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THE YAKIMA HERALD.

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L. S. Howlett, ex-Receiver of Public Monies at the U. S. Land Office, will give Special attention to making out papers for Settlers, and to Land Contests.

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FIRST NATIONAL BANK of North Yakima.

Notice to Consumers.

The Elite.

The new grain crop, which is of splendid quality, is now in the market and can be had at the North Yakima Roller Mills.

I have money to loan on city and farm property at lowest rates ever offered. Call and see me. J. B. PROSLEY.

C. E. McEwen is now offering saddles, bridles, harness and everything in his line at prices not to be duplicated this side of Portland.

Recognizing the long-felt want for children's clothing, we are now prepared to supply just that. Goods are all new and prices are low.

Two dozen of bottled beer at the North Yakima Bottling Works.

A splendid line of mutin and percale shirts and summer neckwear just received by Myron Ellis.

Grain sacks for sale at North Yakima Roller Mills.

A full line of the latest materials and shades in dress goods have been received by Henry Ditter.

Dr. Savage will be found always ready to attend calls day or night. Office over Eschelman Bros. store; residence on Second street, two doors south U. S. Land office.

Two dozen of bottled beer at the North Yakima Bottling Works.

De Witt's Little Early Risers. Only pill to cure sick headache and regulate the bowels. Sold by C. J. Taft.

Suits made to order and a perfect fit guaranteed by Myron H. Ellis.

Red school house shoes excel all others; to be had at Ditter's.

De Witt's Colic and Cholera Cure is always safe and always sure. We recommend it. C. J. Taft.

A full line of men's all wool suits from \$10 up. Good durable suits from \$6.50 up. VANCE & MULFORD'S.

The stock of harness, saddles, etc., at C. E. McEwen's is the best in the city, and his prices are the lowest.

New goods arriving daily at Henry Ditter's, direct from the east. Great preparations have been made for the holidays. Call and see the latest in the line of dry goods and clothing.

Our negligee shirts are just the thing, so purchasers say. Try them. VANCE & MULFORD.

For your gents' furnishing goods, clothing and hats, Ditter's is the place.

AIMING AT OUR VITALS.

All of the Lands of Yakima, Kittitas and the South Half of Douglas County

Withdrawn From Settlement, and all Filings Since October, 1888, Declared Invalid—A Tough Blow.

As will be seen by the following copy of a circular letter received at the Yakima Land office, the government has aimed a staggering blow at central Washington from the fifth standard parallel south. A visit to the local land office developed the fact that this ruling withdrew from settlement all the lands of Yakima and Kittitas counties and the south half of Douglas county, and also invalidated all entries of whatsoever nature within this limit. This tie-up can only be overcome by proclamation of the president, and our citizens should allow no time to elapse without presenting this deplorable condition of affairs to the president and showing in its true colors the great and unnecessary injustice done to this section.

The circular letter is as follows: DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR, GENERAL LAND OFFICE, Washington, D.C., Aug. 9, '90. Registers and Receivers U. S. Land Offices: GENTLEMEN:—On the 5th of August, 1889, a circular was addressed to you by direction of the honorable secretary of the interior calling your attention to the provisions of the act of October, 1888, 25 stat., 526, relative to the lands in the arid regions of the United States and instructing you thereunder, which reads as follows, viz:

Information having reached this department that parties are endeavoring to make filings on arid lands reserved for reservoirs, irrigating ditches and canals, and for the purpose of controlling the waters of lakes and rivers and their tributaries in the arid regions, I am directed by the honorable secretary of the interior to call your special attention to the act of congress approved October 2, 1888, U. S. Statutes at Large, vol. 25, p. 526, as follows:

For the purpose of investigating the extent to which the arid region of the United States can be redeemed by irrigation, and the segregation of the irrigable lands in such arid region, and for the selection of sites for reservoirs and other hydraulic works necessary for the storage and utilization of water for irrigation and the prevention of floods and overflows, and to make the necessary maps, including the pay of employees in field and in office, the cost of all instruments, apparatus and materials, and all other necessary expenses connected therewith, the work to be performed by the geological survey, under the direction of the secretary of the interior, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary. And the director of the geological survey, under the supervision of the secretary of the interior, shall make a report to congress on the first Monday in December of each year, showing how the said money has been expended, the amount used for actual survey and engineering work in the field in locating sites for reservoirs, and an itemized account of the expenditures under this appropriation. And all the lands which may hereafter be designated or selected by such United States surveys for sites for reservoirs, ditches or canals for irrigation purposes and all the lands made susceptible of irrigation by such reservoirs, ditches or canals are from this time henceforth hereby reserved from sale as the property of the United States, and shall not be subject after the passage of this act to entry, settlement or occupation until further provided by law: Provided, that the president at any time in his discretion, by proclamation, may open any portion or all of the lands reserved by this provision to settlement under the homestead laws.

The object sought to be accomplished by the foregoing provision is unmistakable. The water courses and the arid lands that may be irrigated by the system of national irrigation are now reserved to be hereafter, when redeemed to agriculture, transferred to the people of the territories in which they are situated for homesteads. The act of congress and common justice require that they should be faithfully preserved for these declared purposes.

The statute provides that all lands which may hereafter be designated or selected by the geological survey as sites for reservoirs, ditches or canals for irrigation purposes, and all lands made susceptible of irrigation by such reservoirs, ditches or canals are since the passage of said act absolutely reserved from sale as property of the United States, and shall not be subject after the passage of the act to entry, settlement or occupation until further provided by law, or the president, by proclamation, may open said lands to settlement.

Neither individuals nor corporations have the right to make filings upon any lands thus reserved, nor can they be permitted to obtain control of the lakes and streams that are susceptible of uses for irrigating purposes.

You will, therefore, immediately cancel all filings made since October, 1888, on such sites for reservoirs, ditches or canals for irrigating purposes and all lands that may be susceptible of irrigation by such reservoirs, ditches or canals, whether made by individuals or corporations, and you will hereafter receive no filings upon any such lands.

This order you will carry into effect without delay.

It is found that, notwithstanding said act and the instructions given thereunder by said circular, numerous filings and entries of lands within the arid regions appear to have been permitted to be made, subsequent to October 2, 1888, the date of the passage of the act. These entries and filings were made at the risk of the parties.

Under date of the 2d of April, 1890, the matter of the proper course of proceeding under said act was submitted by the interior to the honorable secretary of the interior. It appears that the subject was laid by the secretary before the honorable attorney general for his opinion, who, under date of the 27th of May, 1890, gave an opinion from which the following is an extract, viz:

The object of the act is manifest. It was to prevent the entry upon and the settlement and sale of all that part of the arid region of the public lands of the United States which could be improved by general system of irrigation, and all lands which might be designated or selected by the United States surveys as sites for the reservoirs, ditches or canals in such systems. Unquestionably it would seriously interfere with the operation and purpose of the act if the sites necessary for reservoirs in such plan of irrigation could be entered upon by homestead settlers. So, too, it would be obviously unjust if pending the survey made with a view to their segregation for improvement by irrigation these lands should be entered upon and settled as arid lands of the United States. It was, therefore, the purpose of congress by this act to suspend all rights of entry upon any lands which would come with the improving operation of the plans of irrigation to be reported by the director of the geological survey under this act. Language could hardly be stronger than are the words of the act in expressing this intention.

All the lands which may hereafter be designated or selected, etc., are from this time henceforth hereby reserved from sale, etc., and shall not be subject after the passage of this act to entry, etc., until further provided by law.

There can be no question that if an entry was made upon land which was thereafter designated in a United States survey as a site for a reservoir, or which was by such reservoir made susceptible of irrigation, the entry would be invalid, and the land so entered upon would remain the property of the United States, the reservation thereof dating back to the passage of this act.

The far-reaching effect of this construction cannot deprive the words of the act of their ordinary and necessary meaning. The proviso that "the president at any time in his discretion, by proclamation, may open any portion or all of the lands so reserved," was the legislative mode of modifying and avoiding the far-reaching effect of the act, whenever it should appear. Entries should not be permitted, therefore, upon any part of the arid regions which might possibly come within the operation of this act.

These proceedings having consumed some time, I am now in receipt of the secretary's letter of the 4th instant, in which, after alluding to previous correspondence and the opinion of the attorney general from which an extract is above quoted, he directs that this office shall proceed to carry the law "into effect, according to the terms and instructions all ready existing from the secretary," referring to the instructions contained in circular of August 5, 1889, above given.

I have to call your special and particular attention to the foregoing order from the head of the department, and to direct in reference to the subject matter that you proceed strictly in accordance therewith. Although, in any case, there be at the time no designation of the land involved therein as a selection for a site or sites for reservoirs, ditches or canals for irrigation purposes, or as land thereby susceptible of irrigation, that fact is not to be considered as showing that the land is open to entry, as although not yet so selected, it may be liable to such selection, under said act, which is held to withdraw all lands so liable from disposal. You will, therefore, permit no entry or filing of any lands lying within the arid regions that may be included in your land district, on any condition whatever, but will promptly reject any application that may be made for such entry or filing, with the usual right of appeal. You will take any necessary action to ascertain the proper limits of the arid regions, and whether any lands in your districts are included therein, and if you have any doubt thereof, you may submit the question to this office for specific instructions.

Any entries or filings of lands within the arid regions which may have already been allowed, subsequent to the passage of the act of October 2, 1888, and reported to this office, will be taken up and acted upon according to the principles indicated herein, as soon as practicable in the course of official business.

Very respectfully,
LUDWIG A. GROSS, Comm'r.

Ministry Work Held at Ellensburg.

Goldendale Sentinel: "Ellensburg citizens" said a clerical gentleman who recently visited that city on some religious mission, "are talking of putting up some sampling works. Oh, that is a dreadful ungodly place; I saw a sample room on almost every corner, and not satisfied with that they are going into the wholesale sampling business. We must do a little missionary work up there this year."

THE QUEER AND CURIOUS.

A Collection of Quaint Things to Interest the Reader.

Sinking of the Andes—Chinese Idea of Evolution—An Englishman's Specimen Hindoo God, Etc.

Readers of the Republic will remember a little note in the issue of December 4, 1889, concerning a sunken city in the Baltic sea, the spires of which were revealed by the great storm last fall. Since writing the note alluded to, the editor of "Notes and Queries" has given much time and study to the sunken city legends of Europe, and has found the superstition to be widespread. Most countries of the east which border on seas or oceans, or which have large lakes or seas within their limits, have names and a fixed location for those fabulous cities. In Germany the city is called Vineta, and it is said to be in the vicinity of the island of Rugen. Werner's novel of the same name is based on this old German superstition. Max Muller's father wrote a beautiful poem with Vineta as the theme.

The Italians point out seven different bays and harbors which they tell you were once occupied by populous cities, over which the waves now roll to the depth of several fathoms. In the sunken city of Brittany, seems to be quite a nomad, various places along the coast being pointed out as its former site; however, it is always given the same name, no matter where located. The bulk of authorities fix on the bay of Douarnenez as being the body of water at present rolling over the legendary city. Hugestons and other relics recently found by divers working in the bay make it at least probable that some large Gallo-Roman city once stood there on land now covered by the sea.

Lough Neagh, the traditional Irish fountain, not only buried a city, but a whole district and many cities under its waters by a phenomenal outbreak, which occurred some time during the pre-historic or semi-pre-historic period.

A traveler who recently made a tour of the Orient, and who, by the way, is something of a magician himself, tells the following remarkable story of his experience with some of the wizards of the east:

"One of these was begun by the largest man in the group, who threw a great coil of ribbon far towards the sky. As it uncoiled in mid-air a small hawk seemed to be liberated from it, to seize the ribbon's end in its beak, and to fly with it in a cloud, which apparently proceeded from the ribbon itself, and was caused, I presume, by something burning along its surface. From this cloud there now slid to the ground a snake, a frog and a smiling native baby, which one of the women caught in her arms and held out to the astonished crowd. All the magicians, save the larger, who was of a most gigantic stature, now left the place. The giant then sat upon the ground, concealing himself with a large umbrella, exacting from me a promise to remove it at the expiration of five minutes by my watch. When I done as directed, the giant had disappeared, though the earth where he had sat was perfectly solid. Returning to the inn, we found our giant sitting serenely on the porch.

When I handed him his umbrella he opened it with a quick jerk, disclosing my watch and chain, which I had not missed, hanging to one of its ribs."

The famous Hindoo god, Lingam, is now owned by an English gentleman of culture named Spencer, who paid \$13,000 for it at an auction sale in London in 1888. This curious relic stands but 12 1/2 inches high. Small as it is, it is worth its weight in first-water diamonds. The base is of solid gold, and around it are set nine gems which were used as charms—a diamond, ruby, sapphire, chrysoberyl cat's eye, coral, pearl, hyacinthine, garnet, yellow sapphire and emerald. Around the apex of this pure gold and gem-studded pyramid is a plinth set with diamonds. On the apex is a topaz 1 1/2 inches in length and 9/16 of an inch in depth, shaped like a horseshoe; in the center of the horseshoe the great chrysoberyl cat's eye stands. When Bahadur Shah, better known as "Bad Shah," the last king of Delhi, was captured and exiled to the Andaman islands his queen secreted this god, and it was never seen again until recent research discovered and brought it to the British capital, where it was disposed of to Mr. Spencer, as above mentioned.

The Chinese have as odd ideas about the earth and the origin of man as they have about other things with which they, as well as ourselves, are better acquainted. According to their way of reckoning, the rocks of the earth are the bones of the divine body, the soil is the flesh, the metals the nerves and the veins. The tide, wind, rain, clouds, as well as frost and dew, are caused by the respirations, pulsations and exhalations of this seeming inanimate body. Originally the mountains rose to the skies, and the seas covered the mountains to their tops. At that time there was no life in the divine body except the divine life. Then the waters subsided; small herbs grew, and in lapse of cycles, developed into shrubs and trees.

As the body of man, unwashed for years, breeds vermin, so the mountains, unslaved by the seas, breed worms and insects, greater creatures developing out of lesser. Beetles in the course of ages become tur-

THE BABIES WERE KISSED.

Their Ages Ranged From Sixteen to Nineteen Years.

How the Young Ladies of an Eastern Church Created a Financial Boom in the Name of Charity.

Methodist circles of Mattituck are horrified beyond expression and a Presbyterian fair is the cause of it, says the Brooklyn Eagle. The Presbyterians think that the Methodists are jealous because of the success of the fair. Anyway, there is a considerable coolness between the flocks, and the subject may form the text of a sermon next Sunday morning. The women's sewing society of the Presbyterian church gave a fair. They wanted money to buy goods to be made up at the sewing bees for the poor people of the town next winter. The sewing circles in Mattituck are not a bit given to gossip and the minding of other people's business. They open and close with prayer and the doxology and a few hymns are sung to while away the time. To make the fair a success and draw money into the treasury it was necessary to have one or two novelties, and the women racked their brains to devise something. "Now," said a brunette in her teens, "if it wouldn't be too awfully naughty, and some of the other girls would join me and kiss the men at a quarter apiece, I know we would make money." Some of the old maids hid their faces in their aprons. Too shocking to think of, you know. The nice girls, who are not hampered with steady beaus, thought it just the thing, but they did not want to kiss before everybody. "Well, no," said the oldest of the spinsters, "that would ruin trade, for everybody would want to watch the proceedings and nobody would buy ice cream." The girls willing to do all the kissing that might be demanded of them, it was decided to erect a tent for their seclusion.

Sure enough, the osculatory privilege proved the drawing card. Some girl was not asked to pout her pretty lips gave it away to her Sunday bean and made him promise to tell all the young men, but not to drop a quarter in the slot. In a little while all the boys were let into the secret. The nice young men with their hair parted in the middle and wearing sashes at the Shady Point house caught on and mustered in force at the fair. The ladies were as good as their word. They were to be kissed, and the gentlemen embraced the opportunity for all it was worth. A sign read:

Admission Five Cents.
To Kiss the Baby
Twenty-Five Cents.

The youngest of the babies was 16 and the oldest 19. They really did look younger. So many paid 5c to see the sight that in a little while the whole assemblage was packed in the tent and the infants' garments and ice cream had to be taken to give this branch of the business a boom. It fairly rained money in the kissing tent. Every man there was dropping silver pieces as fast as the lines would let him, and they were well repaid. The exercise went on until the babies retired through sheer exhaustion. The men were so delighted they would have kept it up until this time if nature and the cash held out. Of the \$300 accruing from the fair, \$160 was accredited to the kissing tent. It is said to relate that the prettiest of all the girls was engaged to be married, but her lover was out of the village, and, as she could not consult him in the matter, she took it for granted he would not get mad at her for kissing for charity, and so entered cheerily into the amusement." Her beau did object when he came home very seriously, and his parents being Methodists made it worse. The engagement is off for the present.

Irrigation on a Big Scale.

The Northern Pacific, Yakima and Kittitas Irrigation company was incorporated on the 28th of August with Wm. Ker, Paul Schuler, Albert Kien Schmidt, Walter N. Granger and Walter Oakes trustees for the first six months of its existence. The company's charter states that it is the purpose of this company to appropriate and divert the waters of certain lakes and streams in Yakima and Kittitas counties, to build ditches, flumes, viaducts, pipe lines, and all manner of aqueducts and conduits for the purpose of irrigating the arid lands lying east of the Cascade range in the counties named. The company's operations will not be confined to supplying water for agricultural purposes, but for furnishing water power for manufacturing, and for supplying cities with water for fire and domestic purposes. Large tracts of lands will pass into the possession of the company, and will be constructed at some point in the Cascades, and the supply thus stored for use during the dry season. The details of the company's plans show the important character of the proposed work.

—Just received by Ellis a large and attractive stock of all silk, all wool and silk mixed shirts for gentlemen. Consult your own interests and visit Ellis' furnishing emporium before making your purchases for the season.

Site for the Soldiers' Home.

The board of trustees of the state soldiers' home, consisting of George H. Boardman, of Tacoma, J. F. McLean, of Walla Walla, M. M. Holmes, of Seattle, A. S. Cole, of Whatcom, and W. H. Dunbar, of Goldendale, met and entertained propositions from different localities and suggestions as to the character of the home. The general sentiment was favorable to "the cottage plan," or the erection of cottages where indigent old soldiers and their wives may find rest and comfort.

Propositions were submitted as follows: Orling—Eighty-five acres adjoining the city, or 400 one mile south. Puyallup—Forty acres in the city limits. Ellensburg—Forty acres one mile and a half from town. Whatcom—The south promontory of Eliza Island, number of acres not stated. Goldendale—Board of trade tenders 160 acres. Vashon Island—S. D. Sherman 40 acres. Edward Ross suggests the government military reserve at Fort Townsend, and another urges the Big Bend plateau spot.

—For insurance on hops, apply to R. Strobach.

The democrats have done well. They have made a nomination of which they have cause to feel proud. They have selected Thomas Carroll, of Tacoma, of whom democrats and republicans alike speak kindly.

Mr. Carroll came to this state in 1883 and located at Tacoma, where he practiced law and honorably served the people as city attorney.

WILSON'S BAD BREAK.

Seattle Telegraph: Washington's representative in congress has never been noted for dignity of demeanor or respectful speech.

His conduct at the national capital has been such as to discredit him. He has been offensive and impudent to a number of the old members of the house.

He is accused by one of the Spokane papers of having entered into a combination to defeat the re-nomination of one of our senators.

It is unfortunate that Washington sent as her first representative in congress a small pettifogger, a quarrelsome little blunderer, a person who would not have cut an important figure in the lower branch of the state legislature.

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NORTHWESTERN EXPOSITION.

In less than a month the Northwestern Industrial Exposition at Spokane Falls will be opened to the public. It will be the grandest display of the vast resources of the northwest that can ever be made.

The democrats of Idaho have nominated Benjamin Wilson, of Boise, for governor, A. E. Mayhew, of Shoshone, for congress, and Samuel F. Taylor, of Bingham, for lieutenant governor.

daily are sufficient proof. The writers, without exception, indicate their intention to make their permanent homes in this state if their expectations as to the advantages of this country are realized.

The management are now engaged in preparing a program with special attractions for each day during the month of October. The opening of the exposition will be attended with all the pomp and dignity of such events in larger cities.

They have been fortunate through Congressman Wilson to secure Benjamin Butterworth, the congressman from Ohio and the able speaker and secretary of the world's fair, to deliver the oration and to deliver this exposition formally.

T. V. Powderly has been invited to deliver the oration on labor day, and all the labor organizations of this section of the country that can possibly be concentrated in Spokane Falls will parade with floating banners and special exercises will be held for their benefit.

It is authoritatively stated that Wilson has been fixing the land offices and insisting on the registers giving the land poor publications to his organs.

The Seattle Journal quotes J. R. Coe as saying that "Seattle has more pretty girls than Tacoma."

The Olympia board of trade has asked that one day of the Spokane exposition be devoted to that place for the purpose of giving a clam bake.

HON. BENJAMIN F. BUTTERWORTH, member of congress from Ohio and secretary of the world's fair commission, will visit this state in October and formally open the exposition at Spokane Falls on the 11th of that month.

OUR BOYS AT TACOMA.

Seattle Telegraph: Bright and early the sound of file and drum could be heard on the streets of Tacoma, and indolent residents still in bed, aroused by the unaccustomed noise, took a peep through their blinds to see whence it came.

The big Blalock farm near Umatilla, which was expected to yield 100,000 bushels of wheat this year, has, on account of the drought, only yielded 30,000 bushels.

The extra session of the legislature has been called for September 3d for the enactment of the legislative apportionment law.

The Platform.

The democracy of the state of Washington in convention declare: That we renew our pledge of devotion to the principles of constitutional government as stated in the platform of the national conventions of the party.

Under the deceptive plea of protecting American industries, the republican party levies war tariff taxes on the many for the benefit of the few. Reduced to the simplest form, the principles of the democratic party as enunciated by its distinguished ex-president, by its greatest leaders, incorporated in its platform and expounded by its press, are these: That the right of import taxation is a right which should be exercised solely for the benefit of the government; that no more tax should be gathered or collected from the people than is absolutely necessary for an economical administration of public affairs; and that in laying and adjusting import taxes care should be taken as far as possible to remove from the necessities of life the rate of taxation and to reduce the same to a minimum, while the luxuries of life should be made to bear the burden of the tax.

We denounce the Lodge force bill recently passed by the house of representatives and all kindred measures as revolutionary, utterly subversive of the inalienable right of local self-government, and as tending to make the federal judiciary merely a partisan returning board.

We denounce the arbitrary rules of the lower house of the present congress and their autocratic administration by Speaker Reed, because the voice of a minority is thereby silenced and the power of legislation is usurped by one man.

That the employment and maintenance of bodies of armed men by wealthy individuals and corporations under the name of detectives and for the ostensible purpose of protecting private property is an outrage to our republican government and antagonistic to constitutional liberty and tends to anarchy and lawlessness; and we demand legislation to forever prohibit such dangerous and un-American methods.

We cherish and respect the deserving soldiers and sailors of the republic, and demand just pensions for those who have been injured in health or limb in the service of their country, and for the widows and minor children of deceased soldiers and sailors who have died or may hereafter die of wounds or disease contracted in the civil war, but we denounce the reckless pension legislation of the republican party as a simple bid for votes, and as debasing the patriotic service of the men they pretend to honor.

That the seacoast defense, public surveys, river and harbor improvements, public buildings, should receive from the general government liberal support.

We demand the free coinage of silver and that it be made a full and legal tender for all purposes, public and private.

We demand the enactment of laws containing the Chinese exclusion act and the strict enforcement of the same.

We demand that on public works preference in employment be given to those who are citizens of the United States or who have declared their intention to become such, and we demand the enactment and enforcement of laws fixing eight hours as the maximum of a full day's labor on such works, and we recommend the setting aside of the first Monday in September of each year as a holiday, specially dedicated to the enlightenment of the dignity of labor.

We recognize agriculture as the basis of all national prosperity and we are opposed to all laws that tend to discourage or oppress that branch of our national industry.

We are in favor of laws, both state and national, for the prevention of trusts and combines, and we declare that the prime object of legislation should be to insure a free and fair competition in the regulation of prices in all commodities.

Believing that all officers of the government should be directly responsible to the people, we demand that the constitution of the United States be so amended that all government officers be elected by a direct vote of the people.

THE LAUGHING PLANT.

An Extraordinary Desert Cereal Now Under Cultivation.

While the Stanley expedition was crossing a portion of the southern extremity of the Sahara desert, they were made acquainted with the peculiar properties of a plant known only to that region, called by the Arabs cull kola, or the laughing plant. Prof. Salchi, attached to the expedition, was fortunate enough to procure several fine specimens of this peculiar plant, which he is at present cultivating with a view to practical experiments.

The production of laughter by artificial means. It is thought, can be reduced to a science now that the discovery of a plant, the properties of which are a direct incentive to laughter, has been made. Any amount of cachinnation can be produced by simply increasing or diminishing the laugh-producing dose.

There was a time when the somnolent effects produced by the poppy were not generally known, but the soporific properties of this plant are now beyond cavil, and in a short time it is expected that Prof. Salchi will have a crop of the laugh-producing plants large enough for practical experiments. The now almost unknown plant will soon become a staple article of commerce, and the principal cereal cultivated in many a vast garden will be the laughter-producing plant. An opium is certain to produce sleep, so can the laughing plant be at all times relied upon to produce laughter in all animated creatures, from the micro-organisms of the oscillator up to the genus homo.

This strange plant grows in the arid deserts of Arabia and on the vast sea of white sand known as the desert of Sahara in Africa. The plant is of moderate size with bright yellow flowers and soft, velvety seed pods, each of which contains two or three seeds resembling small black beans. The natives of the district where this strange plant grows dry the seeds in the sun and reduce them to a fine impalpable powder by a process of maceration between two stones. A small dose of this powder has similar effects to that arising from the inhalation of laughing gas. It causes the most sober person to dance, shout and laugh with the boisterous excitement of a madman and to rush about cutting the most ridiculous capers for about an hour. At the expiration of this time exhaustion sets in and the excited person falls asleep, to wake after an

hour or more with a more or less vivid recollection of having been in the seventh heaven of enjoyment.

The peculiar properties of this plant have been known to the Arabs and Bedouins of the desert for centuries, and when caravans containing white travelers have been crossing the desert on the backs of dromedaries, or "ships of the desert," as they are called, the natives have taken compassion on their intense suffering and given them the macerated seed pods of the laughing plants, so as to enable them to have a short respite from their sufferings. They have laughed and while the happy mood produced by this drug was on them they have seen rare visions of beautiful limpid lakes of clear, sparkling water, encircled by groves and palms and vast undulating plains of green verdure stretching away to the base of majestic snow-capped mountains, and when the delightful effects of the drug died away they have supposed they saw a mirage. Scientists now assert that to the effects produced by this plant on the heat-oppressed and thirsty travelers in the desert is to be traced the origin of the mirage. So far as the experiment has been carried the effect produced on animals of the brute creation is precisely similar to those of the human family.—London Letter.

All Waiting for John L. Wilson.

The sun beat down pitilessly on the little traveler. He had walked a long way and was weary, dusty and cross. He knocked at the big gate viciously. St. Peter—Who's that thumping out there?

Voice—Me, John L. Wilson, and if you don't open up blankety blank head off, I'll chew your blankety blank head off. Now do you know who's a-thumpin'?

St. Peter—Please be calm, sir. It's only a habit I have acquired of asking who folks are before I let 'em in. Where do you hail from?

Voice—D— your eyes, you blankety blank old fool! I'm Congressman Wilson, of Spokane. Now, let up on your rot and open up, or by— St. Peter—Yes, yew. Certainly, certainly. Seeing it's you, Congressman Wilson. I beg pardon. I thought you said you were John L. Sullivan, and I was a little scared about letting you in. But (opening the gate) come right in, Congressman Wilson. Mighty glad you've got here. Demosthenes, Webster, Burke, Cicero, and a lot of those fellows have been waiting eagerly for you. They all want to know just what is was you done for the state of Washington.—Spokane Spokesman.

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