# Holderfollockelleriolierkelleriotekellockellockellockellockellockellocker NICARAGUA CANAL.

DESCRIPTION OF A GIGANTIC PROJECT.

sailed away with a commission of enand their report as to the feasibility this great but still embryonic enter-

The final fate of the Nicaragua slowly through the jungle country Canal project will shortly be decided, until locked up to the level of Lake says the New York Herald. The United States gunboat Newport has in the Caribbeau Sea, and is called meau lake level. On entering Lake Nicaragua the channel across the lake runs straight toward the point on of the watterway between the Atlantic lake runs straight toward the point on and Pacific will determine whether or not the United States shall control the Pacific begins. The lake is less is great but still embryonic enter-ise.

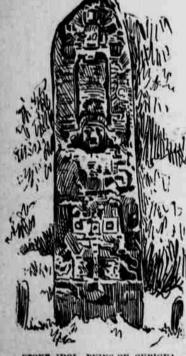
Records show that it became a seri-of half a mile from the shore to float



MANAGUA (NICARAGUA) STREET SCENE.

definite plan of action was ever adopted until a few years ago, when work on the route was actually begun.

But this canal through the isthmus is not a thing which can be accom-plished readily, and there is some di-vergence of opinion in regard to the best place on the isthmus through which to cut it. The French have been working through the narrower strip near Panama, but so far there is no immediate promise of success in the undertaking.



STONE IDOL, RUINS OF QURIGUA.

The American company has chosen ing than the one hills near Panama.

ous matter in the last century, but no the largest ship. Here the sailor will have a breathing spell after his cruise overland, and after being locked down to the quiet waters of the Pacific, the vessel will be free to proceed to her destination with a full realization of how well the quiet ocean deserves its name.

The commission appointed by the President to go over the proposed route during the winter of 1897-8 is to decide certain questions in regard to the cost and feasibility of the project, as suggested by the canal company. It is composed of three of the ablest men in the United States for deciding these matters, and is supported by a num-ber of naval officers, civil engineers and assistants. Two men-of-war will aid the expedition and will assist in the hydrographic work in the harbors on the east and west coasts. The shore parties will have to go over many of the old lines, and, as the jungle has long closed these, they will have to cut their way through, as before, with the machete.

The Commissioners will return to the United States in the spring, and,



ENTRANCE TO CANAL, GREYTOWN.

s their report will probably be final as to the interest the Government will take in the project, the civilized world will await them with some impatience to know if the greatest of Republics will decide to control the gateway to the Pacific.

### Leaves as Good as Pruit.

A French druggist, named Jasquemin, has conceived the idea that the the longer, though apparently less flavor of fruits of shrubs and trees gen-difficult, route through the State of erally is generated in the flowers of agua. On this line the natural these plants, and passes from them incourses will be used extensively, to the fruits. The fragrance which and it is supposed by many to be, con-sequently, a more practical undertak-ing than the one through the higher bing, and which is so very similar to and the one through the higher hills near Panama.

At the eastern entrance of the canal is the settlement of Greytown.

After proper dredging and lights have made the harbor navigable a ship approaching from the eastward will not the tothe taste of the berry, has led goes further, and says that the pleasant taste of the apple, pear or grape is prepared in the leaves of the respective plants, aithoughe admits that it



ROUTE OF THE PROPOSED CANAL.

make the approach rather dangerous. On entering the ship will proceed along an almost straight cut until the hos district is reached. Here an armous dam cross the natural bed



ADDAND AT BRITO, PACIFIC OUTLES

the fleu Juan River marks the first int where remarkable skill in engi-ering will be displayed. The ship is turned into the natural bed of

find the navigation difficult. At the is hardly noticeable with these, and ent time, however, the shoal by far not in the same degree as with the black current. Jasquemin places apple leaves in water containing from the approach rather dangerous. yeast. During the process of fermen-tation there is an odor of apples, and when the fermentation is finished and the yeast has settled, a straw yellow liquid is obtained which possesses the fine "bouquet" of the fruit of the respective trees from which the leaves were obtained. With vine leaves the results are still more prolific. A beverage tasting and smelling strongly of wine is obtained, and finally brandy may be distilled from it which is equal to the hest cognac.

## Ingenious Street Lamp.

Street lamps can be mounted on a new telescopic post to make them easy to reach for trimming and filling, a setsorew engaging the central shaft to hold it in a position with pulleys and weights set in the post to counter-balance the lamp.

### ACRICULTURAL TOPICS.

Recent experiments have demonstrated beyond a doubt that potato scab is produced by a specific form of fungus which infests the soil. Planting strictly sound seed on new ground and avoiding manure from stock fed on scabby potatoes is a sure preventa-tive. Treating the seed with corrosive sublimate is an effective but highly dangerous remedy. A safer and prob-ably as effective a remedy is an appli-cation of flowers of sulphur at the time of planting. - American Agriculturist.

#### Good Barn Cats.

To make a cat a good mouser it should never be allowed around the house. To lie near the stove and be fed, without doing anything to earn its living, makes a cat lazy, fat and good for nothing. There are always in the barn enough vermin to give a good cat constant employment, and she will rarely need other food than what she can herself procure. Such a cat is easily worth \$10 to \$20. On most farms it will make big interest on these sums every year in grain and grain bags and fruit which a good cat will save from being destroyed.

#### Do Not Destroy the Birds.

It is said that an ordinary enterpil-lar increases 10,000 times in bulk thirty days from the time it is hatched; that the | | | | | it grows on is vegetable, and that | |,000 | caterpillars could dethe grass on an acre of stroy o' ground. The insect population of a single cherry tree infested with aphides was calculated by a prominent ento-mologist to be 12,000,000. Cultivated country districts are supposed to con-tain from 700 to 1000 birds to a mile, each of which consumes hundreds of stroyed, the birds will keep the bal-ance between plant and insect life.

During the summer the water-foun-tains are the best utensils to employ for providing water to the fowls, but they should now be stored away and water given in wooden troughs. Fountains will break when the water is frozen, but the troughs cannot easily be so injured, and can also be cleaned The water trough or fountain is the most important utensil used by the poultrymen, and demands daily attention, as it is the source from which all contagious diseases are spread among the members of the flock. The best method of providing water without incurring such risk is yet an unsolved problem, but cleanliness will prevent many diseases.

#### Seed Stalks in Celery.

We have never seen an explanation of this by the experts which was satisfactory to us, but we think it is caused by some check in the growth at an early stage. We have had a similar trouble among beets and carrots which were sown so early as to get hurt by the frost after they came up, while the same seed sown later gave a satisfac-tory crop. But a more probable cause in many cases is that it was sown too early under glass and was forced too much, making a rank, spindling and tender plant, which was not sufficiently hardened when set in the field to go on and grow at once. When it bego on and grow at once. When it be-gan its second growth, like the carrots and beets that had been put back by the frost, its natural tendency was to begin as a biennial plant would that had been wintered in the cellar, to make its seed crop. We have never seen a biennial plant making a seed stalk the first year which we could not account for satisfactorily, to ourselves at least, by some check or break in the early period of growth.—Boston Cultivator.

### How to Fatten Poultry.

I have fattened for the market this season over 100 cockerels and have settled on this method as best, writes Clarissa Potter, in the New England Homestead. They are confined in a pen, given plenty of room and air, but where drafts can not strike them. Low roosts are provided, a dust bath, though I have never seen them use it, and boxes of grit and oyster shells. 1 make low benches of overturned soap boxes on which I place their pans of food and milk, that they may not readily be soiled or spilled.

I feed three times a day. A warm breakfast of boiled potatoes, pump-kins or squash, crushed when hot and thickened with corn meal. This is seasoned with salt and pepper. A noon feed of the same on alternate days. The other days they receive the same as at night, whole, bright corn. Nothing musty, soured or solid is allowed in their feed pans.

The pen is kept dark except when the fowls are eating. This is accom-plished by hanging a thick covering over the windows. The pen is so dark they move about but little between meals. At feeding time the curtain is lifted and they are fed all they will eat but no more. A pan of sweet skimmed milk is kept before them, and the pen floor is clean and supplied with fresh bodding. I discourage scratching and crowing all that is possible. A crowing bird fattens slowly, if at all. Light encourages crowing. The corn is fed in pans, or scattered, and the curtain is dropped as soon as it is eaten. Cut green bone and meat whets their appetites and should be given every third

day.

I fatten from nine to thirteen days I fatten from nine to thirteen days and the carcasses, since following this plan, secure quick sale, being plump, firm and yellow with fat. If, for any reason, some cockeral fails to fatten in this time, its flesh feeling lean and flabby, it is turned loose in the yards to run with other fowls two weeks or more, and then the fattening process is repeated.

Tobacco-chewing members of the Methodist Church in Albertsville, Ala., have been levied upon by the stewards for a special tax of \$10 a year.

# KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

GREAT YEAR IN COKE.

Over \$11.000,000 Worth Produced in the Connellsville Region.

Connellaville coke operators shipped 5,915,052 tons of coke in 1897, for which they received an average price estimated at \$1.65 per ton. The product therefore yielded a gross revenue of \$11,409,835. Measured by dollars this is one of the biggest year's business the Connellaville region ever did. The output was greater in 1895, 8,244,438 tons, but the price realized was only \$1,23 per ton, yielding \$10,140,658, over a million dollars less than last year. There is no reason to doubt that the present rate will be kept up during 1898.

The year saw the successful optyation of the by-product plant of the Dunbar Furnace Company at Dunbar, where 50 Semet Solvey ovens are operated. It is the company's intention to double the capacity in the spring. The only other new idea in coking is Fred C. Keighley's "continuous coke oven," a test of which is being made at Oliver works. The trial oven is making coke this week. New firms in the region have added 740 ovens to the list and \$24 ovens have been added by the old companies.

Mrs, Takaes, of Oliver, was awakened by a crash and found a big negro standing by her ted and another enterby a crash and found a big negry standing by her ted and another entering through the window. They bound her feet and hands and tried to gag her, the woman all the time screaming for help. Before they could accompilable the object of their visit neighbors gathered and the men jumped through the window and got away. Several houre later, when the men went to the ovens to begin to draw coke, they found one of the men lying there nearly dead from loss of blood and lying in a hig pool of it. A constable was sent from Uniontown to arrest him. The man gave his name as William Lovenings, and says he cut his hips on the glass in the window as he jumped out. He has a deep gash and is very weak from loss of blood, but will probably recover. Who his confederate is cannot be learned, he having left no trace, and Lovenings will not tell.

Five well-dressed robbers made a bold attempt Friday noon to rob the Parnassus bank, at Parnassus, on the Allegheny Valley railroad, 17 miles from Pittsburg. That they were unsuccessful was due to the fact that the night watchman of the bank happened to be on duty in the daytime. The robbers were surprised while trying to break into the bank, and fled down the railroad tracks to Logans Ferry, where they jumped into a skiff and in the swift current of the swollen Allegheny river rowed five miles, while excited people tore along the river banks trying to capture them. They abandoned the skiff at the north side of the river at the new Pittsburg, Hessemer and Lake Eric railroad, and were there lost sight of. Five well-dressed robbers made

region.

Edwin K. Meyers, former State Printer, and one of the best known men in Central Pennsylvania, was found dead Friday morning in the stable yard adjoining his home, three miles above Harrisburg. There was a bruise over his left eye. It is supposed he was thrown from his carriage a short distance from the yard and was dragged to where he was found.

The annual series of three farmers.

Th annual series of three farmers' institutes in this county began Mon-day at Sarversville, with W. H. H. Riddle, President of the Western Penn-

Riddle, President of the Western Pennsylvania Fair Association, presiding The institute will be in session two days at Sarversville, two at Karns City, and two at West Sunbury.

The annual report of John Hamilton, deputy secretary of agriculture and director of farmers' institutes, has just been submitted. The cost of holding farmers' institutes in Pennsylvania during the past two years was \$15,000, exclusive of the director's salary and traveling expenses.

While kneeling in prayer at family

while kneeling in prayer at family worship Thursday night, Philip Duncan, of Butler, a veteran of the war, aged 52, was stricken with apoplexy and died without speaking. He was a member of the Sixth Heavy artillery, and is survived by several children.

The body of an unknown middleaged man was found on a burning culm pile at Plymouth Monday. He had made a bed for himself by burrowing a hole in the dirt bank and was then slowly suffocated.

John Stewart, of West Middlesex, who was crushed by a lump of ore weighing half a ton at Sharpaville, died Monday. He leaves a bride of five months.

menths.

The barn of Peter Ebberts, near Mercer, containing of large amount of hay and grain, was destroyed by fire. Loss.

Linus Harnett died Monday. Last Thursday he left home for a distance part of the farm. At noon he did not return, and later he was found uncon-scious in his sled. He never regained

consciousness. Mrs. Frank Youshofski, of Nanti-coke, died suddenly last week. She was insured for a large amount of money. Her sister alleges that the woman was polsoned, and the bedy will be disinterred and an investigation

A tramp entered the school house at Whitney, ordered the teacher, Miss Faussold, out of the chair, and played pedagogue till big boys and citizens put him out.

#### CONGRESS.

Washington, Jan. 10,—Among the bills reported in the senate to-day and placed on the calendar was one to prohibit railroad companies from charging more than three cents a mile for carrying passengers through the Indian territory.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The opening skirmish on the Hawaiian treaty yesterday has cleared the air to some extent, and the treaty is in a better position than it has been since it was submitted o the senate. It is stated that every Republican except Senator Morrill will vote for ratification.

The friends of the treaty now claim 51 votes, but a more conservative estimate gives them 58, or two less than the required number. This 58 is composed of 42 Republicans, three Silver Republicans, five Populists, one Independent and seven Democrats. There are four doubtful Senators, all Democrats. Mr. Gallinger (rep.), chiliman of the committee on pensions, reported back adversely a bill to grant a pen-

are four doubtful Senators, all Democrats. Mr. Gallinger (rep.), chidrman of the committee on pensions, reported back adversely a bill to grant a pension of \$100 a month each to the two daughters of Maj. Meade and moved that it be postponed indefinitely.

Washington, January 12.—The senate, on motion of Mr. Davis, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, went into executive season and Mr. Davis continued his speech on the Hawalian treaty. The objections of Japan, on the ground that its treaty with the islands would be violated, were ridiculed. Senator Allen (Pop., Neb.) followed in opposition to the treaty, calling attention to the necessity of defending the islands in case of war, which would require a large fleet. The population being about one-half Chinese and Japanese, would be unfit for statehood, At 2.50 the senate adjourned.

Washington, January 12.—The measure reported to the Senate was the pension appropriation bill. It was placed on the calendar. At the conclusion of the morning business the immigration bill, the unfinished business, was taken up.

Washington, Jan. 14.—A resolution was presented by Senator Hoar te change the inauguration day from March 4 to April 20.

Heuse.

#### House.

Washington, Jan 10.—Representative Dovener, of Wheeling, W. Va., introduced a resolution in the house to-day providing for the improvement of the Big Sandy river between West Virginia and Kentucky by the srection of locks and dams, also a resolution providing for the improvement of the West Fork river in West Virginia.

Mr. Cooney, of Missouri, continued the civil service discussion in regard to the policy of Secretary Gage in creating a civil service pension list for superannuated employees of the treasury. It was, he said, entirely in line with the present interpretation of the law, which was for life tenure of office, and placed a premium on incompetency. He facetiously suggested an amendment to the law to create another civil service committee, whose duty it would be to grant degrees and certificates of incompetency.

Washington, Jan, II.—Immediately

the new Pittsburg. Heasemer and Lake
Erie railroad, and were there lost sight
of.

The mysterious fire in the Ferguson
mine of the Dundar Furnace Company,
it is believed, will burn itself out on the
body of coal new burning. The coal all
around the spet has been cut away
theroughly wet down, and the opening
scaled up, so it is believed the fire can
not spread. The fire started in an
abandoned working, and the men who
discovered it were overcome by gas.
Beling missed, a rescuing party was
sent and brought them out. Mining inspector Connors thinks the fire was
caused by spontaneous combustion of
sulphurated bydrogen, formed by the
exhaust steam from the mine pump
disintegrating the sulphur of the coal.
The fire started half a mile down the
slope.

If anticipations are fulfilled this will
be the greatest year in the history of
Massontown. Next Fourth of July the
centennial of Masontown will be observed. It will be 199 years since John
Mason lad out the site of Germantown,
afterwards changed to the present
name in honor of its founder. The citizens are already taking active steps towards the celebration. Spackers have
been engaged from Philadelphia and
a big time is looked for.
William Shiricy has returned from
the Klondike after a seven-moonths absence, with a fortune estimated at
Il00,000. He went to the gold field iast
May and struck a rech calm. His vist
to Morcer county, his former home,
was to settle upon his aged mother,
who lives in Green townsh p. \$10,009 for
life. He also put in trust for his six
to Milliam Shiricy of Noble county,
Ind., \$55,000. He will return to Klondike with a company on March I. He
says provisions are plentiful in that
region.

Edwin K. Meyers, former State Printer, and one of the best known men in
Central Pennavivania was found deed.
There was also a lively debate over
the provision in the bill requiring the
owners of bullion hereafter to pay the
cost of transporting bullion from assay
offices to the intimate of the provision was defeated.

There was also a lively debat

There was also a lively debate over the provision in the bill requiring the owners of builion hereafter to pay the cost of transporting builion from assay offices to the mints. Mr. Bell's motion to strike out the proviso was defeated

to strike out the proviso was defeated -125 to 110.

Washington, January 13.—The House completed the consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill in committee of the whole, and then adjourned upon the motion of those opposed to the printing of another edition of the famous "horse book." There was the annual fight over the question of free seed distribution to the farmers, but the effort to strike out the appropriation

seed distribution to the farmers, but the effort to strike out the appropriation (130,000) failed as usual; the majority against it being 136.

Washington, Jan. 14.—In the house the most of the day was consumed in a filibuster against a bill to pay the publishing house of the Methodist Episcopal church, south, at Nashville, Tenn., \$288,000 for the seizure and use of the property during the war. The Agricultural bill was passed.

### "TRAVELING POSTOFFICES."

#### Additional Authority For Bural Mail Carriers Proposed.

The benefits derived from the extension of the rural free delivery of mail matter, it is expected, will be increased as soon as authority can be obtained on the subject. At the request of the House Postoffice Committee, Mr. Henth, First Assistant Postmaster-General, is preparing an amendment to the appropriation bill giving to carriers in rural districts authority to receive cash and money orders for patrons and to receipt for registered letters and deliver them. This additional duty can be readily performed by the carriers, who will if the scheme is put in operation, become "traveling postoffices." Country people therefore will have nearly all the benefits enjoyed by residents of the city in this regard, as the carriers now are permitted to carry postal cards and stamped envelopes for sale. Should this new arrangement work well the department will be enabled to abolished many of the small postoffices along star routes. authority can be obtained on the subject.

### Extermination of Pests. On account of the presence of various in-sect pests and fungus diseases, the most

sect pests and lungus diseases, the most important of which are the San Jose scale and the peach veliows, in many orchards in Maryland, it has been deemed advisable, after consultation with many prominent fruit growers and nurserymen, to hold a convention in Baltimore, for the purpose of considering and recommending some appropriate legislation for the protection and preservation of the fruit and nursery industries.

### INDUSTRIAL NEWS.

New Bedford Cotton Will Hands Will Con-

A call was issued Wednesday asking every textile union in New Hedford
to send representatives to a meeting
Sunday morning which will be attended
by the leading textile departments, and
it is the purpose to agree upon some
plan of action for the strike which will
be begun next Monday. The Executive
committee of the Cotton Weavers' Protective association called a mass meeting Friday evening to discuss the propased reduction of wages.

#### LABOR NOTES.

Proceedings have been taken in the courts to foreclose a mortgage of \$255,000 against the Standard Pate Glass Company of Butler held by the Safe Deposit and Trust Company of Pittsburg. The notice was given by Pred J. Klingler of Butler, who owns 201 of the 550 coupon bonds issued by the Standard Plate Glass Company in 1892 and secured by the second mortgage held by the Safe Deposit and Trust Company, Klinger's claims amount to 180,400, of which only \$5,000 is due.

The wages of the rolling mill workers will remain at 14 a ton for the present quarter, beginning January 1, 1898, As the wages are based on the selling price of bar fron, Secretary James H. Nutt. of the Merchant Bar Iron association, and President M. M. Garland, of the Amalgamated As seciation of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, have reported no probable increase.

P. L. Kimberly has transferred the Greenville and Sharon rolling mill property to the new concern, P. L. Kimberly & Co., at a consideration of \$124,000. This is the largest property transaction made in this county for years.

The annual convention of the National Association of Red Mill Workers, which was held in Cleveland Monday, appointed a committee to decide on the question of affiliation with the Federated Wire Trades.

A break-down at the Homestead plant of the Carnegie Steel Company will cause the 25-inch mills to become inoperative for two weeks. This will throw 400 men out of employment for that time.

Henry Rothschild & Co. have an-nounced an increase of 8½ per cent in wages at their Trenton shirt manufac-tory, to go into effect on Wednesday. They are also advertising for more help.

The old Meadow rolling mill, of Scott-dale, has placed a contract for a new 20-ton electric crane to be erserted at once. The crane and accessory improvements will cost over 1100,000.

Two hundred operatives of the Geneva mill at Providence, R. L. owned by the Wauskuck company, struck against the cut of wages.

Toledo's street railway union expelled a member for undue indulgence in the inebriating cup.

The national convention of the Bar-tenders' League will be held at Detroit on September 7.

Members of the Ladies' Label League of Cincinnati will take part in the La-bor Day parade, It is affirmed by men in the building trades that the Italians make splendid

union men. Dundee (Scotland) bakers demand the eight-hour day and municipal bakeries.
The Brotherhood of Tailors in New York and Brooklyn has 16,000 members.

### Glass-blowing machines are being in-troduced in America and England. Nine Jap Cadets Lost.

Latest advices from the Orient state that the Japanese transport steamer Nara, of the Japanese transport steamer Nara, of 2510 tons, bound to the Peccadores, was wrecked and about eighty lives lost. The only survivors were five seamen, who were picked up by the steamer Madsure Maru, Captain Yasuda, of the Japanese navy, and nine cadets were among the missing. The vessel struck an uncharted rock, her cargo shifted and she went to the bottom.

There were breechloading cannon as

# MARKETS.

Orain, Flour at.: For WHEAT—No. 1 red	90% 888 37 31 30 28 27 53 5 00 4 55 3 40 10 00	91 99 39 32 31 29 55 5 10 4 76 8 50 10 50 10 50
FEED No. 1 White Md., ton Brown middlings Bran, bulk STRAW — Wheat Oat EEDS Clover, 60 lbs Timothy, prime	15 75 12 00 12 75 6 50 5 50 3 506 1 35	16 25 12 50 13 25 6 00 5 75 1 50
Dairy Products. BUTTER—Eigin Greamery. Ohio creamery. Fancy country roll. CHEESE—Ohio, new New York, new	21 23 14 9 10	23 21 15 10
Fruits and Vegetable BEANS—Hand-picked, fe bu		1 10 75 1 00 70
Poultry, Etc. CHICKENS, # pair	356 .9 20	45 11 22

FLOUR	4	20@	4	40
WHEAT—No. 2 red		46		93
RYE—No. 2 CORN—Mixed		28		29
OATS		24		25
EGGS. BUTTER—Ohio creamery		14		17
PHILADELPHIA			T	-
FLOUR. • WHEAT—No. 2 red CORN—No. 2 mixed OATS—No. 2 white. BUTTER—Creamery, extra EGGS—Pa. firsts		65@ 96 32 29 22	•	90 97 33 33 31 31
NEW YORK			ī	
FLOUR-Patents8	5	00@	5	20
WHEAT-No. 2 red			1	00
CORN-No. 2. OATS-White Western		**		85
BUTTER-Creamery		15		30
EGGS-State of Penn		22		25

CINCINNATI

#### LIVE STOCK. CENTRAL STOCK TARDS, EAST LIBERTY, PA.

CATTLE				
Prime, 1,300 to 1,400 lbs\$ Good, 1,200 to 1,300 lbs	4	65 @ 50	1	75
Tidy, 1,000 to 1,150 ths	4	25	4	85
Fair light steers, 900 to 1000 lbs.	33	75	4	20
Common, 700 to 900 ibs	3	50		75
noos.				224
Medium	3	70	3	75.
Heavy	3	60		65
Roughs and stags	*	25	3	00
BHEEP.				
Prime, 95 to 105 lbs, wethers 2	4	700	4	75