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Country Shippers will find this house alive to their interests.

The Riel of Fiction.

He died at dawn in the land of snows,
A priest at the left, a priest at the right;
The doomed man praying for his pitiless foes,
And each priest holding a low, dim light
To pray for the soul of the dying.
But Windsor castle was far away.
And Windsor castle was never so gay,
With her gorgeous banners flying.
The hero was hung at the windy dawn—
'Twas splendidly done, the telegraph said;
A creak of the neck, then the shoulders drawn;
A heave of the breast—and the man hung dead.
And oh, never such valiant dying!
And Windsor castle was never so gay,
With its fops and fools on that windy day,
And its thousand banners flying!

Some starving babes where a stark stream flows
'Twixt windy banks by an Indian town;
A frenzied mother in the freezing snows,
While softly the pitying snow comes down
To cover the dead and the dying.
But Windsor castle seemed never so gay—
She was sewing red dragon's teeth that day;
While God's four winds went flying!
—Joaquin Miller, in Century.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Land Commissioner Sparks, in a decision in the case of James Vaughn, a settler on the line of the Northern Pacific railroad in Montana, holds that lands were not reserved by law for the railroad grant upon the filing by the company of maps of the general route, but only after the definite location of the actual line of the road. It has been a former ruling of the interior department that a statutory reservation was created when a map of general route was filed, although the actual location of the road might afterward be made on quite a different line. Commissioner Sparks says he finds no authority of law for such construction, and holds it contrary to the provisions of the granting act and to the uniform construction of the railroad land grant by the supreme court. The effect of the commissioner's decision, if sustained, will be to protect settlers along the whole line of the road who settled after the maps of the general route were filed and before the definite location of the road, being periods ranging from three to ten years, and also to open to entry all lands on the line between Wallula, Was., and Portland, Ore., a distance of some two hundred miles, and amounting to more than 5,000,000 acres. These lands are in the valley of the Columbia river, and have been kept in reservation since 1872.

Growing Rich.

The Barnes county muddle is growing rich. A meeting was held at Oriska a day or two ago, in which the recent action of the county commissioners in refunding money paid on tax certificates was discussed and condemned, and the following resolution passed: "Resolved, That we divide Barnes county on the range line between 57 and 58 and form a new county of ranges 56 and 57." The meeting adjourned to convene again on Saturday, February 20, to perfect the organization of a movement looking to division.—*Republican.*

We have received this week from The Dakota Farmer a collection, consisting of eleven choice varieties of flower and garden seeds from the publishers "2d annual free seed distribution." W. F. T. Bushnell, Huron, Dakota.

Gen. Hancock must have died in great agony, judging from the typographical and mechanical appearance of the alleged "extra," a few copies of which were handed around, Tuesday evening.—*Cassellon Reporter.*

The Chinaman, Ah Ki, who ran amuck with a saddler's knife, at San Quentin, would have been useful if turned loose in a crowd of his countrymen. It seems a pity to have so much good murder wasted.—*San Francisco Alta.*

Editor Morgan, of the Chase County (Kan.) Leader, having received a note from an irate subscriber, saying, "Stop your paper and send reasonable bill and I will pay it," sent a bill for \$5,000, saying that he could not afford to suspend publication for less.

Alas, Poor Scott!

John Scott, an insane man, fatally shot John Berger, at Perley. Scott has been sent to the asylum.—*Hope Pioneer.*

Commissioners Resigned.

Valley City, Feb. 13.—The farmers' meeting here to-day was largely attended, and resolutions were passed authorizing the chairman to appeal the case from the county commissioners in regard to the payment of tax warrants. They also signed a paper, agreeing to stand by their share of the expense. A resolution was also passed requesting all but one of the county commissioners to resign.

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16 lbs. Currants, \$1; 16 lbs. of Prunes, \$1; 16 lbs. of Rice, \$1; 16 lbs. of Dried Apples, \$1. Pork, \$13 per barrel. Don't fail to examine our 89 cts. Horse Blankets, worth \$1.50.

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Call in and Examine my stock.

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