lagos, through to Ibadan, with a branch line to the famous Yoruba city of Abeokuta with its 150,000 inhabitants. From Ibadan the line will be carried on within a short period, to Ilorin, and from there to some point, probably Rabah, on the Niger; and it is intended to construct a railway as early as possible from the terminus of the Lagos line on the Niger to Kano, the capital of Northern Nigeria, toward Lake Tchad. In the French West African colonies railways are being energetically pushed into the interior from the coast. A railway several hundred miles in length already unites St. Louis on the Senegal with the Upper Niger, and another is about to be undertaken from Kanakry, on the coast a short distance north of the Sierra Leone protectorate, through the Fouta Djallon gold fields to the Upper Niger. The most important line, however, is that which has been begun in Dahomey. It will run due north from Porto Novo to Lay, on the Niger, parallel with and only a few miles to the east of the meridian of Paris. Ultimately these three lines prolonged will meet the projected Trans-Saharan line from Algeria, and so give to the French the commercial and military control of their immense West African domain, from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic on the west, and the Bight of Benin on the south.

The Chirkau Scherif, or Hall of the Holy Garment, is the most sacred place in Turkey, for it shelters the mantle of the Prophet Mohammed, his staff, his saber, his standard, and among other relics, two hairs from his venerable beard, which are enclosed in a casket of gold.

SURGICAL OPERATIONS

How Mrs. Bruce, a Noted Opera Singer, Escaped an Operation. Proof That Many Operations for Ovarian Troubles are Unnecessary.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM!—Travelling for years on the road, with irregular meals and sleep and damp beds, broke down my health so completely, that a year ago that the physician advised a complete rest, and when I had gained



MR. G. BRUCE. sufficient vitality to undergo an operation for ovarian troubles. Not a very cheerful prospect, to be sure. I, however, was advised to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Sanative Wash; I did so, fortunately for me. Before a month had passed, I felt that my general health had improved; in three months more I was cured, and I have been in perfect health since. I did not lose an engagement or miss a meal.

Your Vegetable Compound is certainly wonderful, and well worthy the praise your admiring friends who have been cured are ready to give you. I always speak highly of it, and you will admit I have good reason to do so."—Mrs. G. Bruce, Lansing, Mich. \$5000 forfeit if above testimonial is not genuine.

The fullest counsel on this subject can be secured without cost by writing to Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be entirely confidential.



ALABASTINE The Only Durable Wall Coatings. Wall Paper is unsatisfactory. Alabastine is a permanent and artistic wall coating, ready to be used by anyone. It is made by the process of the ALABASTINE CO., Grand Rapids, Mich.

Cascarets BEST FOR THE BOWELS. Genuine stamped C.C.C. Never sold in bulk. Beware of the dealer who tries to sell "something just as good."

GOLD CORD 4c Per Share. Constantly driving tunnel. Will out many mines. Also patented producers at Idaho Springs, May 1883. Will positively advance to \$5.00. BUREAU OF MINERAL INVESTIGATION. U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, 414 BOSTON BUILDING, DENVER, COLO.

FARM AND GARDEN.

Objection to Potted Plants. The principal objection to potted plants is the higher price of the plants and the additional charge for expressage, but there is a larger loss from layer plants, which balances the difference in cost.

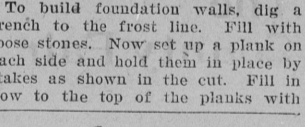
Moss in Lawns. Moss in lawns is a nuisance. One of the methods of eradicating it is to scratch the surface of the ground with a sharp steel-tooth rake and loosen the soil. Sow lawn grass seed and cover it to the depth of one-fourth of an inch with dirt, using a small quantity of mixed fertilizer on the dirt. Moss is more thrifty in shady lawns than where the ground is bare of trees and shrubbery.

Quantity of Seed to an Acre. Wheat, 1 1/2 to 2 bushels; rye, 1 1/2 to 2 bushels; oats, 3 bushels; barley, 2 bushels; buckwheat, 1/2 bushel; corn, broadcast, 4 bushels; corn, in drills, 2 to 3 bushels; corn in hills, 4 to 8 quarts; broomcorn, 1/2 bushel; potatoes, 10 to 15 bushels; rutabagas, 3/4 pounds; millet, 1/4 bushel; clover, timothy, 4 quarts; clover, red, 8 quarts; timothy, 6 quarts; orchard grass, 2 quarts; red top, 1 to 2 pecks; blue grass, 2 bushels; mixed lawn grass, 1/2 bushel; tobacco, 2 ounces. This is a very useful table for farmers to maintain for future reference, and should be pasted in a scrap-book or other handy place.—The Epitomist.

Feeding the Soil. A soil can be termed fertile only when it contains all the materials requisite for the nutrition of plants in the required quantity and in the proper form. With every crop a part of these ingredients is removed, and it remains for nature and man to make good this loss. Practical experience has proved that nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash are the substances most needed to be applied to soils to make or keep them fertile. No crop can be grown on any one of these elements if the other two are lacking. Crops differ as to their individual needs, but all are absolutely necessary for full development.

Grafting Seedling Cherries. I have had considerable experience in grafting and budding seedling cherries with various varieties. Grafts placed on seedling heart cherries make a perfect union and a beautiful tree. About the time the buds begin to swell is the most favorable time to do the grafting. The grafts should be cut the same day and put in without delay. I have secured the best results where I have used stock from one to two inches in diameter. I propagate mostly by budding. I select seedlings from one to two inches in diameter, and cut them back in the spring about six feet from the ground. The young shoots grow out quickly, and in these I place two or three buds about the first week in July. If these do not take I bud again the same season. If the seedling is not in a desirable location, it should be removed and planted in the fall or early spring to the place where it is wanted, budding or grafting it later.—Fred Miller, in New England Homestead.

Laying a Foundation. To build foundation walls, dig a trench to the frost line. Fill with loose stones. Now set up a plank on each side and hold them in place by stakes as shown in the cut. Fill in now to the top of the planks with



SOLID FOUNDATION WALL.

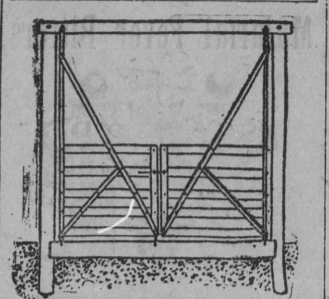
loose stones and soft mortar—soft enough to fill all the spaces between the stones. All the planks to remain until the mortar has set, then move along and build on another section. When the wall is hard lay a little soft mortar along the top and limbed the sill in it. The wall will then be air-tight.—Farm Journal.

Train the Colt by Love. The first and most important lesson for a colt to learn is that there is no cause to fear his master. The process of breaking should be simply a teaching of the colt to do things that it has not done before. How readily a given colt will learn these lessons will depend very largely upon how thoroughly that first lesson has been impressed upon it. Complete confidence in the friendship and protection of the master not only takes away the terrors of the new things and the new experiences during the process of education, but it will continue to be shown in the willingness and efficiency of service. This is especially true in times of any happenings that tend to frighten the horse. It is not uncommon for people to be killed by accidents due solely to the fact that the horse lacked confidence in the friendship of his master.

During this process of education there should be no haste. The instruction should be given by a man who possesses a sufficient degree of patience to allow the colt ample time to understand what is wanted of him, instead of trying to force him along through each new performance—a man who will not expect the colt to know as much as an old horse or to

have more sense than himself.—J. J. Edgerton, in Twentieth Century Farmer.

Gate That Cannot Sag. A subscriber sends to the New York Tribune Farmer a description of a gate which he constructed several years ago on a farm where he then lived. Its great merit is that it never sags.



THIS GATE CANNOT SAG.

For gate-posts he used 8x8 timber, set fully twelve feet apart. With the idea of letting a load of hay through the cap piece ought to be fully twelve feet above the ground, and may be advantageously cut out by 6x8 stuff. The posts should be set in stone or cement, so as to be proof against the action of the frost. A sill or threshold is also provided. This should measure 6x8 or 8x8, and consist of oak or chestnut. The better the timber for the rest of this frame the longer it will last.

The full length upright of each gate is made from 4x4 hardwood scantling. The upper ends are rounded, and inserted in holes bored in the lower side of (but not entirely through) the cap piece. The pins of the lower ends should be of metal. Pieces of saw-mill plate, in which holes have been punched, should be fastened to the sill for these pins to play in. Thus the pins will be kept from wearing the wood. A similar plate should be placed where the gates meet, to accommodate the vertical bolt on one of them. The other gate should have a latch.

The slates and braces may be made from stuff one and one-fourth inches thick and four inches wide. They are attached to each other and to the uprights with bolts. The short braces are on the opposite side of the slats from the long ones, so that the same bolt may go through both where they overlap. When finished, the frame and gates should be well painted. It will be seen that these gates can be used singly or together, and that they swing in either direction. It is always a convenience to have a gate swing away from you, no matter from which side you approach.

Potato Culture. Anything under three hundred bushels of potatoes to an acre should be an unsatisfactory crop where good, intensive cultural methods are practiced, and this may be surpassed by fifty to seventy-five bushels in good seasons. To accomplish this it is necessary that constant care and watchfulness should be given, and it may readily be supposed that anything short of the best of everything will fail to make it. To make a full crop of potatoes there must be preparation and rotation of crops, in order to counteract the effects of the rot, scab and striped beetles. There is no better way to get rid of these diseases than to turn the land over to grass and corn after the second year.

A good crop of clover after the potatoes will fertilize the land and make it ready for a crop of corn or wheat, which will come in to keep up the average profit of the land. The mechanical conditions of the soil obtained by this rotation helps greatly towards making the potato crop a large one. With rich soil obtained in this way, and by good manuring and fine seed, the beginning is favorable enough to warrant great expectations; but this may be partly counteracted by bad seasons. That is something that we cannot help, but we can get the crop in such condition that the injury will be somewhat limited. I have raised three hundred bushels of potatoes to an acre when others have found their crop cut down to two hundred and less by the weather and diseases. The whole difference has been in the start and the conditions of the soil and seed. I am willing to pay \$5 a pound for early seed that I know will guarantee an improvement over old sorts, but price is not always an accurate measure of worth. One must be pretty sure that he is getting what he is bargaining for before paying that or any other price.

When the clover is turned under with the plow the roots of the clover will be equivalent to a good dressing with rich manure. The wheat which may follow will leave plenty of fertilizer in the soil for the crop of potatoes, and the early crop will hardly require any further fertilizing. The pulverization of the soil must be made thorough, for we cannot get the land into any too good condition for the potatoes. Very often the lack of this prevents the potatoes from taking up from the soil the rich food they are entitled to. The perfect cultivation of the soil early in the season enables the land to warm up so that the seed can be put in early, and early planting is always desirable. The potato will grow in a comparatively cold soil, and a low temperature will not kill it so quickly as some imagine. It is certainly worth the effort to get an early crop of potatoes, for the profits are almost sure to be larger than for the later crop. We cannot add very much to the general knowledge of potato culture, but a little experience each year may help.—C. L. Keating, in American Cultivator.

THE MARKETS.

PITTSBURGH. Grain, Flour and Feed.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Wheat, Corn, Oats, Hay, and various feeds.

Dairy Products.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Butter, Creamery, and Cheese.

Poultry, Etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Hens, Eggs, and Chickens.

Fruits and Vegetables.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Green Beans, Potatoes, and Onions.

BALTIMORE.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Flour, Wheat, and Corn.

PHILADELPHIA.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Flour, Wheat, and Corn.

NEW YORK.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Flour, Wheat, and Corn.

LIVE STOCK.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Cattle, Hogs, and Sheep.

A GOOD AVERAGE.

Distribution Maintained—Varities of Weather Affected Business in Some Localities.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Versatile weather has produced erratic fluctuations in prices and affected business very differently, according to locality. The extremes were blizzards and oppressive heat, with every intermediate variety. As the future prosperity of the railroads is more or less dependent upon the crops, the varieties of the weather were quickly reflected in the markets for securities as well as in option sales of grain and cotton. Retail distribution of merchandise has maintained a good average, losses at some points being offset by gains elsewhere. Manufacturing plants are well employed where wages disputes interrupt. Coffee and silver touched low records prices, but the average of commodities advanced. Transporting interests maintain their wonderful record, railway earnings thus far reported for April exceeding last year's by 5.2 per cent., and those of 1900 by 15.3 per cent. Most large consumers of pig iron have provided for their needs well up to the end of the year. A severe setback in London in tin speculation caused a decline, but other minor metals are without special feature. Increased output and quicker deliveries of coke facilitate work at iron furnaces and reduce the price, while the lower list for anthracite coal has stimulated orders. Lumber and building materials are having the usual spring activity. Footwear shops at the east have few new orders and shipments from Boston continue to decrease. Jobbers have sufficient stocks to supply the retail demand and are inclined to delay placing contracts. Jobbers have received requests for more prompt delivery, retail trade having expanded with the warmer weather. Quotations of cotton goods are firmly held, the strength of the raw material giving support. Independent woolen mills are working night and day. While the prospects for a full yield of wheat are less bright than they were a week ago, the sharp rise in price must be attributed in part to skillful manipulation by interests recently prominent in the stock market. Lack of moisture has checked growth in the southwest and snow has retarded farm work in some spring wheat States, but it is probable that there is the customary exaggeration of damage reports for speculative purposes. A year ago there was a sharp advance in price on gloomy reports. The yield promises to be a record breaker. Exports from all parts of the United States, including flour, against 1,128,398 bushels a year ago, were 4,401,614 bushels, against 3,333,987 bushels last year, shipments being mainly of wheat purchased before the advance. Exporters made few new contracts at the higher prices. Corn was attracted to market by the better terms offered, receipts for the week reaching 1,394,497 bushels, against 1,128,398 bushels a year ago, and Atlantic exports fell off to 340,237 bushels, against 1,275,156 in 1901. Meats were well sustained. Wall paper was first made in Germany about 1560.

It seems to be about settled that the two largest islands in the world are both in the Arctic ocean. Greenland is unquestionably the largest—if Australia is counted as a continent—and recent explorations of Baffin Land show that it is second only to Greenland in extent.

Greening is as simple as washing when you use PUTNAM FADELESS DYES. Sold by all druggists.

Owing to bad weather it is believed that there will be a great shortage in the world's supply of tea this year.

Ask Your Dealer For Allen's Foot-Ease. A powder. It relieves the feet. Cures Corns, Bunions, Swollen, Sore, Hot, Callous, Aching, Sweating Feet and Ingrowing Nails. Allen's Foot-Ease makes new or tight shoes easy. At all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25 cents. Accept no substitute. Sample mailed FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Lelloy, N. Y.

The domestic fowl is not mentioned in the Old Testament.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

Japan has acquired the American dining car system.

Dr. H. H. Kline, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Phila., Pa. Dr. H. H. Kline, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

In New York City alone there are about 400,000 Germans.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colics.—N. W. SAMUEL, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1902.

Chinatown, San Francisco, has four dailies printed in its own language.

Health

"For 25 years I have never missed taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla every spring. It cleanses my blood, makes me feel strong, and does me good in every way."—John P. Hodnett, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Pure and rich blood carries new life to every part of the body. You are invigorated, refreshed. You feel anxious to be active. You become strong, steady, courageous. That's what Ayer's Sarsaparilla will do for you.

Ask your doctor what he thinks of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. He knows all about this grand old family medicine. Follow his advice and we will be satisfied.

J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.

Cuticura Resolvent PILLS

CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS (Chocolate Coated, 60 doses, 25c.), are a new, tasteless, odourless, economical substitute for the celebrated liquid CUTICURA RESOLVENT, as well as for all other blood purifiers and humour cures.

Each pill is equivalent to one teaspoonful of liquid RESOLVENT. Put up in screw-cap pocket vials, containing 60 doses, price, 25c. CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS are alterative, antiseptic, tonic, and digestive, and beyond question the purest, sweetest, most successful and economical blood and skin purifiers, humour cures, and tonic-digestives yet compounded.

Complete external and internal treatment for every humour, consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, 25c., to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle; CUTICURA OINTMENT, 50c., to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal; and CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS, 25c., to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, and scaly skin, scalp, and blood humours, eczemas, rashes, and irritations with loss of hair, from infancy to age, when all else fails.

CUTICURA Remedies are sold throughout the world. British Depot: 27-29, Charterhouse Sq., London. French Depot: 8, Rue de la Paix, Paris. Portuguese Depot: 432, Rua da Cruz, Lisbon. Sole Proprietors, U. S. A.: CUTICURA CO., Lowell, Mass.

SLICKERS?

WHY TOWERS' FISH BRAND OF COURSE! THE STANDARD BRAND OF WATERPROOF OILED CLOTHING YOU HAVE ALWAYS BOUGHT. Made in black or yellow of the best materials and sold with our warrant by reliable dealers everywhere. A. J. TOWER CO., BOSTON, MASS. ESTABLISHED 1836.

Home Women.



There are women who devote their whole lives to home duties, many of whom know what it is to drag along day after day suffering intensely. The symptoms are spinal weakness, dizziness, excitability, bearing down, all-gone feeling, and sudden faintness. The only safe and permanent cure for this is Vogler's Curative Compound, which acts directly on the Stomach, Liver, Kidneys, and vital organs of the body. It removes all impurities from the blood. It imparts strength, vitality, and vigor in all cases from which "home women" suffer.

A free sample bottle will be sent on application to St. Jacobs Oil, Ltd., Baltimore.

Capsicum Vaseline

Put up in Collapsible Tubes. A Substitute for and Superior to Mustard or any other plaster, and will not blister: the most delicate skin. The pain allaying and curative qualities of this art is wonderful. It will stop the toothache at once, and relieve headache and neuralgia.

It is recommended as the best and safest external counter-irritant known, also as an external remedy for pains in the chest and stomach and all rheumatic, neuralgic and gouty complaints. A trial will prove what we claim for it, and it will be found to be invaluable in the household. Many people say "It is the best of all your preparations." Price, 15 cents, at all druggists, or other dealers, or by sending this amount to us in postage stamps we will send you a tube by mail.

Price, 15 cents, at all druggists, or other dealers, or by sending this amount to us in postage stamps we will send you a tube by mail.

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Colorado Beats the World IN SUGAR BEETS.

Six Million Dollars have just been invested in sugar factories. Four Million more will be invested this year. The best posted sugar men of the world are buying immense acreage for sugar beets. Colorado took first prizes at Chicago exhibit last month for highest tonnage per acre, and highest percentage of sugar, better over twice as much as some States. We are offering a few shares of stock for sale in the Colorado Sugar Beet Co. The first and only sugar factory of the most modern and complete refining plants in the world, situated in a district where the highest price is paid for sugar in the country. Local capitalists have subscribed Five Hundred and Fifty thousand Dollars in cash. This is an opportunity of a lifetime. Factory is built and paid for. For full particulars write to—

W. W. GELDER & CO., 29 Broadway, New York, or Exchange Building, Denver, Colo.

RIPANS

I had a general run-down feeling, lacked ambition, and had no appetite whatever, with a very languid feeling at all times. On going to supper one evening my boarding-mistress recommended my taking Ripans Tablets. She told me her experience with them, as well as that of others to whom she had spoken about the Tablets. I decided to make a trial and since I have been taking them I feel like a new-made man, and have none of my former complaints, taking a more decided interest in my work and in life in general.

At druggists. The Five-Cent packet is enough for an ordinary occasion. The family bottle, 60 cents, contains a supply for a year.

Good enough for anybody!

ALL HAVANA FILLER



"FLORODORA BANDS are of same value as tags from STANDARD NAVY, 'JOLLYTAR', 'J. T. SPEARHEAD', 'VINGO' and 'STAR' Tobacco.

P. N. U. S. '02.

PISO'S CURE FOR GUMS WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cure for Gums, Fissures, Etc. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION