

Tea Growing Experiments in the United States.

Prospects of the Industry.

By Weldon Fawcett.

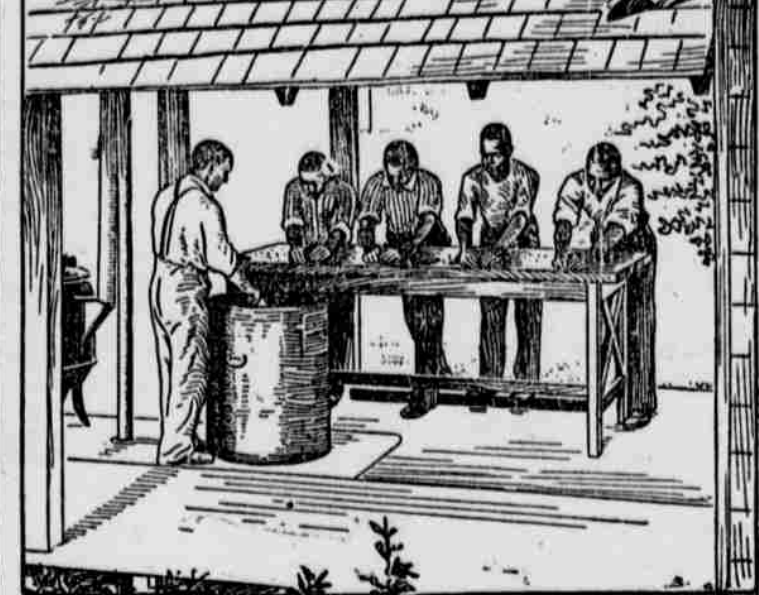
THE century which has recently been ushered into existence will see an addition to the already long list of reasons why there can never be a repetition of that famous "Boston tea party" which helped to bring on the Revolutionary War. This new preventive is found in the fact that long ere the present cycle of a hundred years is rounded out, Uncle Sam will, in all probability, be producing within his domain sufficient tea leaves for all the soothing beverage which his people can possibly drink, and mayhap will have some to spare to his brethren across the sea.

That this will be a highly desirable consummation must be appreciated even by the person who never sipped a cup of tea in his life. For one thing, it will enable the poorer classes to obtain good tea at lower prices, and for another it will keep in the coffers of the American people a fortune, amounting to many millions dollars annually, which now goes to feed and clothe men and women on the other side of the globe. Under present conditions every man, woman and child in the United States consumes about twenty cents' worth of tea each twelve months, and the immense aggregate sum is divided among the tea growers in China, Japan and Ceylon, several middlemen and agents, and the vessel owners who carry the precious product to market.

The best feature of the new era which is coming, however, is found in the fact that finer tea can be grown in the United States than in the Orient. This has been conclusively proven by some interesting experiments which the United States Department of Agriculture has been conducting during the past few years at

ing. The yield of the plantation is increased by one-eighth each year and the tea produced is so vastly superior to the black tea which comes over the ocean that it sells for a dollar a pound, or three or four times as much as the importations from China or Japan, and thus nets the Government a very handsome profit on its investment.

But because the tea which has thus far been produced in Dixie has sold for three or four times the price of



ROLLING TEA.

the crisp leaves which have been carried half way round the world, it must not be supposed that the argument regarding the ultimate cheapness of American tea is without foundation. The Government officials have demonstrated that under ordinary circumstances four hundred pounds of tea can be counted upon as the yield of each acre in a plantation. The tea can be grown and put on the market at fifteen cents per pound. Thus if the shop keepers sell this superior grade of tea at the same prices that are now charged for the inferior imported teas, they will almost double their money, and presumably some of them will be satisfied with less profit than this when competition becomes fierce.

The United States Government is now planning to distribute tea plants free to all Southern colleges that will agree to assist the Department of Agriculture in establishing tea gardens on their land. Special scientific agents are being sent out to give advice, and after a thorough investigation has been made of the possibilities of the Gulf States for tea culture, experiments will be conducted in Tennessee, North Carolina, Arkansas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma Territory, Missouri and other border States. Climatic conditions, rainfall and soil must, however, all be favorable to conduce to successful tea culture, and the American tea growers have already discovered that it is useless to try to propagate the plants where the winter temperature is lower than fifteen degrees above zero. An average of an inch of rainfall every week in the year is also essential, although it is hoped to overcome this necessity by means of irrigation.

One of the most tedious tasks which has confronted the pioneer tea growers has been that of determining what species of tea plants give the best results when transplanted to this continent. In order to demonstrate this a number of miniature tea gardens have been provided, and in each some particular variety is carefully nursed under special treatment. Thus the visitor to this romantic nook in South Carolina may see, growing side by side, Japanese, Chinese, Ceylonese and American tea. The difference in the

quantity of tea yielded by a single bush presents as wide a range in the case of the different varieties as in the case in the Orient, where the product varies from one ounce from each



PICKING TEA.

American tea gardens now contain thousands of bushes, each composed of many separate stems. Better still, the practical side of the enterprise has commenced to make a favorable show-

quantity of tea yielded by a single bush presents as wide a range in the case of the different varieties as in the case in the Orient, where the product varies from one ounce from each

bush in Japan, to eight or ten ounces from the average bush in India and Ceylon.

One of the problems which has puzzled the American tea planters not a little is that of securing helpers at wages low enough to enable competition with the ridiculously cheap labor of the Mongolians. Machinery now does much of the work of preparing the tea for market, but the leaves must be picked by hand, and with all the economy that can be exercised it costs just about eight times as much to secure the harvesting of a pound of tea in South Carolina as it does in Asia. Even as it is the cost would be greater had not the projectors of this initial tea plantation happily hit upon the plan of employing colored school children as pickers.

A school house is maintained on the plantation, and in the intervals between learning to read and write the youngsters are taught how to pick tea. None of these juvenile toilers can approach in rapidity the records of the

Old fiddlers of Western Pennsylvania will on May 28, in Old City hall, Pittsburgh, contest for 50 prizes. No "kids" are eligible. Each violinist who enters the contest must be over 50 years old. The prizes include furniture, musical instruments, watches and jewelry. The entertainment promises to be one of the most novel ever given in Pittsburgh.

A. W. Stephens, a miner of Arona, Westmoreland county, has fallen heir to a fortune of from \$50,000 to \$100,000. His uncle, Samuel C. Stephens, a banker of San Francisco, Cal., who went West in the '30s, died recently without making a will. He left no direct heirs, and Mr. Stephens, of Arona, is the only living nephew.

Five houses in Wiek street, Pittsburgh, were wrecked by the collapse of their foundations. The heavy rains of the last few weeks soaked the ground on which the houses were built, so that it slipped slowly away until the buildings were tilted to a dangerous angle. The loss will exceed \$10,000.

Eight men were injured by a falling cage at the Millwood coal and coke works, six miles east of Latrobe. They are: Joseph Baker, a miner, leg and arm broken; Samuel Robb, leg broken and neck sprained, and six Hungarian and Italian miners, who were severely bruised.

The Rev. Liston T. Bass, D. D., a Baptist preacher until recently at Salisbury, Indiana county, has been sentenced by Justice Barnard to serve three years in the penitentiary at Monroeville, W. Va., and pay a fine of \$1,000 for using the mails for fraudulent purposes.

At the Leckrone coke works of the Federal Steel Company near Uniontown, Andrew Rumpel shot and killed Amelia Brookner, wife of Robert Brookner. Rumpel was a boarder in the house and tried to make love to the woman, which she resented. He is in jail.

E. J. Angle, one of the most prominent figures of the Bradford county bar, and an influential Republican leader, was found dead in bed Monday morning by his wife. Mr. Angle was 52 years old and had served one term as district attorney of that county.

The Wilmington Railway Spring and Manufacturing Company, of Wilmington, Del., has recovered its health, and is writing a life of Giuseppe Verdi.

Lord Salisbury returned to London from the South of France looking exceedingly well.

Aguiinaldo is an enthusiastic wheelman. He learned how to ride in 'ong Kong.

The degree of doctor of laws has been conferred on the Duke of York by the University of Melbourne.

Marquis Ito, the Japanese statesman, is suffering from brain trouble and is not likely to resume office.

W. F. Draper, the Lowell mill-owner, will live in Italy, to which country he was formerly the American Ambassador.

Sir Thomas Lipton has just received from Mr. McKinley a photograph of the President, bearing a cordial greeting in autograph.

Senator John P. Jones, of Nevada, has over \$75,000 invested in orange groves near Los Angeles, Cal., and has become quite an expert judge of the fruit.

President Diaz of Mexico is said to be a most abstemious man. His daily fare is almost Spartan, and even when he attends official banquets he departs but little from his regular diet.

A pleasant way of spending some of the summer months is that adopted by the King of Greece. He turns farmer, and can plow a field, cut and bind corn—in short, keep a farm going from start to finish, as though it were his business.

Congressman Dovenor, of West Virginia, says that President McKinley is planning to tour the world at the expiration of his term of office. The President's foreign trip will, it is said, be more extensive than that made by General Grant in 1877.

Visitors to the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo will have an opportunity of seeing a small building made of aluminum. This lightest of metals is manufactured at Niagara Falls with the electricity which is generated there in large quantities.

The fight against slavery in this country was a prolonged one. In 1775, in the city of Philadelphia, the first anti-slavery society was organized.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

PENSIONS GRANTED

Old Fiddlers to Contest For Valuable Prizes. A Little Five-Year-Old Heroine Saves Two Lives.

Pensions have been granted as follows: Cleora M. Ewing, Tyrone, \$0; James Hicks, Huntingdon, \$8; William E. Smith, Edinboro, \$8; David Landis, Monongahela, \$12; James T. Reed, Cochranton, \$12; Reuben Doty, Warren, \$10; David McTure, Baldwin, \$0; Sarah A. Barner, Latimer, \$8; Margaret Kniffin, Towanda, \$12; minor of Benjamin Jones, Cannelton, \$10; James Anderson, Finleyville, \$12; William Taylor, Loveville, \$12; minor of Jacob Flamm, Berlin, \$10; Martha C. Blossie, Lindsay, \$8.

An oil boom has struck that part of Washington county lying about seven miles west of Washington, a number of good producing wells having been struck in the past few weeks. The oil is practically new, though several wells of little importance have been drilled there in recent years. Leases are being taken daily.

Victoria Ramey is in jail at New Castle because, it is alleged, she has three undivorced husbands living.

At a fire in Benjamin F. Price's house in West Taylor township, Cambria county, 5-year-old Gerlie poured water over a blanket, in which she wrapped herself and brother, aged 3. She half dragged and half carried him, and breaking a window, reached a porch, from which they were rescued. The little girl was badly burned.

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White trying to save the lives of her two grandchildren, who had run in front of a fast passenger train, Mrs. Rosa Feldman, of McKeesport, 61 years old, was herself killed.

During the performance of the Jones circus at Vandergrift, a tier of seats collapsed, precipitating nearly 100 persons to the ground. Several who occupied the high seats, near the back were badly hurt.

John P. Whitworth, of Kittanning, has been appointed corporation clerk of the State Department to succeed W. C. Farnsworth, of Harrisburg, resigned.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

WEDNESDAY. After a week's vacation but 114 members were present at to-day's session of the House. The time was almost entirely given over to a long debate on the question of final adjournment, after which few minor bills were passed.

In the Senate the prohibitive oleomargarine bill was up for first reading. The bill encouraging the establishing of county historical societies by making an appropriation of \$200 to such organization passed finally.

There was considerable debate over the House bill prohibiting the use of boracic acid, silylic acid, salicylate of soda or any other injurious compounds, for the preservation of meat, fish or any article of human food, and the bill was defeated by one vote.

Mr. Emery, of Mercer, introduced a bill providing that the question, "Shall the retail traffic in intoxicating liquors as a beverage be prohibited?" be submitted to the qualified electors of every ward, city, borough and township in the State on the third Tuesday of February and every two years thereafter.

THURSDAY. The courts, high and low, were looked after by the Legislature to-day, while the Senate bill increasing the annual allowance of the members of the Supreme Court for clerk hire from \$1,000 to \$2,500, or as much thereof as may be necessary, was passed finally in the House and goes back to the Senate on account of an amendment, the House bill providing for an additional law judge in Northumberland county was passed finally in the Senate and is in the Governor's hands. Among other bills passed were:

House bill taxing trust companies 2 cents on each \$1,000 of trust funds for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the State Bank department for examining the accounts of trust companies.

Appropriating \$20,000 to the Uniontown Hospital Association.

A bill to provide for the immediate printing and distribution of advance sheets of the laws of the Commonwealth as they are enacted from time to time to persons making application for them, was introduced in the House by Mr. McClain, Lancaster.

The House also passed the Senate bill amending the law of 1850 governing the election of judges of the Superior Court.

FRIDAY. A concurrent resolution fixing June 1 for final adjournment was offered in the House by Mr. Cressy, of Columbia.

Mr. Paul, of Philadelphia, offered a resolution relative to the apportionment bills, which was ruled out of order.

Mr. Haag, of Schuylkill, offered a resolution, which was ruled out of order, recalling from the Senate the bill passed, providing that until 1900, when less than four judges of the Superior Court are to be elected, each elector may vote for the entire number.

The legislative apportionment bill was read the first time.

PROMINENT PEOPLE. Grand Duke Michael of Russia may visit the United States.

Premier Waldeck-Rousseau, of France, has recovered his health.

Pietro Mascagni, the composer, is writing a life of Giuseppe Verdi.

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NEWSY CLEANINGS.

The comet seen at Lima, Peru, had two tails.

Alabama is third among the six leading coke-producing States.

It is estimated that 1000 cities of the United States have curfew ordinances.

Minnesota has 200 less inmates in prisons and reformatories than it had in 1897.

The waters of the Province of Ontario, Canada, will be extensively restocked with fish this spring.

Honolulu is keeping up with the trade procession of the day. It is to have a \$2,000,000 packing house establishment.

The Mexican Government is giving encouragement to those undertaking the cultivation of grapes and silkworms.

Timber experts say that California alone has a capacity of lumber in her standing forests of over 100,000,000,000 cubic feet.

The municipal budget of Havana, Cuba, for the current year amounts to \$2,300,000, which is \$900,000 in excess of that of 1900.

A United States Naval Board has recommended the substitution of wireless telegraphy for the present system of carrier pigeons.

Excluding 2,000 small craft, the commerce of the world is carried on by 45,000 vessels, with a carrying power of 48,000,000 tons.

New York is building a State hospital in the Adirondacks, to cost \$100,000, where patients with incipient consumption will be treated.

Ascension Island, the British station in the South Atlantic, has just been connected by cable with Sierra Leone and thereby with England.

Pennsylvania has a new Juvenile Court law, providing for special hearings and investigations by probation officers in cases of juvenile offenders.

Will Employ Only Men. Some business men will not employ women, on the principle that every woman employed deprives a man of a position, and makes it harder for him to take care of some woman, says Success.

Julius Scoten, a St. Louis, Mo., merchant, will not have a woman in his store, and will not employ a male clerk for less than \$75 a month. He declares it costs him \$2,500 more to conduct his business with men only, but he makes more happy freights than he could with his store filled with women. Is he right?

BUSINESS CARDS. C. MITCHELL, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office on West Main street, opposite the Commercial Hotel, Reynoldsville, Pa.

G. M. McDONALD, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Notary Public, real estate agent, Patents secured, collections made promptly. Office in Nolan block, Reynoldsville, Pa.

SMITH M. MCCREIGHT, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Notary Public and Real Estate Agent. Collections will receive prompt attention. Office in Froehlich & Henry block, near postoffice, Reynoldsville, Pa.

DR. B. E. HOOVER, Resident dentist. In the Froehlich & Henry block, near postoffice, Main street, Gettensville in operating.

DR. R. L. MEANS, DENTIST. Office on second floor of First National bank building, Main street.

DR. R. DEVERE KING, DENTIST. Office on second floor Reynoldsville Real Estate Bldg. Main street Reynoldsville, Pa.

E. NEFF, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE. And Real Estate Agent, Reynoldsville, Pa.

J. H. HUGHES, UNDERTAKING AND EMBALMING. A full line of supplies constantly on hand. Picture frames and easels on every floor. Room in the Moore building on Main street.

HOTEL BELNAP, REYNOLDSVILLE, PA. FRANK DIETZ, Proprietor. First class in every particular. Located in the very center of the business part of town. Free bus to and from trains and commodious sample rooms for commercial travelers.

HOTEL MCCONNELL, REYNOLDSVILLE, PA. FRANK J. BLACK, Proprietor. The leading hotel of the town. Headquarters for commercial men. Steam heat, free bath rooms and closets on every floor. Sample rooms, billiard room, telephone connections, etc.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

BUFFALO AND ALLEGANY VALLEY DIVISION. Low Grade Division.

STATIONS.	In Effect Nov. 25, 1900. (Eastern Standard Time.)					
	No. 12	No. 14	No. 106	No. 104	No. 10	No. 16
Pittsburg	6:15	6:00	6:00	6:00	6:00	6:00
Red Bank	6:25	6:10	6:10	6:10	6:10	6:10
Lawsonham	6:40	6:25	6:25	6:25	6:25	6:25
New Bethlehem	6:55	6:40	6:40	6:40	6:40	6:40
Old Ripley	7:10	6:55	6:55	6:55	6:55	6:55
Mayville	7:25	7:10	7:10	7:10	7:10	7:10
Summersville	7:40	7:25	7:25	7:25	7:25	7:25
Brookville	7:55	7:40	7:40	7:40	7:40	7:40
Johnsburg	8:10	7:55	7:55	7:55	7:55	7:55
Gettensville	8:25	8:10	8:10	8:10	8:10	8:10
Reynoldsville	8:40	8:25	8:25	8:25	8:25	8:25
Pancoat	8:55	8:40	8:40	8:40	8:40	8:40
Falls Creek	9:10	8:55	8:55	8:55	8:55	8:55
DuBois	9:25	9:10	9:10	9:10	9:10	9:10
Sabula	9:40	9:25	9:25	9:25	9:25	9:25
Waterbury	9:55	9:40	9:40	9:40	9:40	9:40
Tyler	10:10	9:55	9:55	9:55	9:55	9:55
Renovo	10:25	10:10	10:10	10:10	10:10	10:10
Grant	10:40	10:25	10:25	10:25	10:25	10:25
Driftwood	10:55	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40	10:40

Train 92 (Sunday) leaves Pittsburg 9:10 a. m. Red Bank 11:15 Brookville 12:41 Reynoldsville 1:14 Falls Creek 2:10 DuBois 3:15 p. m. NOTE—Train 103 on Sundays will make all stops between Red Bank and DuBois.

STATIONS.	In Effect March 15, 1901. Trains leave Driftwood as follows:					
	No. 17	No. 109	No. 103	No. 103	No. 13	No. 16
Driftwood	6:25	6:10	6:10	6:10	6:10	6:10
Grant	6:40	6:25	6:25	6:25	6:25	6:25
Renovo	6:55	6:40	6:40	6:40	6:40	6:40
Tyler	7:10	6:55	6:55	6:55	6:55	6:55
Waterbury	7:25	7:10	7:10	7:10	7:10	7:10
Sabula	7:40	7:25	7:25	7:25	7:25	7:25
Falls Creek	7:55	7:40	7:40	7:40	7:40	7:40
Pancoat	8:10	7:55	7:55	7:55	7:55	7:55
Reynoldsville	8:25	8:10	8:10	8:10	8:10	8:10
Fuller	8:40	8:25	8:25	8:25	8:25	8:25
Johnsburg	8:55	8:40	8:40	8:40	8:40	8:40
Brookville	9:10	8:55	8:55	8:55	8:55	8:55
Summersville	9:25	9:10	9:10	9:10	9:10	9:1