

RESTORED TO ENTRY

Imperial Valley Lands Can Now be Entered and Final and Annual Proof Must be Made. Important Letter From General Land Office.

All desert land entrymen should take immediate notice of the following ruling: All annual and final proofs must be made according to law in the Imperial Valley without regard to the suspensions made necessary for the purpose of resurvey. This is a very important matter, and following correspondence should be read carefully:

Department of the Interior, General Land Office, Washington, D. C., June 19, 1906.

Register and Receiver, Los California. Gentlemen:—I am in receipt of your letter of June 8, 1906, as follows: "I have the honor to report that Mr. G. W. Bothwell presents your letter 'G', May 25, 1906, ruling that the withdrawal of Imperial Valley lands pending resurvey in no wise affects entries there ofore made; hence annual and final proof should be submitted as though no order of withdrawal had been issued.

To almost daily inquiries by entryman in person and by letter, reply has been made by this office that annual and final proof would be accepted, but that in Porter vs. Carlile, XXXIV Land Decisions, page 361, it was held that the time does not run against an entry while under suspension and the claimant still has the remainder of the statutory period, after the suspension is removed, within which to show compliance with the law; and that such is the rule in the Imperial Valley under the order of withdrawal; except that under rule in Langer vs. Wasman XXXIV Land Decisions, page 426, where the statutory life of an entry has expired at the date of suspension, such suspension does not give it a new life or afford the entryman opportunity thereafter to comply with the law.

Please make ruling as to whether this office is correct."

By act of July, 1902, a resurvey was directed to be made of Townships 13, 14, 15 and 16 south, Ranges 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 east, S. B. M. Prior to that date, a large number of desert entries had been made in such townships, in many, if not all, of which the land entered was described in accordance with a private survey found not to agree with the original government survey, and, probably, not with the survey to be made. Final proofs were made on many such entries and final certificates issued thereon, but as much conclusion was found to exist, it was found impracticable to issue patents thereon, until after the resurvey shall have been made and the final entries adjusted to it. To facilitate such final adjustment as far as possible, you were instructed by letter "G" of September 13, 1904, to accept final proofs in such entries in said townships, when tendered, but not to accept payment or to issue final papers until the matter of resurvey, now pending, has been finally adjudicated."

By telegram "E" of March 30, 1906, you were further directed to:

Suspend entries in townships thirteen to sixteen south ranges eleven to sixteen east and in seventeen south ranges fifteen to sixteen east, S. B. M. after March thirty-first, nineteen hundred and six.

This telegram was improperly worded as it was not then intended that existing entries should be suspended and entrymen in that manner relieved from compliance with the requirements of the law during the period of such suspension. That telegram should have instructed you to receive and suspend all applications to enter presented after that date and the direction then given, in so far as that telegram can be construed as a suspension of all entries in the townships named, is hereby revoked and you are now directed to receive and suspend, without further action, all applications

hereafter presented for entries in said townships; and you are further directed to at once notify all persons now holding entries of any character within said townships, upon which final proof has not yet been offered, that they will be expected to hereafter comply with the requirements of the law and make their proofs within the prescribed time. You are also directed that when final proofs are offered under any these entries you will receive same and if you find them otherwise correct you will at once transwif them to this office and payment thereunder will not be required until after the surveys have been completed.

Very respectfully,
G. F. POLLOCK,
Acting Commissioner.

THE PLANET MERCURY.

Like Venus and For Like Cause, It Is Now a Dead World.

Mercury is a body devoid, practically if not absolutely, of air, of water and of vegetation. Consequently it is incapable of supporting any of those higher organisms which we know as living beings. Its surface is a vast desert. It is rough rather than smooth. Whether this roughness be due to mountains proper or to craters we are too far away from it to be able yet to say. The latter is the more probable. Over the greater part of its surface change either diurnal or seasonal is unknown. Three-eighths of its surface is steeped in perpetual glare, three-eighths shrouded in perpetual gloom, while the remaining quarter slowly turns between the two. The planet itself, as a world, is dead.

Interesting as Mercury thus proves to be, the interest as regards the planet itself is of a rather corpse-like character. Less deterrent perhaps is the interest it possesses as a part of the life history of the solar system, for tidal friction, the closing act in the cosmic drama, has brought it where it is. The machine has run down. Whether it ever supported life upon its surface or not, the power to do so has now forever passed away. Like Venus and for like cause, it is now a dead world. And it was the first thus to reach the end of its evolutionary career, earlier to do so than Venus, inasmuch as tidal action was very much greater upon it than on Venus and consequently produced its effect more quickly. Mercury has long been dead. How long, measured by centuries, we cannot say, but practically for a very long time. Venus must have become so comparatively recently. Both, however, now have finished their course and have in a most literal sense entered into their rest.

SEEING SICILY.

Not to Know This Island Is Not to Know Greece.

There are some lands which have always laid a spell upon the mind, upon the imagination, upon the heart. Greece, above all other countries, has entranced the mind. The imagination has ever loved the east—Egypt, the Indies, forgotten Asia, the almost as mysterious Asia of today. For most of us the home land is the country of the heart; for many, it may be, it is Palestine, where was lighted the fire at which the hearts of incalculable millions are still warmed. Others are content to say with Emerson in the fine essay on "Heroism," "That country is the fairest which is inhabited by the noblest minds." But, above all other lands, there is one which has at once impressed the mind, the imagination and the heart of western peoples. When a famous poet declared that on his heart would be found engraved the word Italy the words voiced the emotion of a multitude in every country of Europe and in the great northern continent overseas.

To see Sicily, the old "Garden of the Sun," as the poets have loved to call it, is not to see Italy, though there may be a measure of truth in Goethe's remark that not to know Sicily is not to know Italy. In a sense one might more truly say of Sicily that not to know it is not to know Greece. In another sense, however, we have in this most beautiful of islands the intensification of Italy. Whatever is most Italian is in evidence here, though it is Italian of the south and not of the north. What a gulf divides them is known only to those familiar with the whole peninsula.—William Sharp in Century.

"Bulls" Not Irish.

Those who are not Irishmen sometimes trespass on Irish property. A French cure, preaching about sudden death, said, "Thus it is with us—we go to bed well and get up stone dead!"

An old French lawyer writing of an estate he had just bought added, "There is a chapel upon it in which my wife and I wish to be buried, if God spares our lives."

A merchant who died suddenly left in his bureau a letter to one of his correspondents which he had not sealed. His clerk, seeing it necessary to send the letter, wrote at the bottom, "Since writing the above I have died."

The First Man.

About the middle of the seventeenth century Isaac de la Peyrere, in an odd little volume entitled "The Pre-Adamites," attempted to prove that there were two creations of men—the first on the sixth day of the week of creation, when "God created man male and female." The rabbis interpret the above passage of holy writ as meaning that the first race of human beings were creatures in which both sexes were united in the same individual. According to De la Peyrere, Adam was the result of the second creation, the "male and female" being having been the progenitor of the gentiles, Adam the father of the Jews. A great many people fell in with the views of De la Peyrere, and he was the lion of the hour. His followers were called "Pre-Adamites," and they increased in numbers rapidly until finally the movement became so strong that the founder of the sect was compelled to go to Rome and abjure his doctrine at the feet of Pope Alexander VII.

Savages and Snuff.

The habit of snuff taking has been confirmed among savage tribes for ages past. In South Africa it is used among Swazis, Basutos and Matabeles. Every Zulu today, even in towns, carries a little square box suspended around his neck by a piece of string or gut, and the snuff spoon (for they do not indulge in the homely "pinch"), carved out of sheep's bone, often ornamented with intricate geometrical designs and for convenience carried hanging downward through a slit in the lobe of the ear. The Zulu regards the lobe of his ear as a useful receptacle for various small articles he meets with. The umfaan, or house boy, universally met with in Natal, has a penchant for safety pins, which have to be carefully hidden from his sharp eyes. Even then he is usually to be seen, after going through the rooms, with a string of these pins suspended from each ear until they reach his shoulders.

Neckties as Railway Signals.

"Red neckties are always worn by foreign brakemen and conductors. Ever notice it?" said a railroader.

"No. Why is it?"

"As a safety device," was the reply. "These red neckties that flash upon your gaze on the railroads of Italy, France, Germany and England are not a sign that the people have a gay taste, but that they are cautious and prudent.

"The neckties are supplied free by the railroad companies for use as danger signals in emergency. Thus, no matter when or where an accident may happen, there is no need to search or scramble for a red flag, but the brakeman whips off his red necktie and waves it frantically aloft."—Minneapolis Journal.

Kentucky's Names.

Kentucky is known as the Corn Cracker State from a game bird enjoying the same name which was formerly found in great abundance in most parts of the state. It is also called the Blue Grass State, from the belt of land running through the center, in which this variety of grass grows to great perfection. In the early days of our history it was known as the Dark and Bloody Ground, being so termed by the Indians. It was then a debatable land between the Indians living north of the Ohio and those living in the mountains of Tennessee and Georgia, a sort of battleground for these tribes, which fact gave it the name long before it was settled by the whites.

Planets With Three Suns.

The people inhabiting the planets in the solar system of Gamma have no need of electricity, gas, oil or other kind of artificial light. In those favored worlds they have continuous daylight and probably have no idea of a land like ours which is alternately bathed in sunlight and plunged into darkness. The Gammanean planets are so situated that as soon as one of their three suns begins to decline another appears in sight. Each of these three suns is of a different color—red, yellow and blue.

Universal Experience.

The distinguished citizen had returned from a trip abroad.

"Did the old world give you the glad hand?" they asked him.

"Oh, yes," he said, "or, rather, it gave me the expectant hand. It wasn't the glad hand until I had put the tip into it."—Chicago Tribune.

In Dresden 300 years ago "epicures" used to eat Venetian oysters that had been on the way three weeks.

Comforting.

"George, did you know that I was going to marry your sister?"

"Well, I heard her say so, but she's had that idea about so many other fellows that I didn't feel sure about it till you told me."

Pleasant All Around.

Mr. Facetious (having his portrait painted)—I suppose you want me to look pleasant? Artist—Yes, and pay in advance. Mr. Facetious—What's that for? Artist—Oh, so that I can look pleasant too.

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