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for the Californians, as well as education for their children, when
the gold diggers went out to California.

When you get still above that you have got a grazing country.
When you get still above that you have got a country that abounds
in berries and ground fruits, such as raspberries, strawberries,
and huckleberries, and the like of that, and a number of konah-
berries and various kinds of very delicious fruits that grow sponta-
neously on the earth. So, as you ascend to a height of 15,000
feet, in some places, you have several latitudes in the different
altitudes producing different kinds of crops.

Well, I can say that it would take an expert agriculturist to ex-
amine into this subject and present to the people the facts that
would induce them to go there and raise sugar, bananas, rice,
weat, corn, melons. Fruits, of course, of various kinds grow all
the year through. The chia apple is wild there and grows on a
tree as large as an ordinary oak. It bears a delicious apple and is
in great abundance all through the country. There are many
other fruits that grow spontaneously in the country, such as
oranges, lemons, and limes. It is a country which abounds in
fruits.

I think our people would like to know exactly the situation there,
and I think Congress would like to know it, because when propo-
sitions are brought in here for the disposal of the public lands,
when we have to enact laws to dispose of those public lands, we
want to know what is the best system on which to proceed; whether
the gridiron system of rectangular surveys which obtains here or
surveys that accommodate themselves to the particular business
in hand. An area of land that is sufficient for a coffee plantation
would not be enough, for instance, for a wheat farmer or a corn
farmer. But all of these particulars are of such a peculiar char-
acter that it occurred to the committee that it was better to have
the Agricultural Department take charge of it than the Interior
Department, which would deal with nothing, as has been observed
here, but the land and perhaps something about its quality and
the method of survey and disposal. That is the whole matter.

Mr. TELLER. Mr. President, it seems to me that all this mat-
ter touching the land laws ought to be left to the Interior Depart-
ment. We can not afford to begin to divide up these questions
in different Departments. Unless we are disposed to turn over
the lands to the Agricultural Department all these things ought
to be left to the Secretary of the Interior.

Then, I suggest, if I may be allowed, to the Senator who has
just taken his seat, who knows all about this subject, if he will
draft a provision that will cover his suggestion, I shall be very
glad to vote for it, and let that go to the Secretary of Agriculture
and let him do those things which he can do. Let us confine the
question of the laws to the proper Department, and it certainly
will be proper then to turn over those questions of the charac-
ter of the lands and the products that the country will raise and all
that to the Secretary of Agriculture.

I believe if the Senator will draft by to-morrow morning a pro-
vision of that kind, there will be no trouble about adopting it.
There is enough here, because, as the Senator from South
Carolina says, the work of the Secretary of the Interior can be
practically done here so far as the law is concerned, and then the
Secretary of Agriculture can carry out the other idea on the
ground.

Mr. CULLOM. I merely want to say in connection with the
Senator's remark that it is very important that the Secretary of
Agriculture should report on the condition of those islands, the
possibilities of the land.

Mr. TELLER. That is exactly what I want him to do; but I
do not want him to invade the province of the Secretary of the
Interior.

Mr. CULLOM. The Secretary of the Interior ought to look
into the question of how the best interests of agriculture can be
served by dividing those lands, parceling them out so as to suit
the conditions of agriculture. If a man wants to raise coffee or
if he wants to raise taro he has got to have an opportunity of
selecting coffee or taro land, if you please. I think it would be
proper and right for the Secretary of Agriculture to look into the
condition of the surveys over there and determine whether they
are made in harmony with the necessities of agriculture.

Mr. TELLER. That is exactly what I think the Secretary of
Agriculture may properly do. But I think whenever this land is
to be surveyed, if we are to survey it, it will have to be surveyed
under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. CULLOM. I myself think so.

Mr. TELLER. And the Interior Department will avail itself
of the information. Now, we shall have to survey that country
on the rectangular system unless we should find, when the report
comes in, that the character of the country is such that we must
introduce a different system and cut up the country into smaller
lots, 40 acres being the smallest subdivision of the Government
surveys. I learn that 20 acres there is a very respectable farm,
in some places. In some places you might need a hundred.

Mr. CULLOM. And 2 acres make a respectable patch or farm
for a native, for instance, who is raising taro. That would be all
he would want and no more.

Mr. TELLER. I am sure if we confine the legal question and
those things to the Interior Department and turn the other things
over to the other Department we shall get at it in better shape
than if we were to have either Department do it alone.

Mr. CULLOM. After this discussion with the Senator from
Colorado, it is left to the Senator from Alabama to prepare an
amendment.

Mr. PLATT of Connecticut. Some Senators desire an execu-
tive session and there are some amendments to be proposed to the
bill which will take some time in discussion. The Senator from
Alabama is to prepare an amendment on the subject which he has
just been discussing. I therefore move that the Senate proceed to
the consideration of executive business.

The motion was agreed to; and the Senate proceeded to the con-
sideration of executive business. After 8 minutes spent in execu-
tive session the doors were reopened, and (at 5 o'clock and 10
minutes p.m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Wednesday,
February 21, 1900, at 12 o'clock m.