

COUNTRY EDITOR'S TRIP TO PANAMA

Notes from the Log of a Landlubber Who Goes Down to Sea in a Ship and Records His Impressions of the Strange Lands and People Seen and Met.

NINTH LETTER.

The New Gateway to the Orient.
I have said that to me figures mean very little. I believe that is true of the average man. When I say that the total cost of the canal is computed at three hundred and seventy-five million dollars, it really means very little to me because I never will be called upon to count that much. But an article is not complete without figures and so I am going to put down some figures here which will answer in a brief way the many questions which will come up during the year.

Facts and Figures.
Total cost of canal, \$375,000,000. This is of course estimated, and includes coast defenses and every contingency which may yet arise.
Length of the canal, including channel leading into either ocean, 51 1-2 miles.
Width of canal at bottom, 300 to 500 feet.
Depth, 45 feet.
Elevation, 35 feet.
Length of locks, 1,000 feet.
Width, 110 feet.
Length of largest ship in the world, (now being laid) 950 feet.

During the coming summer we are to hear a lot about the canal and it is well to put down here the authorized tolls which are for freight, per ton, \$1.25, passengers, \$1.50.
These are figures which every stockholder should remember and we are all stockholders.

Then comes another set of figures which should be remembered, namely the question of distance saved and effect on travel and commerce both east and west.
To that end I give the following table:

Distances in Nautical Miles Saved from New York via Panama Canal on Trade Routes.

San Francisco:	Magellan	13,135
	Panama	5,262
	Saved	7,873
Guayaquil:		
	Magellan	10,215
	Panama	2,810
	Saved	7,405
Callao:		
	Magellan	9,613
	Panama	3,363
	Saved	6,250
Iquique:		
	Magellan	9,143
	Panama	4,004
	Saved	5,139
Valparaiso:		
	Magellan	8,380
	Panama	4,633
	Saved	3,747
Honolulu:		
	Magellan	13,312
	Panama	6,700
	Saved	6,612
Manila:		
	Suez	11,589
	Panama	11,548
	Saved	41
Yokohama:		
	Suez	13,979
	Panama	9,798
	Saved	3,281
HongKong:		
	Suez	11,628
	Panama	11,383
	Saved	245
Melbourne:		
	Magellan	12,852
	Panama	10,020
	Saved	2,832

The above figures show at a glance the saving in distance which the new gateway will afford.

Panama the Fastest Route.
Hitherto the path to the Orient has been east, by the way of Suez. This route will now have to divide honors, the one against the west. In this matter also we must consider the size of the Suez canal, which will not admit boats which will pass through Panama. When the new enlarged dimensions of Suez are completed the boats will permit vessels drawing between 31 and 32 feet of water. The Panama canal will admit boats drawing fully ten feet more. The average size of the vessels that passed through Suez in 1911 was more than four times the average in 1879. The Panama canal is now drawing between 31 and 32 feet of water. The Panama canal is now drawing between 31 and 32 feet of water.

Smooth Waters All the Way.
Via Panama passengers strike into warm weather in two days and from that time on they travel in tropic or temperate attitudes all the way. The vessels will leave rough waters as soon as they have passed Hatteras and the entire balance of the voyage will be through waters that are proverbially calm and peaceful. The trip through the Panama canal is much more picturesque than through Suez; the route up the California coast will easily offset the Mediterranean cruise, and the visit to Honolulu on the way will be a delightful stopping place where travelers may stretch themselves before resuming the last leg of the journey. In either route the Oriental terminal will be the same, that is whether you go east or west you will touch at Singapore and probably at Hong Kong and Yokohama.

Spiritism Said to Be Demonism.
A most interesting little brochure has recently come off the press setting forth with Bible proofs that the communications received by and through Spiritist Mediums is of Demon origin. The writer traces his subject through the Scriptures from the time when certain of the holy angels became disobedient. He proves from the Scriptures that these fallen spirits perorate the human dead, with whose past history, spirits, though invisible, are thoroughly acquainted. He shows that they also frequently personate the Creator and the Redeemer, commanding their devoted ones to pray, do penance, etc. This, however, is merely to lead them on and to bring them more thoroughly under demoniacal control. Sometimes by breaking down the natural barrier, the human will, they possess their victim, and rule him more or less to his ruin—frequently sending such to the mad-house. Numerous illustrations, Scriptural and otherwise, are given. The price of the little book is but five cents; it should be in the hands of all interested in Spiritism or who have friends interested therein. Enclose stamps to the Bible and Tract Society, 17 Hicks Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

You Cannot Afford to Miss
the interesting lectures next Sunday, at 3 and 8 p. m., at the Frostburg Opera House.—Adv't.

Seats Free, No Collection.
"Pastor Russell's Teachings Examined," will be the subject of Evangelist Wakefield's lecture next Sunday at 3 p. m., at the Frostburg Opera House, and at 8 p. m., same place, he will discuss, "The Second Coming of Christ."—Adv't.

Free Bible Lecture
at 3 and 8 p. m., next Sunday, Frostburg Opera House.—Adv't.

WE ALWAYS NEED THE MONEY you owe us on subscription.

they pass, and while they gather something of the atmosphere of the countries they touch they will leave something of theirs.

Where Like and Unlike Meet.

Even today, before the waterway is opened there is gathered about the isthmus a strange community. No where on American soil can we find its equal. Strange people from all the earth pass and repass. Turbanned, tawny East Indians, Mongolians, Europeans, Native Indians from the Central America, haughty Spaniards, Africans—all kinds, island people, soldiers and sailors, uniforms and flags strange to American eyes, all these sights strike us today as we linger on the isthmus. What will it be when the canal is officially opened and the ships of all nations bring their passengers and cargoes to this common center?

Identifying the American.
One of the little problems which puzzles the American abroad is why it is that every foreigner at once places him as an American. We are ordinary white folks and dress very much the same as our English cousins. In fact we wonder what particular distinguishing trade mark we wear. We try to act naturally and to pass along unassumingly, but it don't work out. Every bell-hop, hackman, lackey, servant, hotel keeper and tradesman at once places us. We are Americans and we can't hide it. It's there, and he who runs may read.

Catching the English Expression.
This matter came up several times and finally I reasoned it out that it should be no harder for these natives to solve my nationality than it was for me to size up an Englishman. There is no mistaking the English tourist. You can tell him in a thousand different ways. Not by his expression, for he carefully hides all expression. Only once did I catch an Englishman betraying expression, and that was in front of a hotel in Panama. He came down that morning with a new pair of plum colored spats, and as he sat waiting for his carriage he stretched out his extremities and permitted himself the luxury of fond contemplation. He beamed. He fairly radiated. His countenance lighted up with that peculiar benevolence which sheds a glory around a New England pumpkin pie fresh from the oven. The atmosphere of calm content mingled with the tropic sunshine fairly cast a halo around those spats, a halo undisturbed and uninterrupted, for his knee-sprung tweeds were so far above as to be beyond speaking acquaintance.

Having an Englishman for Breakfast.
This particular Englishman was a constant source of delight to me. He sat at table where I could watch him without distressing myself, although it would have distressed some people. Breakfast was his long suit. Here he appeared at his best—although the waiter would probably hold to the contrary. It was worth the price of admission just to see Mr. Englishman pick up the menu card. He viewed it with both disfavor and suspicion. It was a serious matter this matter of selecting a breakfast. He held an impromptu postmortem autopsy on each dish as it came. First he would smell of it, and then balance it before him meditatively. Whether it took a long time for the smell to reach his brain, or the return was slow I know not. Anyway it was a fine betting proposition whether the dish went back or remained. One could see that at some time or other there had arisen a feud that affected all subsequent food, as could be ascertained from the hateful glance leveled at every dish. I wondered that the very dishes did not shrivel, and I do remember that the waiter dropped a tray. But he had the sand, did this Englishman. Having food he hid with it, but he certainly stuck. He sat right there, glaring defiance, and breathing hatred until the last dish was mopped clean. I expect every time the waiter approached that he would sooner or later slap one paw on a bone and emit a real live growl, and the waiter acted as tho' he expected the same thing. It is conceded, I believe, that the average American is dead scared of a waiter; in the presence of these dignified apostles of gastronomy the A. A. will shrink like a woolen jacket in hot water. Not so the Englishman. It is the waiter who does all the shrinking.

"How would you like his lordship, over there?" I said to my waiter, indicating the Englishman across the way.
"Him? Why I'd rather have one American than a dozen English lords," was the reply I got.

THE WORD HELL.
A Little Book that Contains Some Starting Information.

A little book selling at only five cents, postpaid, is having a very wide circulation—running up into the millions. It contains some very startling information respecting the meaning of the word Hell. It claims to demonstrate, both from the Hebrew and the Greek of our Bible, that Hell is NOT a place of eternal torment, but merely another name for the TOMB, the GRAVE, the STATE OF DEATH. It affects to show that man was not redeemed from a far-off place of eternal torture, but quotes the Scriptures proving that he was REDEEMED from the GRAVE at the cost of his Redeemer's LIFE and that the Scriptural Hope, both for the Church and the World, is a resurrection hope based upon the death and resurrection of Jesus. The book is certainly worth the reading. The information it furnishes is certainly valuable, far beyond its trifling cost. Order it at once from the Bible and Tract Society, 17 Hicks Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Pastor Wakefield
of New York City, to lecture at the Frostburg Opera House, next Sunday at 3 and 8 p. m.—Adv't.

Heaviest Rain of the Season.
The present summer was a very dry one in Frostburg and vicinity, until last Saturday night, when the drouth was broken by a rain that lasted the greater portion of the night, at intervals resembling a cloudburst. The Spirit office was badly flooded with water, owing to the fact that the ground back of the building is considerably higher than the door sills, and as water will not run up hill, it ran like a veritable river through two rear doors, one stream flowing into the Spirit office and another into a vacant room on the east side of it.

Owing to the fact that a portion of the floor in the east room was sawed out some time ago, which gave the water a chance to find an outlet, the inundation of the floors was not as bad as it otherwise would have been. No great damage was done, but a big lot of inconvenience was caused by the water, and a big lot of mud was washed into the building, which caused much work and some expense to remove it.

Where a building is next to higher ground, it should be protected by drains of sufficient capacity to carry away the excessive flow of water during heavy rains.

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GET WISE and advertise. This paper is a good medium.

The KITCHEN CUPBOARD

WITH A CUP OF COFFEE.

MANY dainty and wholesome desserts may be made with coffee. Cold coffee, the cupful that is left from breakfast or dinner, may be utilized for this purpose. When putting it away for use in the next day's dessert strain off the grounds and put it in a covered vessel to keep.

Coffee Blancmange.—Take a cupful each of milk and coffee and boil with two tablespoonfuls of sugar. Thicken with two tablespoonfuls of cornstarch rubbed smooth in a little cold milk. Pour in mold and serve with cream.

Two Dainty Desserts.
Coffee Custard.—To a cupful of very strong coffee add a cupful of thin cream, four beaten eggs, half a cupful of sugar and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Strain into small buttered cups, stand them in a pan of boiling water and bake in a moderate oven until firm in the center. Serve ice cold.

Coffee Mousse.—Take one pint of cream and whip it very stiff, then take one or one and one-half cupfuls of coffee. Have your coffee cold, mix with a cupful of sugar; then beat separately three egg yolks and one whole egg. Mix with coffee and sugar; then stir in your cream. Mix it all well; then turn into a lard pail. Freeze, pack in ice cream tub. You can pack it in any tub that is deep enough to cover the pail with ice. Have a hole in the side of the tub for water to run out. Use plenty of coarse salt, cover the top of pail with ice and salt; then spread heavy cover over that. Let it stand five or six hours.

Delicious Pastry.
Coffee Eclairs.—Pour a quarter of a pint of water into a saucepan with one ounce of butter and as soon as the water boils stir in two ounces of dry flour which has been passed through a sieve. Do not stop stirring until a thick, smooth paste is formed. Take the saucepan from the stove and when the paste has cooled a little add first one egg yolk and then a second, beating each thoroughly into the other ingredients; then stir in half a tablespoonful of sugar, a few drops of vanilla essence and lastly the white of one egg whisked to a stiff froth. Turn the paste on to a floured board and divide it into small pieces. Form these into "eclairs," place them on a buttered baking sheet and bake in a moderate oven from a quarter of an hour to twenty minutes. When done let the eclairs cool on a rack; then carefully slit them down one side, scoop out a little of the soft part and fill them with whipped cream flavored with vanilla and when all are ready cover them with a layer of coffee icing.

THE TOMATO WORM.
TOMATO WORMS are the larva of moths and can readily be controlled by the use of an arsenical poison, as the worms chew their food. Turkeys are voracious feeders on these worms, and a flock will keep a large field free of them.

TOMATOES SHOULD BE WELL CULTIVATED.
Start Working the Rows As Soon As Possible to Preserve Moisture in the Soil.

J. F. MONROE,
Maryland Agricultural College.

As soon as possible after setting out your tomato plants, start the cultivator. It is a good plan to cultivate fairly deep, and throw a little soil to the young plants. This cultivation loosens the soil, where it was tramped incident to setting the plants, forms a soil mulch to check evaporation, and if the plants were set in furrows, it will fill these up level. It is generally considered the most important working, therefore, great care should be exercised.

Subsequent cultivations should be frequent and shallow and slightly farther from the plant with each successive working. The frequency of these cultivations will depend somewhat on seasonal conditions. The grower should work the tomato field at regular intervals, and after rains, in order to retain the maximum amount of soil moisture for the plants, because the tomato is a rampant grower, and requires large quantities of water.

Stop cultivation when there is danger of injuring the plants in passing through the rows. This will ordinarily be when the first fruit set is about the size of a walnut. The plants will be sufficiently large to shade the ground and check evaporation, thereby removing the chief reason for cultivation. Be sure to seed the tomato field to crimson clover with the last working. The weather is ordinarily quite reasonable at this time, and the condition of the soil is such as to generally assure a good stand of clover. Of course, if the tomato field grown is to be sowed to wheat, the clover will not grow sufficiently large to warrant sowing. As tomato growers should have a copy of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 180 on tomatoes and their care.

The time has come to undertake the study and teaching of secondary agriculture seriously, and not merely as a means of glorifying country life, and arousing enthusiasm for the possibilities of farm endeavor.

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BROOKLYN TABERNACLE

LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD.

Matthew 20:1-16—July 5.
"Ye shall not rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."—Matthew 5:45.

THIS parable is difficult of interpretation so as to make all its features fit fulfillment. The Great Teacher gave it as a parable of the Kingdom; hence it applies to the Church's experiences during this Gospel Age. If we apply the different intervals to different epochs in this Age, we have difficulty; for the Apostles and others called early in the Age did not labor throughout the entire period. Again, in so applying it, we face the proposition that only those at the beginning of the Age had definite promise as respects a reward—that all others received merely the assurance that they would get what would be right.

Another difficulty in interpreting the parable is how to apply the murmuring of those first called and last rewarded. Other Scriptures show us that the Apostles and others of the early Church will experience their resurrection change before those living at Christ's Second Coming. Furthermore, it is unthinkable that the Apostles and others of the early Church would murmur at their reward.

All these difficulties must be borne in mind when we attempt to fit this parable to the experiences of the Church as a whole during the Age.

If we apply the parable to individual experiences, we have trouble also. Applying it thus, we might say that those who began a Christian life early, and are found faithful in the Lord's service at the evening-time of life, would be those first called and promised a reward. Others coming in later and serving the Lord with only a portion of their time, strength and talent would correspond to those called later—even at the eleventh hour. If we interpret the parable as meaning that all will get a similar reward regardless of the time spent in the Master's service, we still have difficulty with the fact that those called earliest were dissatisfied.

How then can we apply this parable consistently, in harmony with other Scriptural teachings respecting the reward of the Kingdom class? The only way of which we can think is to apply it entirely to present-life experiences of the Kingdom class, especially of those living at the close of this Age.

Privilege of Discipleship the Penny.
For sixteen hundred years and more the Jews awaited Messiah's Coming and the blessed opportunities which it would bring. When Jesus began His ministry, He preached "The Kingdom of God is at hand," and gave the Jews the privilege of entering into it. That privilege was a "penny"—a reward for their faithful endeavor to keep the Law. But when the offer of the Kingdom was promulgated, some publicans and sinners were attracted. These new laborers were received by the Lord Jesus and given opportunity to become His disciples.

The Scribes and the Pharisees, faithful to God all their lives, murmured at any arrangement as unfair which would not give them the first opportunities of the Kingdom. If publicans and sinners were to obtain the blessed privileges of discipleship with Messiah, surely, they thought, some still higher favor should come to them.

As the Kingdom was offered to the Jews in Jesus' day, and those newest in Divine service received the same opportunities for a share with those long engaged, so apparently it is to be in the end of the Gospel Age. As greater knowledge of Present Truth is now coming as a reward to all in the Lord's vineyard, let us not be surprised if this shall be equally distributed to those recently coming in and to those long in the Master's service.

Let not our hearts be angry because the Lord is gracious to those who have entered His service even during the eleventh hour. Are they not brethren? Any feeling on the part of those long in Divine service that they must have more manifestation of the Lord's favor now is evidently wrong.

Lesson of the Golden Text.
Our Golden Text tells us that as our God is gracious, loving, merciful, kind, even to the unthankful and the unjust, to sinners, so we should be kind, generous, loving, should do good unto all as we have opportunity, especially to the Household of Faith. The more we study this God of Love, the more we realize that He is the only loving and true God, and that our previous misconceptions were unreal, untrue—gods of our own manufacture—and the more do we see that civilized lands have made with pen, ink and paper, creed idols more horrible than any which the heathen ever made of iron, stone, brass or clay. Let us hold fast the sure Word of God, and discard the theories of the Dark Ages, which greatly misrepresent to us the Divine Message.

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THIN YOUR FRUIT FOR BEST PRICES

Get Rid of Your Culls Now—Should Not Cost More Than Ten Cents Per Tree.

HERMAN BECKENSTRATER,
Maryland Agricultural College.

The melon grower who would allow ten plants to grow in one hill would be considered an incompetent by his neighbor, who at the same time expects his peach trees to mature peaches as close together as they can possibly hang on the tree. Nothing, in fact, will better bring out the excellent qualities of the fruit and give it good size and fine appearance, than the finishing touches of thinning the young fruit on the tree. Yet this highly remunerative operation is quite generally omitted.

Present indications point to a heavy fruit crop the coming season. Culls will be plentiful and worthless. Therefore, avoid them and increase the size of your salable crop by thinning them early. For best results this thinning should be done immediately after the June drop. It is only reasonable to expect that the sooner the remaining fruit has the entire support of the tree, the better the results will be. Broken limbs may be avoided if the thinning is done in August, but other benefits will not be so pronounced.

As to what extent the fruit should be thinned is largely a local problem. Generally, thinning fruit to a minimum distance of 4 to 6 inches gives satisfactory results.

Bulletin No. 159 of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station says of thinning peaches, "If there is a heavy set of fruit left after the June drop, it should be thinned so that the fruits left are evenly distributed over the whole tree, and average from 4 to 6 inches apart on the bearing wood. Thinning should be done just before the pits begin to harden, when the fruits are about three quarters of an inch in diameter. It is the maturing of the pits which exhausts the vitality of the tree and the ripening of pits in excess of a good crop is a useless strain on the tree itself."

Our fruit must all be picked at sometime, and the culls are more quickly and more easily removed at thinning time than at the harvesting of the crop. The average cost of thinning is about ten cents per tree.

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An Open Letter to Property Owners

We are introducing a new match. We call it the Safe Home Match. IT IS. It conforms, in every respect, with the recently enacted Federal law, as well as with various State and Municipal laws. It is non-poisonous. It lights anywhere. The sticks, being made from specially selected lumber, are very strong. Safe Home Matches burn with an even flame—quietly, without spark or sputter. They are inspected and labeled by the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. You are directly interested in everything that lessens the fire risk. Safe Home Matches do that. If everybody used them, this country would be very much better off, for there would be far fewer fires. Moral: Use Safe Home Matches and urge others to do likewise. 5c. All grocers. Ask for them by name. The Diamond Match Company

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Printing done at The Spirit office is always of the first quality and the price is always right.