

UNCLE SAM'S PRODIGAL GIFTS FROM THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Government Has Given to Settlers 112,000,000 Acres, and Has More than Enough Left to Make Four States as Large as Texas—Vast Projects of Irrigation.

No wonder the world calls us rich. What other country could make the prodigal gifts to its people which Uncle Sam has made from the public domain.

But what the government has given away is only a small garden in comparison with what it has to give. The public domain, taking into consideration land of all sorts, good and bad, amounts to the colossal sum of 754,805,286 acres—more than enough to make four states as large as Texas.

Water Did It All. The United States government owns, in Utah, for instance, more than enough land to make another state as large as Michigan.

Twenty-eight tremendous irrigation projects, as the result of which water will be turned on to more than half a million acres of land this year.

Then there is California. Anyone who has ever entered the Golden State at the little southern town called "The Needles" doubtless remembers his amazement that the state should be called the "land of sunshine, fruit and flowers."

on for four years, and five miles of the tunnel are already completed.

Then look at Idaho. When the census of 1900 was taken, the government enumerators found in that state only 1.9 persons to the square mile.

Others of Importance. An extensive system of irrigation devices that extend along the North Platte for nearly 500 miles will, when completed, supply water to 290,000 acres of land in Wyoming and an equal area in Nebraska.

Those who are best able to judge believe that, in this way, we shall re-claim from 50,000,000 to 150,000,000 acres of land.

For Intensive Tillage. But the possibilities of what might be called the near present are dwarfed by the probabilities of the remote future.

And when that time comes the land that the government yet has to give to settlers may support a population of hundreds of millions.

The Modest Third. Early in the Congressional career of Mr. Blaine, says a writer in the New York Tribune, when Thaddeus Stevens died, who for ten years had dominated Congress, Mr. Blaine, who entered the House the same year as the late Senator Allison, remarked to a friend in the rotunda of the Capitol.

Whom have you got left for leaders? queried the friend. "There are three young men coming forward," was Mr. Blaine's reply.

The liberal strictness of German rules and regulations has always been a matter of amusement to other nations which do not insist so rigidly on the letter of the law.

When the members of a standing committee meet they usually sit down. A man who has fished much can readily detect a lie in a fish story.



DAMOSCH SAYS MUSIC TAKES THOUGHTS AWAY FROM THE PRICE OF BACON AND EGGS.

LITTLE THINGS. A good-by kiss is a little thing. With your hand on the door to go, that it takes the venom out of the sting of a thoughtless word of a cruel fling.

TELLING FORTUNES. The girl broke the silence that had fallen upon the two persons in the rather formal room known as the "parlor."

"I want so much to read your palm," she said. "I've been studying palmistry for nearly a week and I know just lots. Of course I'm not like a professional, but, anyhow, I think it's fun you won't mind, will you?"

"Looks as if you were going to have lots of trouble," she murmured. "Here's a line of influence that's awfully strong, but I don't see any divorce or anything."

A SLEEPER, BUT NO SLEEP. Observations of a Man Who Went to Bed in a Railroad Station. "You can take the midnight train, you know," they told him, "and as they make up the berths early you can go to sleep while the train is in the yard and probably you'll be at home by the time you wake up."



For the hour and half that the train had to stay in the station he sat up with his eyes glued to the window and watch in hand, just counting how many seconds of needless time he got. Finally when they did rattle and roll out of the station a theatrical company on board the sleeper made so much noise that he didn't have a chance to get to sleep until nearly 1 o'clock.

FRANCIS WHO WORK. Some of Them Who Have Made themselves Really Useful. Prince Elton Friedrich, son of the German emperor, who for some weeks past has been leading the life of a common laborer, gardening, setting trees, carpentering and bricklaying, is one of many royalties who have proved themselves adepts in manual labor.

A Lesson of Defeat. Oh, the way won't be so gloomy when you've learned to say good-by. To take your leave of buried hopes with clean, undented eyes; whose sorrow laid your head on a pillow, though the heavens fall to make another star!

Inconsistency. "Pa, what is the meaning of inconsistency?" asked Freddy. "Inconsistency, my son," exclaimed the man, "means a man who grows all day and then goes home and kicks the dog for barking at night."



DRAWING NAMES FOR LAND ALLOTMENTS.

Salt Lake Valley need be told what the rest of Utah will want this look like. When the Mormons went to Utah the country around Salt Lake was as desolate as the mind could picture.

The national government also has large holdings in twenty-four other states and territories. Uncle Sam owns enough land in New Mexico, for instance, to make two states almost as large as New York and Indiana.

Some of this land has nothing but gold and silver in it. The rest of it is heavily freighted with the latest possibilities of potatoes, alfalfa, wheat, oats, corn and fruit.

But things have changed since then. The government has become very busy in the irrigation business. It is pouring out money like water for the purpose of getting water. At this very moment the government has under way

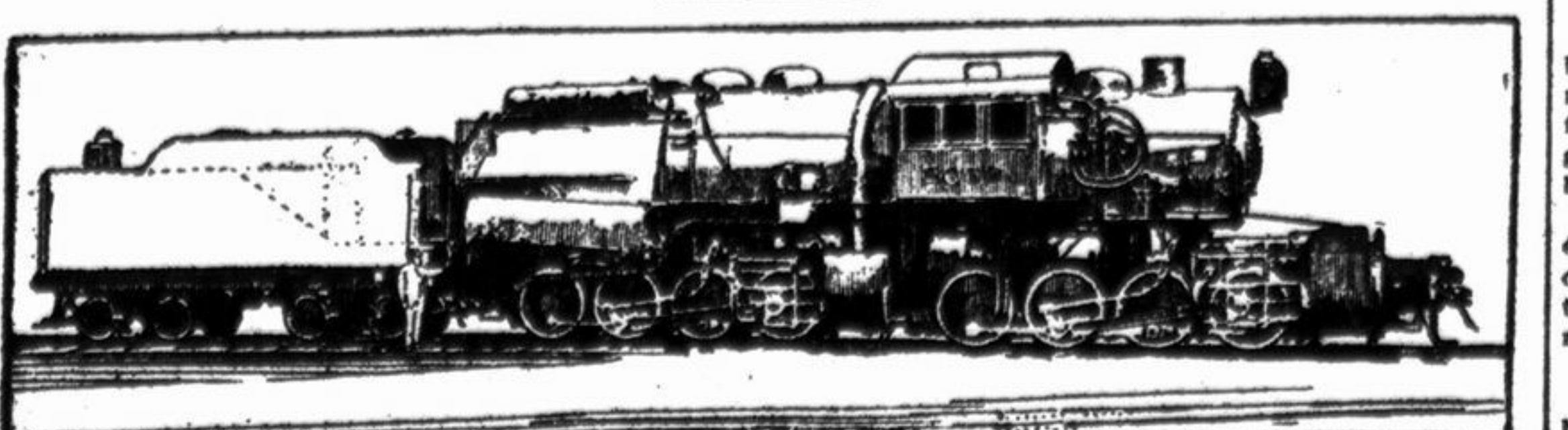
house to a ship sailing in the clouds bottom side up.

Government's Great Projects. However, all this is to be changed. At Yuma the government has made a start toward supplying water to the desert, and while the task may not be completed for years, part of the arid land will be reclaimed within the next two years.

The government has also done something and is doing more to bring back to life some of Nevada's 61,000,000 dead acres. At Truckee the melting mountain snow is diverted to the parched tracts far below in the valley.

Conduit Through Mountain. Out in what is known as the "Gunnison country" in Colorado, another gigantic undertaking is under way. At the bottom of Gunnison canyon is a picturesque little stream called the Gunnison River, that up to this time has served no other useful purpose than to increase the beauty of the scenery and hold speckled trout to lure fishermen hundreds of miles. But the Gunnison River will soon be known no more to the fishermen. Within a year, probably, it will be shunted off into a tunnel.

LARGEST AND MOST POWERFUL LOCOMOTIVE IN THE WORLD.



The engine and tender combined are eighty feet long and weigh 280 1/2 tons. The engine alone weighs 205 tons. It was built for the purpose of emitting trains over the grades of the Erie Railroad near Susquehanna, and can haul a freight train of 250 cars, two miles long, carrying 10,000 tons of freight, at a speed of eight miles an hour.