

He Relates His Experiences in Cultivating the Plant in the Philadelphia Press.

Gen. Le Duc of Minnesota, the Commissioner of Agriculture, arrived at Philadelphia recently, and a reporter interviewed him at the Continental Hotel, on the subject of tea culture, the introduction of which into this country has been one of the most important of the past few years.

When as Commissioner of Agriculture, I wished to promote the cultivation and manufacture of tea in this country, with a view of supplying our people with home raised tea, and thus decreasing the importation of the article.

"Has any tea been manufactured as a commercial article, and is the quality equal to that of imported tea?"

"For a number of years persons throughout the north and west have been growing tea plants made to best effect in new houses that in a very crude fashion, bruising the leaves and drying them in a Dutch oven or even in the sun, and storing them away as a family supply of the fragrant herb, which they pronounced better than any they could purchase at the stores."

TAKE A REST.

A Bookkeeper's Healthful Holiday Trip.

"Well, Mr. Jones, you see I'm back," was the greeting which a Toronto merchant gave his bookkeeper the other morning.

MAKING ARTIFICIAL ICE.

At a Cincinnati brewery there is a machine recently imported from Germany, which is under contract to make a ton of ice—or to produce cold equal to a ton of ice—for ninety cents.

QUEENIE HETHERTON.

By Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, author of "Tempest and Sunshine," "Ethelyn's Mistake," "Forrest House," etc.

CHAPTER I. INTRODUCING SOME OF THE CHARACTERS.

The morning mail for Merrivale had just arrived, when a young man in a blue suit and top hat, who had been waiting for it, stepped out of the carriage and walked towards the house.

CHAPTER II. INTRODUCING MORE OF THE CHARACTERS.

Hetherton Place was nearly a mile distant from the village, and on the side of a hill, the house was a large and comfortable one.

"Now, what under the sun a cooology is, I don't know," Mrs. Ferguson said. "Whether does Anna, and she's been away to school three quarters; but there's her letter, read for yourself if you can."

"Of course I wouldn't be any better. I'm just as good as anybody now," Miss Anna replied, with a toss of her head.

"I don't know what kind of a craft she is," Frenchy, of course, and I hate the French. She must be my cousin, too, as I have never heard that Mr. Hetherton married a second time.

"I'm not interested in the girl at all," said Mr. Beresford, who was several years older, and more interested in the numerous arrangements he was to make for her reception.

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Two hours later, the Boston train stopped at the station, and Phil Rossiter came up the long hill at his usual rapid, swinging gait, attracting a good deal of attention in his handsome, well-cut dress, which became him so well.

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