WET YEARS RETURN.

"Rainbelters" Are Geing Back to the Semi-Arid Regions.

Ventureness and Peolhardy Class of Scotless Who Discogned Staperience of Pionerry of the Sarty Sightles.

Just now there is a fever of specu-Jetion in farm lands in the northwest and the tide of immigration has not in strongly toward a region heretofore considered valuable only for gracing. There is again an influx of the "rulebeiters." a venturesome and foolburdy class of settlers, who, disregarding or without knowledge of the experience of the ploseers of the early '80's, are crossing the meridian beyond which the rainfall is scanty and uncertain, says C. J. Blanchard, chief of irrigation section, census office, Washington, in a recent report. It is impossible to fix the exact boundaries of the region known as "Semi-arid America," but it is generally considered to include that territory between the ninety-seventh and the one hundred and first meridian. The difficulty in definitely bounding this region is due to the fact that for a succession of years the high plains of which it is largely composed receive more than the average rainfall.

A peculiarity noted particularly in the semi-arid country is that it is subject to climatic oscillations, producing eyeles of wet and dry years. During the prevalence of the former, the soil of the plains, which is of wonderful fertility, produces abundantly. The eyele of wet years is now on, and large areas of the semi-arid lands are being taken up and agricultura is being extended for beyond the danger line.

Newcomers with small capital. tempted by the luxuriant vegetation of the plains during the moist seasons, and driven onward by the high prices of form lands in the humid regions, here begun the work of home building for from previous settlements. This wave of immigration is over the Dahotes, and the movement extends clear to the western part of these states. The question arises, is the country destined to again witness the deplorable condition which followed the great overflow into the semi-arid country in 886-86. Then as now the "rainbelters" made their homes far out on the plains in advance of the railroads or towns, counting upon a continuation of sufficient rainfall and following the theory that turning the soil increased the precipitation. What followed is mot yet forgotten, and the deserted eabins and abandoped farms dotting mearly every county of western Nebrasks and Kansas tell a sad though mordless story. The records of 50 years show that this region is subject to cycles of irregular periods known as wet and dry. The alternation of these eyeles or the elimatic oscillation virom wet to dry has marked the ingrees and the exodus of the "rainbelter." A cycle of wet years sees the plains rapidly settled up; the return and the dry years sees their depopula-

Promoting the development of a country wherein the annual rainfall wons/ of far less precipitation, should sonly be undertaken after a careful privily of all conditions has been made. To those familiar with the results of many previous attempts to extend ag-Triculture into the semi-arid regions without the aid of irrigation, the present movement cannot be siewed without premonitions of future disaster and failure. Unfortunately for those locating upon the high plains, irrigation can never be practiced as an insurance against drought throughout the semi-arid districts. The rivers coffer no available water and the underground water lies at such depths that It cannot be economically utilized.

Gallantry of the King. How the pleasant eccentricities of one generation will persist in breaking out in another, defying time and ridicule and the change of manners, mays the Pall Mall Gazette. It was the playful way of Frederick the Great when he came across a buxom wench to morry her forthwith to the tallest of bis grenadiers, and it stands to the eredit of his institution that there marpiages rarely proved a failure. Now. either in emulation of his great predecessor or else because he cannot help i**st, the** kaiser has just had a similar attack of gallantry-gallantry, mark you, on a truly imperial scale. He was visiting Crefeld lately, that busy town of silks and velvets on the lower Rhine. and learned from the pretty girl inhabsilants that all they wanted in the sworld was a handful of lieutenanta to dance with them. Hey presto! the autecratic mandate has gone forth that Crefeld is to have its garrison in the shape of a crack hussar regiment, and the burgomaster is busy preparing it accommodation. That regiment is Incky if it is not christened in future Fraunhusaren, or worst of all, Tans-

Farm on a Pier. The queerest "farm" in Greater New York is located on the ends of the long pier in the Harlem river on which the big draw bridge of the Madison avenue bridge swings. The bridge tender has rovered up the broken stone filling of the pier with fine loam from the fields on either shore, and has growing there as fine a crop of corn, beans, peas, potatoes and tomatoes as any farm in the state can show. He works on his farm day and night, at every possible opportunity and has promised his friends on the many vessels which sail by daily and on the trolleys that whiz above his head that, when all is ripe, be will invite them all to a grand dinner.—N. Y. Sun.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

Europe builds nearly 7,000 new loogmotives yearly.

The great cattle firms are putting up large packing houses in Texas.

Bohemian miners last year produced an average of 687 tone of soft seal each. A scheme for the manufacture of paper buttons is being put forward in San Francisco. These buttons, say the promoters of the scheme, will be cheaper than the bone and metal ones, quite as serviceable and of as good an

A considerable trade in live qualis takes place yearly from Messina to the United Kingdom. The birds are cought in the neighbothood of Messina. They are kept from three to four days in onges before being skipped, and are fed on hemp seed and greenad, corn and are watered freely every day. It is estimated that from 10,000 to 100,000 are caught annually.

A flexible metal hose is made at Phorzheim, Germany, by rolling up a metal hand like a screw thread, the joints being made tight by a cord of rubber on asbestos. The meterial is galvanized steel or phosphor bronne. The hose is very flexible. Its tendency to untwist when roughly handled is overcome by making it double, with apposite wighlings. It is intended for giving purposes, is eight inches in diagram and will utand a pressure of 200 atmosphases.

Mature steme to have made Jamaica the home of the humans, but it remained for American enterprise to turn the fruit to gold. It is estimated that 9,000,000 bunches of bananas were shipped from this island last year. At an average of 35 cents a bunch, this would yield \$3,150,000. It is also stated that about \$1,850,000 is paid out annually in wages by fruit companies. This would bring a total of \$5,000,000 to the island in one year as a direct result of the fruit trade.

After working for 32 years William 8. Hughes, a New York machinist, perfected a smoke-consuming device for locomotive and other engine boilers. Hughes had no capital to back his invention, but succeeded in having it brought to the notice of Cornelius Vanderbilt. The millionaire mechanic had the device tested on an elevated train locomotive under his personal inspection, making the trip from the Battery to Harlem. Mr. Vanderbilt has decided to aid Hughes in the matter.

CANADA'S WOODCHUCKS.

The Dominion Authorities Are Proparing to Make War Upon the Burrowing Pent.

The United States government has declared a war of extermination on mosquitoes and the comomo horse fly.

The Canadian government has departed on a similar errand against the common woodchuck, reports a New

York exchange.

"Ground hog" is the more familiar name by which the woodchuck is known and his misdemeanors are many.

In many parts of Canada a great deal of damage is done by the ground hog. Not only do they consume large quantities of grain and fodder, but much more, over their burrows is trampled upon and destroyed, while the burrows themselves are responsible for many ugly accidents to horses

employed in harvesting.

Many ways of destroying these animals have been devised, but ordinary methods frequently fail to keep them in check.

Probably the simplest and most satisfactory method is that of the use of bisulphide of carbon, an inflammable liquid, which on exposure to air volatilizes into a vapor that is very deatructive to animal life.

One special advantage of carbon bisulphide is that its vapor is more than twice as heavy as air, so that in a woodchuck burrow it will follow along the hole until it reaches the bottom, crowding the air above it to the

As the animal is likely to be in the lower part of the burrow, it is almost certain to inhale the poisonous vapor and be killed.

The equipment necessary for this sort of woodchuck hunt consists of a bottle of carbon bisulphide, a bundle of old cotton or other cloth, a pail and a spade.

The pair is filled with dirt and set near the hole ready to turn in; and then a piece of cloth is held between thumb and finger saturated with about an ounce of the liquid, and immediately thrown as far into the burrow as possible.

The pail of dirt is quickly thrown into the hole, and the entrance carefully closed. If there is more than one entrance all but one should be filled in before the treatment.

This method not only kille the old woodchuck, but destroys in a humane manner the young in the burrow.

It has, too, the additional advantage that the animal is not only killed, but is buried and the hole is filled so that considerable time is thus saved.

It should be distinctly understood by everyone who uses carbon bisulphide for any purpose that it is highly volatile, inflammable and poisonous, and it is also highly explosive.

South Africa Wants Runters.

Great Britain announces that no persons not a resident of South Africa is to be permitted to go to that country unless possessed of at least \$500 in money and with a definite intention as to the business or calling he will pursue. The ravages of the war have left the native population destitute and with an influx of strangers a condition bordering upon idleness might possibly result from so many with such limited opportunities opened to them.—Chicago Chronicle.

1 THE HABIT OF LYING.

There Are Various Ways in Which a Person Ray Becduse Book to a Prevariousless.

How does one become a line? That

How does one became a liar? That is to say, how does the child discover a lie and habitanily make use of it? asks the Chicago Tribune.

We can admit that at the beginning there is absolute sincerity. The child through all its first years neither lies nor dissimulates. Its sentiments, its desires, translate themselves into words and into acts. Its bedy is the countant and perfect expression of its inmost being. Such is the starting point—sincerity, absolute translatement.

There is a multitude of little fler tolerated which we treat as pardonable. We tell the domestic to say we are not at home when we are; we compliment people to their faces and criticise them when they are gone; we say we are happy to see some one and directly after speak of having been annoyed. No more is necessary. The example has been given.

We lie to the child himself; we are pressed by his many embarrassing questions, and in order to free ourselves from the embarrassment reply with what is frequently a falsehood. Some fine day he discovers the truth, and the evil is done. The gravest case is when the child is taken as an accomplice in a lie, or when his mother tells him: "Above all, do not tell this to your papa." This is the ruin of all morality.

The third stage is the first encounter of the child with society—the first shock with social life. The child who telle all he knows, sees and hears, all that he would better have left unsaid, is called the "enfant terrible." His parents do not tell him to lie, but they tell him it is not necessary to tell all he thinks. This is extremely serious, as it teaches the child that he cannot show himself as he is. This is the revelation of the lie obligatory. Above all, among his comrades he quickly learns to dissimulate, because if he is naive-expresses all his joya. pains, desires—they make sport of him-nay, worse, they abuse his confidence; the hopes, projects which he has confided to them he some day sees used against him.

Thus the impossibility of living without lying is revealed to him. Society excuses certain forms of lying which are inspired by a feeling of politeness, modesty, shame.

The child becomes a liar because all the world about him lies. The distinction between the liar and the man of sincerity is only relative. There are in reality only two categories—those who content themselves with the lies exacted by social life and those who have habituated themselves to lying more than society wishes—to lie because of some personal interests.

An important cause in the development of lying in children is the employment of excessive and ill-advised punishments. The child who becomes a liar is the one who lives in perpetual terror of reproaches, humiliation or strokes. The lie for him is a supreme resource.

THREE UNLUCKY BILLS.

One Hundred Dellar Notes in an Ohio Bank That Are Withheld from Circulation.

Stored away in the vault of the Putnam county treasury are three \$100
bills, which are associated with a robhery of the county treasury over a
decade ago. While the robbery has
been all but forgotten, the three bills
remain as mute witnesses of the
deaths, disgrace and loss that followed
in its wake, says a Columbus Grove (O.)
report. While these three witnesses
are harmless in themselves, they inspire a feeling of superstition here,
or a disposition to avoid them by every
county treasurer who has filled the
effice in recent years.

The bills are never looked upon by anyone other than the county treasurer and the county commissioners, who twice annually count the funds in the treasury. They remain in the same envelope in which they were received as "conscience money" many years ago. The bills retain the odor of a perfume which was no doubt used to remove the offensive smell that money emits. Excepting these peculiarities the bills are not unlike others of their denomination.

No treasurer thus far has disturbed their quietude or had the courage to put the bills in circulation. Why this has never been done is unknown, yet it is a fact that they avoid the bills and keep away from their resting place as much as possible.

The question has often been asked whether or not the money will ever be put in circulation. It is very probable that it will not, for as each officer steps down from the position he has held he confider to the incoming official the story of the three bills, and the new officer entwines around the envelope containing them even more superstitious thoughts than his predecessor and allows them to remain as they had been. Undoubtedly they will be held as a reserve fund and passed from one treasurer to another as a reminder of the Nemesia that will ever follow those who formake a public trust or violate the commandment, "Thou shalt not steal."

"Say, you!" yelled old Hunks to the boy next door. "Take your beastly kite away! You're flying it over my

"Do you own the atmosphere above your house?" demanded the boy.
"No, you young rascal!" snorted old Hunks. "I don't own any of the atmosphere, but I own the space above my house all the way up."—Chicago

house."

CONVULSIONS IN CHILDHOOD.

Some of the Cadoro and How to Procood When the Child is Thus

A convulsion, or fit, is always the occasion for a hearty calling of a physician when one is procurable. That being the case, it is the object of this article to point out such facts regarding these selsured as may serve purposes other than the immediate treatment of the attack, says Youth's Compon-

The tendency to convulsive seisures in cities, a strongly marised family charactivitie. In such success it is common to find these slight presentation is sufficient to cause an attack. For extemple, such cases as improperly placed pine, or strings tightly drawn about the body, limbs or neck, have caused convulsions under the eigenmetances referred to.

An unduly excitable nervous system likewise predisposes to convulsions, escapedially when there is irritation of the digestive system, such as diarrhosa or worms, or even feeding immediately after the nursing mether has been subjected to violent emotions like grief or anger.

Families in whom convulcions have appeared during childhood in previous generations should be more than ordinarily watchful to avoid undue excitement in young children, and to correct when possible any of the known causes of convulsions.

Convulsions cannot be prevented when they occur as the initiatory ayuntom of the soute contagions discusses of childhood, and it is well to remember that this is one of the most common causes of them.

Overfeeding in youngehildran is a net uncommon cause, to which is probably to be attributed the popular treatment of convulsions, namely, emetics internally and not mustard-water baths externally. These measures, although excellent in some cases, should not be employed during the seizure itself, as in the hurry of the moment more harm than good is almost sure to result. Fluid is more likely to go into the wind-pipe than the atomach, and severe burns are not uncammon consequences of placing an uncammon consequences of placing an uncampacious child in a hurriedly prepared unstard bath.

Convulsions due to falle and blows upon the head are usually an indication of hemorrhage inside the skull.

Gevere fright or other sudden emotions are not an infrequent cause of convalsions not only during childhood, but throughout adolescence, although it is observable that among those people where self-control is cultivated auch results are not common.

Between the ages of two and eight years convulsions are more common. After this age they rarely occur except as a result of blows or falls on the head. The possibility of the establishment of epilepsy as a sequel of convulsions must not be overlooked, and every possible means to prevent their recurrence should be used.

THIS IS APPLE-JACK YEAR.

Rooth Jersey Mills Have Been of Work Night and Day Turning Out the Tipple.

After a drought of apple whisky which has lasted two years this season promises to bring forth a large quantity of the famous Jersey lightning. The apples are piling into the distilleries in this county raster than they can be used, and quantities of the fruit are going to waste, says a recent special correspondence of the Chicago Inter Ocean.

The storms of the summer and early fall have swept the orchards clean of apples, and thousands of bushels have been gathered from the ground. The farmers rush this second-class fruit to the stills, some of which are working night and day in order to save the accumulation of raw material.

The largest apple whisky distillery in the world is at Johnsonburg, in the northern part of the county. It is owned by a man named Jones, who has been in the business more than 50 years. When he started half a century ago there were small distilleries all over New Jersey, and especially in Warren, Morris, Sussex and Hunterdon counties. Now there are less than dozen in all that territory and less than two dozen in the state. Fifty years ago the distilled extract of apples could be bought in any grocery store for ten cents a gallon. Now it brings \$4 a gallon, and the real article is hard to get.

The best apple jack is made in Morris county, one distillery at Succasunna having a trade that is worldwide. A preswelipping bureau keeps the proprietor informed of all towns in every part of the country voting "no license." As soon as he learns of a prohibition town he publishes an advertisement in the newspapers of that town offering his goods in plain packages. The scheme has brought him riches. Last year this distiller was, compelled to appeal to others in the business to help him fill his orders. His plant is working 24 hours a day.

His plant is working 24 hours a day.

Apple whisky is still drunk extensively all through northern New Jersey. Few call for it by the glass, but hundreds carry it away in bottles. So nearly has the demand equaled the supply for several years that the older grades have disappeared and only the comparatively fresh product is to be

Telephone to Supersede Dogs.

The dogs of St. Bernard, so long renowned for their wonderful life-saving service, are at last to take a second place to modern invention. All the refuges on the mountain side are shortly to be connected by telephone with the principal hospital. The number of travelers, tourists, workmen seeking employment, pilgrims who cross the St. Bernard at all times of the year make this measure highly necessary.—London Mail.

CUBED BY SURGERY.

Paris Surgeon Operates Successfully in Typheid Case

Reserved To an a Last Remody in Mopolisis Case, the Achterement is Regarded as Boot

Typhoid fever has been sured by an operation. A Paris surgeon has just brought a patient out of a assuingly hopeises case of the disease, and the mathed by which he did it constitutes a distinct entirement in curative solution, states the Chicago Tribune.

Dr. J. S. Danrise, an eminent practitioner of Paris, resorted to surgery as a last remedy in a case which had been given up. The patient, a young man of 17 years, is now in full postersion of his health.

While the physician was convinced that the intestines could be cleaned antiseptically and the inflammation thus reduced, he would not have undertaken the dangerous operation if the father of the young man had not urged it and if it had not been that the patient was doomed, and if it had not been apparent that he could live but a few days.

The fever had followed its course for 20 days and the case was seen to be hopeless. The father, seeing the hopelessness of his son's condition, urged the physician to perform the operation as a last measure, and it was decided to undertake it.

An incision about the length of the index finger was made in the left side. about two and a quarter inches inside the forward and upper iliae spine, fate the peritoneum. This incision was just sufficient to allow the physician to take hold of the small intestine and draw it out. A little shield was attached in the peritoneum and is the deeper points of the incision, with the convex side towards the smaller intestine, and this shield was fastened by catgut. The intestinal tumor was then opened and cleaned out and the edges tied to the skip. The wound was then closed up minutely and protected all around the mouth of the intentine by sterilized cotton, covered by a thick Inyer of iodoformed collodion.

Afterwards a Nelaton tube in flexible rubber was introduced and the drainage of infected matter from the intestines facilitated by the employment of boiled water slightly cooled and salted. At the end of the second day the water thus used seemed to be free from infected matter. From the first day there was a noticeable improvement in the patient's condition. His temperature steadily decreased, and three days after the operation it was lower than it had been at any time since the beginning of the illness.

The physician then did not heritate to give his patient more or less solid food, beginning with thick vermicelli soup, then moodies and fine macaroni cooked in water. Seven days afterward the invalid ate an egg, followed by a lamb chop. From that time on the recuperation was extremely rapid, and the young man to-day is enjoying perfect health.

In describing the details of the operation Dr. Dauriac said that probably many American physicians had realized the possibility of resorting to aurgary in the treatment of typhoid cases and a relation of this operation might prove interesting to them.

"I was careful to select a point of the intestine sufficiently removed from the ileocaecal valve to avoid the center of the ulceration," said the physician, "and not too much above the jujunum to interfere with nutrition. I was guided in the operation by the ecchymose aspect presented in spots by the exterior surface of the small intestine the nearer I approached the largest of the intestines."

The achievement of the Paris physician is greeted by men of his profession in that city as one of the memorable surgical achievements of the year.

Superior Female Searcerow. "Crows," said a farmer, "tear women much more than they do men. That is why you see, all over the country, female scarecrows prepondering over male ones. Did you ever hear tell of the proof of this. Well, the proof is obtained by putting crows to work at counting. You send men, one at a time, into a woodshed near a flock of crows and the birds will count the men up to 11. That is to say, 11 men enter the shed under the crows' eyes; the crows keep at a safe distance until the full 11 have departed again, and then they fly up to the shed door fearlessly. As long as one man is left they know it. and they keep away. Beyond 11 they become confused. But with women they can only count to three. Therefore I suppose it may be said that crows are nearly four times as much straid of women as of men. I know for a fact that one female scarecrow is as good as four male ones."

Have You Mysophobia? Mysophobia is the latest scientific name for a complaint the symptoms of which are familiar to every one, says the Chicago Daily News. "Morbid fastidiousness" would be a roundabout way of expressing the same falling. "A person suffering from mysophobia," says a medical journal, taking his seat at table begins by serutinizing closely every article placed there for his use. He holds his tumbler up to the light to see if it is free from fingermarks he scans his napkin to. make sure that it is immaulate, and one by one each object is critically passed in review. In advanced cases the sufferer mechanically wipes the various articles, using the napkin for the purpose." But there is compensation in everything, and what may be an annoying idiosymerasy in a guest becomes an undeniable virtue in a domestic servant.

FOUND IN THE FORUM.

Prohistorie Tombo Have Reen Ducarthed at Rome Four the Tem-

The execuctions in the Roman forms. tre once more attracting general Metention, says a Rome correspondent of the London Post. Sig. Boni, the gifted director, has again proved his dedus-tions to be truer than the processal vel-metions of "selentific archicologists." For many months he has been telking of "the Forum Necropolis" as though its existence were an accepted fact. His critics have not fulled to laugh at his way of "jumping to conclusions," and even when, to their surprise, he discovered the first prehistoric temb near the Temple of Antonius and Paustine they remarked that he might possibly have found this tomb by chance. but that it was no proof of the existence of others.

Sig. Boni in reply has widened the shaft which embled him to discover the first tomb, so that it now measures about four yards aguare by six yards deep, reckoning from the original level of the Sapred Way. In so doing he has discovered two more tombs under a heap of rough blacks of red and gray tule, which seem to have been built into a sort of triangular meanment to mark the site. One of the tombs resembles the first one that was found; that is, it probably contains a funeral urn with ashes inside a large terra-cotta vace placed in a well-shaped cavity.

These tombs are known as well, sombs (tombs a possio), and are invariably associated with the rite of cramation. It will not be possible to examine the contents of this new tomb for at least a fortnight, as it will be accessary to divert a modern aswer which runs over the site before the necessary executions can be completed.

Meanwhile Mg. Boul has found between the two well tombs a so-called ditch tomb (tomba a fossa), recembling in shape an ordinary grave. In this tomb lay the remains of a fullgrown man, who had evidently been buried without eremation. The skull is in perfect preservation, the tooth are all sound and in position, the bonca are intact and on the breast is a bronze object, apparently an amulet. which has not yet been closely examined. Beside the skull were two drinking cups of terra-cotta. The question brises if the skeleton is that of a slave buried at the same time as the cremated bodies contained in the other tombs. Perhaps exact measurement of the skull may give some indication of the race to which the person belonged. All that can be said at present de that the greatest interest attaches to these remains, which are the earliest yet discovered in Rome, as they date from the eighth or ninth century, B. C. The work of examination is being carried on with the greatest care. Everything is being photographed before the removal and every scrap of mud and earth is being passed through a sieve and minutely examined.

WOMEN IN PUBLIC EMPLOY.

Proportion of the Sex in the Servaice of the Government in Gradnally Increasing.

It is observed by officials in the government service that the proportion of women in public employ is gradually increasing, from insensible, but permanent causes, writes the Philadelphia Public Ledgar's Washington correspondent. It appears that there are usually more women than men who are able to pass the civil service examinations: but the ratio of appointments is about the same. The reason why the aggregate number of women is increasing in the department service is that they do not leave their places to go into private occupations as men do.

A prominent official who is opposed to women clerks, speaking of the matter, said:

"There are only two reasons that cause a woman to leave the government service—death and marriage. Their death rate is about the same as that of men. The men do not resign when they get married, so that is in favor of a greater reduction in the women employes. But men are leaving the government service constantly to engage in private business. Practically no women ever leave the government service to take employment elsewhere.

"So far as ever having a reduction in the total number of women employes in the department is concerned, I see no way in which that is apt to be done. The civil service rules provide that dismissais shall be made only for just cause, and the dismissed one shall be furnished copies of the charges and given an opportunity to reply to them. It does not require much imagination to foresee how that rule would operate if women were dismissed from the public service simply because as women they were not regarded as desirable for government work, and that men were preferred because they were men. They could be removed. There is no doubt about that. President Roosevelt's declarstion concerning the meaning of this rule in regard to dismissals settles that matter. He declared that 'just cause' meant any cause other than one that was political or religious which would promote the efficiency of the service.

"But there are a great many things that could be done that no man endowed with a fair hump of caution would consider doing. The condition that now prevails in regard to women employed by the government is apt to continue for some time to

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS