****** Great Gift of New Plants to American Farmers

Resevessorsessessessesses

A most remarkable collection of rare economic plants and seeds is now being worked up by the Department of Agriculture. Barbour Lathrop, of Chicago, with David G. Fairchild, as assistant, recently completed a tour of the world, covering a period of two years, and embracing travels which amounted to explorations, and Mr. Lathrop has given the results of the expedition, undertaken at his own expense, to the farmers of the United States through the medium of the section of seed and plant introduction of the Department of Agriculture.

The expedition left New York on December 31, 1898, and returned last fall, having visited in order the following countries and sent in from each living economic plants and seeds for cultivation by American farmers and horticulturists: Jamalea, Grenada, Barbadoes, Trinidad in the West Indies; Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Argentine, Brazil, in South America; Portugal, Tyrol and Bohemia in Austro-Hungary; Italy, Egypt, Amboina, Banda, Lombok, Bali, Moluceas, Arn and Koi Islands, Tenimber archipelago and New Guinea in the Dutch East Indies; Hong Kong, Canton in South China; the Philippine Islands, Bankok, Slam; Sweden and Finland, in Northern Europe.

Although it is premature to predict the fate of these introduced plants, it will be of interest to point out some of their prospects and the reasons for

A spineless succulent enerus of the Argentine suitable for fodder purposes in the desert regions of Arizona.

A series of West Indian yams, of which at least one is superior in flavor to the Irish potato, suitable for cul-ture in Florida and Louisians, but demanding special care and a special

The Alexandrian clover from Egypt -n late fodder crop for irrigated lands in Southern California and Arizona. This is the principal fodder crop of

Varieties of "pedigreed" barleys originated in Sweden, and of superior value for brewing purposes. Varieties which took twenty out of twentyeight prizes at the Swedish brewers'

Pine West Indian mangoes and su

"Zuccini," from Northern Italy. One f the most important vegetables of the Venetians, and worthy serious consideration by our truck growers.

The seedless Sultanina grape from Padua, Italy, for the seedless raisin industry of the Colorado desert re-

"SLED SPURS."

A New Winter Sport of Which the Ger-mans Are Growing Fond.

"Racing Wolf" is the name of a sled now used extensively in Germany. On



ONE OF THE "SLED SPURS."

each of the runners in the rear of the sled as shown in the picture is a vertical bar with a horizontal bar con-necting them, which acts as a support for the apparatus,

By fastening the "sled spurs" in one of the slides and holding with the hands the bar in front the sled can be propelled at a great speed by pushing with the other foot. Tourists use this sled extensively, as it is portable and

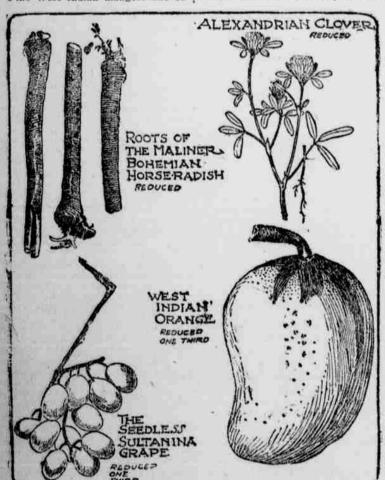


THE "RACING WOLF."

can be conveniently taken into a railroad car. The sled has been often called the "winter velocipede."

Largest Hat in the World.

Here is a picture of the largest hat in the world, so far as can be ascertained, and it was made by an ambi-



SOME OF THE NEW THINGS BROUGHT BACK BY THE LATHROP EXPEDITION AND PRESENTED TO THE UNITED STATES.

perior sorts of East Indian bananas for culture in Porto Rico.

An evergreen poplar from Chile for the Pacific slope

A frost-hardy alligator pear for the coming industry of this fruit growing in Florida and California.

The Lapland six-rowed barley and the early-ripening Finnish black out for experiments in Alaska and such short-sensoned regions.

Chilean alfaifa varieties, for breeding experiments on this most remarkable of all fodder plants.

A Bohemian horse-radish, superior In size and flavor to any American

Several novel Swedish leguminous (clover-like) fodder plants lately brought to the notice of the agricultural public of Sweden.

The "Januovitch" Egyptian cotton, which is now being tested by over 1000 experimenters in the upland cotton regions of the South, and regarding which many encouraging reports

have been received.

The "Algarobillo," a tannin-produc-ing shrub from the Chilenn deserts, with most remarkable desert-resisting peristics and large tannin-proing capacity, for Arizona condi

> der bamboo for the arid reouthwest, which forms of fedder for large herds

tions hatter of a small place in the Philippines, who used 250 yards of "jumbo" straw pleat an inch in width in the manufacture of this monster head covering. As a means of comparison, what are

said to be the smallest lady's sailor



A PHILIPPINE RAT.

hat and the smallest man's straw are up for comparison with this which measures seven and one half | feet neross the brim and three feet around the crown



THE EDICTS OF FASHION.

New York City.—Russian styles are much liked and are singularly well Russian green melton, with wide



BOY'S RUSSIAN SUIT.

bands of braid overlaid by narrow strips of gold and is worn with a gold belt. The style is, however, equally adapted to cloth of different colors, to velvet, velveteen and corduroy; brown, blue, black, tan and red are all worn. and are held in equal favor with the

Both fronts and backs are seamless and fit smoothly across the shoulders, but are slightly loose below the belt to allow ample freedom for young legs. The left front laps well over the right in true Russian style, and the closing is effected invisibly beneath the trimmed edge. At the neck is a standing collar with rounded ends. pleat at the shoulders, and tucks are stitched flat at the wrists to cuff depth, I over with figures either in black or a

To cut this skirt for a woman of medium size four yards of material twenty-one inches wide, three and fivesuited to small boy's wear. The styl-ish little May Manton suit shown is of eighth yards twenty-seven inches wide, two and three-quarter yards thirtytwo inches wide, or two yards forty-four inches wide, will be required.

New Parasols.

The new parasols are chiefly in bright colors of both figured and plain silks, including taffetas, satin foulards, peau de sole and peau de cynge. All have bamboo or other natural-wood handles, s icks and ferrules; many have the rjbs tipped with Ivory and are finished with a bow or a cord and large tassels on the handle. Some of the elaborate ones are trimmed with chiffon or lace ruffles or with contrasting bands of plain or panne velvet in graduated widths.

The New Gray.

There I a new and pretty tone of gray, which, although adopted more or less by Parisians, should only be worn by good looking people with fair complexions. Its coldness is much mitt-gated by being mixed with black and silver, and here again does the bolero coat give scope for imagination, for braidings in black and silver on gray cloth are ladylike, smart and useful for all occasions.

The Spring Wraps.

If any one wishes to know the news s to spring wraps, let it be undergood that long taffeta coats will be absolutely the rage.

An Open Question.

It is an open question which is the handsomer "at home" reception gown
—almond-green, so-called; a pistachlo
tone of deep light green, or the peony The sleeves are laid in a wide box pink, which is so fresh and cheerful looking. These velvets are patterned



A GENERALLY BECO MING SHIRT WAIST.

with darts, and are shaped with inside, outside and centre seams, and closed at the sides. The lower edges are finished with hems or casings, in which elastic is inserted by means of which the leg portions are drawn in to give the baggy effect.

To make this suit for a boy of four years of age three and seven-eighth yards of material twenty-one inches wide, three and an eighth yards twenty-seven inches wide, two yards fortyfour inches wide, or one and threequarter yards fifty inches wide, will be required.

Woman's Shirt Waist.

The shirt waist shows variations without number, but in all its form retains the essential characteristics that have endeared it to the feminine heart. The smart May Manton design shown in the large drawing is admirable in every way, and will be found generally becoming. The slight fulness formed by the tucks means the soft, graceful folds that are so well adapted both to slender and stout figures, and the back gives just the tapering effect required by the latest mode. As illustrated the material is French flannel in a pretty shade of pink, the buttons are of dull-finished gold, and the belt of flexible metal braid, showing stripes of pink and gold, held by a simple dull gold buckle.

The waist is made over a fitted lining that closes at the centre front. The fronts proper are laid in three tucks at each shoulder, below which they fall tree to the waist, where the fulness is arranged in gathers. Down the centre is applied a tapering box pleat that is stitched near each edge. permanently to the right front and oked over invisibly or buttoned onto the left. The back includes three tucks that correspond with and meet those of the fronts at the shoulder seam, are stitched in the back to the waist line, where they lap with slight fulness. The sleeves are in bishop style, finished at the wrists with pointed cuffs. At the neck is a standing collar that also is finished with a point and is lapped over at the centre

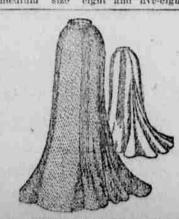
The trousers are fitted at the hips lighter tone of the same color. The self-colored patterned velvets are regarded as rather more chie than those which show designs of another color

Woman's Seven-Gored Tucked Skirt.

The skirt that is tucked in groups is always graceful and promises to remain a favorite for the present and the season to come. The May Manton model illustrated is the very latest that has appeared, and combines all the newest features. As shown it is made of wool crepe in cadet blue, but is suited to all materials: cloth, silk, cashmere, crepe de chine and the entire range of available stuffs.

The skirt is cut in seven gores. The tucks, which are a half inch in width, are laid at the straight edge of each side and back gore, there being six groups in all, three at each side. They are stitched and pressed flat to the point indicated, below which they are left free to fall in soft folds to the floor. The upper portion of the skirt is fitted closely and smoothly, but it flares stylishly as it falls below the The fulness at the back is laid jail in double inverted pleats that meet over the centre seam.

To cut this skirt for a woman of medium size eight and five-eighth



SEVEN-GORED TUCKED SKIRT.

yards of material twenty-one inches wide, five and a quarter yard forty four inches wide, or four yards fifty inches wide, will be required.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

PENSIONS GRANTED.

Young Farmer Shoots His Father During a Quarret-Insane Over Religion-Panle at a Spelling Lee.

The following pensions have been granted: Clarke Crowell, Patton, \$10; John W. Hawkins, Washington, \$8; Benjamin F. Barnhart, Waynesburg, \$10; John Schwab, Allegheny, \$8; James E. Jenny, East Smithfield, \$17; George H. Pierson, Youngsville, \$10; James S. Wilson, Beaver Falls, \$17.

Amos Sterling, a young farmer, living near Titusville, quarreled with his father about an objectionable companion whom the parent had ordered from the house. In a fight in which the guest, Amos, his father and two other sons who were defending him took part, the father was shot twice and seriously wounded by Amos, who, with his companion, ex-

The new Bessemer mines in Unity township, Westmoreland county, is on fire, and the most disastrous results are feared. A big gang of men are engaged in fighting the flames, which threaten to eat up a big body of coal and spread to fields of other companies. The fields adjoin big tracts of coal owned by the Frick interests and others. The loss thus far is very great.

Officer Muffley and two deputies of

Officer Muffley and two deputies of Greensburg swooped down upon a cock fight in a secluded place on the banks on Beaver run, about a mile from Paulton, and arrested County Detective N. K. Collier, of Leechburg, and his two sons and two others named Shaffer, hailing from Leechburg and Kittanning.

During a spelling bee near Kile, Mercer county, the part of the floor which supported the stove gave way three feet, setting the school house on fire and causing a panic and a few injuries. The flames were extinguished without dam-

The strike of the Enterprise Silk Com-pany's employes at Reynoldsville, be-gun six weeks ago, has ended, the strik-ers gaining nearly every point demand-

Smallpox has broken out in the Harrisburg high school. Two pupils have been stricken with the disease and two others have symptoms of it. There are now 12 cases at the Sanitary hospital, ten from Harrisburg and one each from Steelton and New Cumberland.

Twelve hundred men and boys employed at the Shamokin Coal Company's Natalie colliery are out on a strike because the company, they say, failed to pay them at a specified time. The colliery is completely tied up.

Representatives of the independent telephone companies of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia have consolidated, with a capitalization of \$2,000,000, and with headquarters at York.

Fire destroyed the barn on the farm of C. G. and J. B. Furst, near Salona, Clinton county. Everything in the barn burned, including farm horses, 16 sheep and 15 head of cattle. The origin of the fire is unknown. Mrs. Nancy E. Huggins of Mt. Brad-

Mrs. Nancy E. Huggins of Mt. Brad-dock has become insane over religion and has been placed in jail. She joined the Pentecost band and spends her time reading the Bible.

At Leechburg Rev. James Brooks has converted almost 100 men who belonged to different beer clubs. They have returned their keys and several clubs have gone out of business.

New Castle and Lawrence county men who served through the Spanish war have organized Colonel Daniel Leasure Camp No. 157 of the Spanish-American War Veterans' Society.

The 800 employes of the Dolph Coal Company at Winton struck because the company had failed to pay the 10 per cent, increase in wages to a number of its miners, as agreed when the strike of last October was settled, big

Ministers have opened quite a spirit-ed war against a quartet of Mormon missionaries, who have been quietly working among Johnstown people for the past mouth. The elders say they are

used to persecution. Murder may be the result of a fight between a New Castle negro and an Italian. The latter was struck over the head with an iron fork. His skull was fractured so badly that 15 pieces were taken out at the hospital. The negro escaped.

John Breckwin and John Kopsch, two Slav miners, have been arrested charg-ed with the robbery and descration of St. John the Evangelist Catholic church in New Haven, Fayette county

In a fierce fight at Connellsville be-tween a number of Poles and some young men of that place, Samuel Long was stabbed in the back and will probably die from the wound.

James Boyle escaped from the Mer-He then pried up one of the large stones in the floor and dug through the thick layer of cement into the cellar.

James M. Donaldson, proprietor a drug store at Canonsburg, pleaded guilty to furnishing liquor on Sunday, and was fined \$500 and given 20 days in

Isaac G. Boby has been appointed in-spector of mines for the Fifth bitumia-ous district, to succeed Charles Conner, who has gone to Nova Scotia. Slot machines in Scottdale have been

puressed through the efforts of the C. T. U., who term them gambling A strike has been ordered at the Shaw mines, near Meyersdale, because the company refused to discharge men who

would not join the union Joseph Danko was shot by his brother, George, at Leisenring, Fayette county, during a family quarrel, and will prob-ably die.

No less than 140,000 homes are held free of debt by Southern negroes. They have been estimated at an average value of \$140,000,000. The holdings of personality by the race are probably worth more than the realty.

The "arsenical walk" is due to the use of impure beverages. The arsenic accumulates in the system, hardens the muscles and causes a stride as if both legs were of wood. The victims falls if he tries to run.

THE MARKETS

PITTSBURG.

Grain, Flour and Feet	E	
WHEAT—NO, 2 red	7169 59 4614 45 43 31 3014 8 85 8 70	46
Clover No. 1 Prep. No. 1 white mid, ton Brown middlings. Bran, bulk	13 50 18 00 15 75	18 75 18 55 16 00 17 00 9 50 9 50
Dairy Products,		
BUTTER Elgin creamery	27 @ 23¼ . 15 . 11¼ . 12¼	2712 24 16 1116 13%
HENS-per lb	19	11 14 19)6
BEANS—Navy, per bushel & POTATORS—Failey white, & bu. CANDAGE—per barrel OSIONS—per bushel	2 30@ 50 1 25	2 35 53 1 50 1 10
BALTIMORE,		
FLOUR—Winter Patent. \$ WHEAT—No. 2 red CORS—mixed OATS. EGOS. BUTTER—Obio creamery.	8 85@ 76½ 44% 31% 18 21	4 05 7654 4434 82 25
FLOUR-Winter patent \$ WHEAT-No. 2 red CORN-NO. 2 mixed OATS-NO. 2 white BUTTER - Creamery , extra EGOS-Pennsylvania firsts	3 25@ 77 45 32½ 23½ 18	3 40 7714 4514 33 24 19
NAME AND DESCRIPTIONS		
	3 65@ 33 17	48 8314 8314

BUTTER—Creamery 17 Ecos—State and Penna 184 LIVE STOCK.

Central Stock Yards, East Liberty, P.s.

Prime heavy, 1500 to 1600 lbs \$				70
Prime, 1300 to 1400 lbs	5	20		50
Medium, 1000 to 1200 lbs	4	25	4	65
Fat heifers,	3	50	4	25
Butcher, 900 to 1000 lbs	4	00	4	25
Common to fair	8	50	4	00
Oxen, common to fat		00	4	00
Common to good fat bulls & cows			1	
Milch cows, each	275		35	
Extra milch cows, each,		50	55	
Extra inner cows, each.	01	50	00	uu
Hous.				
Prime medium weights	5	80/2	5	85
Best heavy yorkers and medium	5	75	5	80
Good to choice packers	5	75	. 5	80
Good pigs and light yorkers	15	60	5	75
Skip pigs.		50		25
Prime heavy hogs		70		75
Common to fair		20		70
Common to fair		50		10
Roughs			- 9	25
Stags	13	00		1410

Extra, medium weight wethers, \$\frac{1}{2}\$ 4 75\$\varphi\$ 5 00 Good to choice. 4 50 4 75 Medium. 4 00 4 25 Common to fair. 1 69 3 00 LAMES.

CALVES.

 Yeal, extra
 \$ 6.75\$\otimes\$ 7.50

 Veal, good to choices
 6.25
 6.75

 Veal, common to fair
 4.25
 5.25

 Veal, common heavy
 2.75
 3.75

BUSINESS REPORTED GOOD. Statements From Distribution Points, Especially in the West, Showing Increased Strength-Activity in Markets.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says: Jobbing trade in groceries, hardware and iron specialties has further gained in volume in the East, and retail business has been good, except for a slow movement of some descriptions of dry goods. Nominal quotations of iron and steel are misleading. It appears that, while pig iron has steadily advanced for many weeks little change has occurred in finished products. This discrepancy is due to the figures fixed by the pools and associations, but at which it is impossible to tions, but at which it is impossible to secure prompt deliveries. Actual business is done at extensive advances over these prices, billets selling at \$2r at Pittburg, or more than \$1 above the nominal rate, while plates, bars and structural shapes are only available when special terms are offered. Even when special terms are offered, Even on distant deliveries mills are asking higher figures, and every line of steel production at Pittsburg has already covered full contracts for the next two months, while there is a general feeling that material advances will occur before May 1. Bessemer pig iron sold this week at \$1.5.2. and gene force at \$1.5. fore May 1. Bessemer pig iron sold this week at \$15.25 and gray forge at \$19, prices that have not been equaled since early in August. Coke production is enormous, and Connellsville prices at last show a definite advance. Grain markets are firmly maintained. Domestic crop conditions are encouraging, and the best explanation of strength is found in Atlantic exports during February of wheat, flour included, amounting to 10.348,204 bushels, against 7,671. ing to 10,348,204 bushels, against 7.671,552 bushels last year, and 14,730,262 bushels corn, against 12,724,645 bushels in 1900. Commercial failures in February were 1,024 in number and \$11,287,211 in amount, compared with 1,242 in January, with liabilities of \$11,220,311. Nearly a third of the liabilities in manufacturing failure were due to a single bankruptcy of a railway contractor, while not one of the 757 trading default-ers owed as much as \$100,000. Bank clearings for the week, with comparisons with the same week in

1900, as reported by Bradstreet's:

New Miners Organization.

A new sub-district of district No. 2, United Mine Workers of America, was organized at Lilly, Pa., Monday, Representatives of 21 different mines attended the convention, and a constitution was adopted. An eight-hour day resolution was passed without a dissent and the delegate from this end of dis-trict No. 2 were instructed to contend toward that end at the Altoona confer-ence, to be held next month. A scale ence, to be held next month. A scale of uniformity on dead work was also demanded, and a smaller differential between pick and machine mining was among the demands proposed. It was also the sentiment of the convention that the wages of checkweighman should be increased.