

VOLUNTEERS MAY GO AHEAD

Question of Precedence is Decided by Army Officers. An echo of the coronation ceremony which led to so much correspondence on such subjects as diplomatic uniforms, court procedure and matters of precedence in official ceremonies, is found in an opinion just rendered by the attorney-general touching the respective rights of volunteer regular army and navy officers to wear the uniforms of the highest rank which they attained during the rebellion.

MORE RAILROADS FOR CHINA.

American Looks Over Proposed Route from Peking to Hankow. W. W. Rich, of Minneapolis, chief engineer of the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Great Northern railway, has just reached San Francisco from the orient. Mr. Rich has just concluded several months' stay in China, where he has been engaged in making a reconnaissance of the territory lying in the route of the proposed Peking & Hankow railway for the information of the Chinese government.

TWO AMERICAN GIRLS.

Receive Flattering Notice in London Society Paper. Vanity Fair, reviewing the season, congratulates England on its brilliant beauties, which, it says, no other country can rival. It adds that among the American girls Miss Goelet and Miss Jay, the ambassador's daughter, have been most successful because of personal charms and animation of manner.

Menagerie Loose in Paris.

Paris is providing excitement for summer visitors. A tiger was recently found roaming at liberty in the Bois de Meudon; a bear in the Bois de Boulogne; a large snake crawled out of the trunk of the Cour des Comptes, near the chamber of deputies, and a boa constrictor has been captured on the roof of a house near the boulevards.

CLIMATE OF ALASKA.

Chief Moore, of Weather Bureau Issues a Statement. Temperate Weather Experienced on the Coast, While in Interior of the State, Arctic Winters Are Encountered. Under the direction of Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, Chief Moore, of the weather bureau, has made public a statement in regard to the climate of Alaska. In this statement Mr. Moore says: "The climates of the coast and the interior of Alaska are unlike in many respects, and the differences are intensified in this as perhaps in few other countries by extreme physical conditions."

CANADA SHOULD RECIPROCATE.

Her Copyright Law is Unfair to American Citizens. A dispatch has been received by the Canadian government at Ottawa from the British ambassador at Washington, inclosing a note from the American secretary of state protesting against the refusal of the Canadian government to extend Canadian copyright to citizens of the United States.

FINE BUILDINGS PLANNED.

University of California to Become Famous Throughout the World. The University of California is to become one of the famous universities of the world. At any rate, it is to have, if designs are carried out, the finest pile of buildings on the globe, and these brilliant schemes are to be put into effect at once.

DISCOVER A BIG GLACIER.

Prospectors Make an Interesting Discovery Near Mount Lindsay. B. H. Young and Fred J. Church, of Seattle, Wash., have returned from a prospecting and exploring trip into the Cascade Mountains. They discovered a new glacier of enormous size, which they found near Mount Lindsay. The men went into the Olympic country to verify certain geological theories and to look for gold.

VAST COLONIZATION PLAN.

Formation of an Independent Jewish State in Palestine on Foot. A dispatch to the New York World from London says: The representatives of the Baron Hirsch charities here seem to take very seriously the scheme of Dr. Theodor Herzl, of Vienna, for the formation of an independent Jewish state in Palestine. It is said that the Hebrews are organizing in all parts of the world.

CAUSE FLOOR TO SINK.

Heavy Weight of Numerous Office Seekers Damages White House. Some idea of the size of the vast throng of office-seekers that have called upon the president since the 4th of March was conveyed to the visitors at the white house the other day, when they saw a number of workmen lifting up and strengthening the floor of the large lobby just outside the president's office.

His Honesty More Costly.

There are times when it may be doubtful that honesty is the best policy. Five years ago a man named Voight stole a ride on a railroad in California. Recently he has smitten with remorse to such an extent that he sent a written confession to the company, inclosing \$1.50, the being his fare at the rate of three cents a mile, with interest added.

Animals Feign Sickness.

Many animals feign illness. In military stables horses are known to have pretended to be lame in order to avoid going to a military exercise. A certain chimpanzee in the London zoo had been accustomed to receive cake when sick. After his recovery he often feigned coughing in order to procure dainties.

How He Won Fame.

The late Prof. George M. Lane, Harvard's greatest Latin scholar, won more fame by composing a bit of doggerel called "The Lone Fishball" than by anything he ever did as an educator. "The Lone Fishball" has been one of the commonest of college songs for the last 40 years.

Why He Felt Badly.

A Bath (Me.) man explains that he wouldn't have minded so much the recent loss of his wood-pile if the thief hadn't waited until after he had cut and sawed it into stove length.

Parchment for Banjos.

Parchment used on the best banjos is made from wolfskin.

BELUCOSE JAPAN.

Significant Questions She is Asking of Her People Here. Has Sent Out a Document to Promote Business in This Country, Which They Are Requested to Answer at Once. The Los Angeles Times says: While the majority of the people laugh at the idea of Japan going to war with the United States over the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, there is no denying the fact that the mikado and his ministers are making inquiries and seeking information concerning the country which they have never heretofore apparently considered of value.

On the last steamer direct from Japan there came a message to a well-known Japanese in this city in the shape of a circular of interrogations. The document came from the state department of the imperial government, and freely translated is as follows: "You are commanded by the imperial government to carry out at the earliest possible date the following instructions: 'Ascertain how many Japanese are in the county in which you live. Do not take United States census, but ascertain by actual work by yourself.'"

DO A BIG BUSINESS.

Statistics of Building and Loan Associations in United States. The following comparative table shows the number of building and loan associations, their membership and assets for the years 1893-6 and 1896-7. The figures being compiled from the official state reports, and such states given in detail whose laws require returns made by building and loan associations to some state department:

Table with columns: State, No. of Associations, Membership, Assets. Lists data for various states including Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, etc.

SIGNALING FROM MT. TACOMA.

Red Light Visible Sixty Miles Away in Tacoma, Wash. A beautiful spectacle, never witnessed before, was the signal lights in the Club of Mountain Climbers, known as the Mazama in Tacoma, Wash., from the snow-capped summit of Mount Tacoma, 60 miles away. The night was clear and favorable and for an hour before the flash appeared thousands of eyes and hundreds of field glasses were trained on the mountain, searching for the signal. At length a large red light, apparently like a ball of fire, over a foot in diameter, appeared, burning steadily for nearly five minutes. It was distinctly visible to the naked eye.

A Much-Married Negro.

During slavery days one Grant Renfro, a negro, married according to slave custom. After the war he left his wife and married another woman. Eventually he married four others, three of whom are dead. Renfro, who has just died, left a good deal of property to the fifth wife and her children. The first wife recently disputed the will, and she has been upheld by Judge Burris, of Kansas, who has decided that slave marriages were lawful.

Fancy American Rifles.

A dispatch from Odessa says that the Russian authorities greatly fancy the American rifles, and have ordered, or are about to order, 50,000, following a sample which has an unusually heavy stock and a shorter barrel than the ordinary.

Growth of Postal Service.

In the reign of Charles I. the British postal service carried 1,500,000 letters annually, in the reign of George II., 8,000,000, and in 1894 as many as 2,900,000,000.

Paupers in Copenhagen.

Not less than 5,000 paupers in Copenhagen are at present supported by public provision.

CLAYTON-BULWER PACT.

Its Bearing on Annexation of Hawaii Raised in England. Likely That the Senate Committee Will Recommend to Congress That It Be Abrogated by This Country. Public men in Washington were generally surprised when the announcement was made in the cable dispatches a few days ago that the question of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty had been raised in the British parliament in connection with the proposal to annex the Hawaiian Islands to the United States, and also were consequently prepared for the response of the British government that the one question was not involved in the other. The matter is regarded here with all the greater interest because both subjects, the validity of the treaty and the annexation of Hawaii, are under consideration by the American congress, and both in all probability will receive attention during the next session.

It is understood that a majority of the members of the committee consider that England has by repeated acts in Central America nullified the treaty. There is also a large element in the senate which regards the treaty as obnoxious to the Monroe doctrine. Others look upon it as liable in an indirect way to have, through its reference to the Nicaragua canal, a bearing upon the Hawaiian question. Those of this class do not admit that there is the remotest reference to Hawaii in the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, but they claim that Hawaii and the proposed Isthmian canal, to which the treaty has special reference, are so closely related as to render the future bearing of this treaty upon the Hawaiian problem a matter of interest. It is understood that the committee will be prepared to report soon after the convening of congress next December. One of the points of doubt on the part of the committee is how the treaty is regarded by the British government. It appears that while England has generally acted in Central American affairs as if she had no treaty, the English authorities have never given expression to any official sentiment as to the status of the agreement made between Secretary Clayton and Sir Lytton Bulwer.

YELLOW FEVER GERM.

Views of Prof. Sanarelli on His Own Discovery. Surgeon General W. C. Wood of the Marine Hospital service has translated the account written by Dr. Sanarelli, of Mexico, of a very curious case of what he claims to be a new form of yellow fever, and which he calls "yellow fever germ." He says that the disease covered in the second case of the doctor, and in the case of the patient making sure of results, found a yellow fever germ. The patient died, which he holds to be responsible for yellow fever, Dr. Sanarelli says, is found in the blood or tissues and not in the gastro-intestinal cavity. He says the fact, however, that in yellow fever as in typhoid the digestive tract is the seat of abundant bacilli, but he does not associate these with the real yellow fever microbe. He concludes therefore that the virus of yellow fever does not reside in the intestinal tube. "And that its toxin instead of being absorbed by the intestinal walls is elaborated in the interior of the organs and in the blood."

HAS VALUABLE SPECIMENS.

Return of the Smithsonian Institute Scientific Expedition. The schooner Wahlberg, which sailed from San Diego, Cal., on March 3 on a scientific expedition for the Smithsonian institute and Stanford university, arrived at that port the other day. The Wahlberg brings back five tons of rare deep sea shells, four barrels of deep sea fish and many beautiful marine specimens.

Triumph of American Farmer.

Found That Excellent Flax Straw Can Be Grown Here. Secretary Wilson has received a report from a firm at Lisburn, Ireland, on some retting and scouring experiments conducted by them in Ireland with a ton of flax straw grown in the Puget sound region of Washington under the direction of the agricultural department in its experiments in 1895. These cultural experiments developed the fact that for flax culture the Puget sound region is the equal in climate of some of the best flax producing regions of Europe. Attention is called to the low rate of seeding, 1 1/2 to 2 bushels per acre, and to the fact that 14 bushels of seed per acre was produced. It is asserted that the experiment proves that farmers of this country can grow seed and fiber in the same plant.

Device to Tell the Time.

The following clever device is the way in which the natives of Liberia, in West Africa, who have no clocks, tell the time. They take the kernels from the nuts of the candle tree and wash and string them on the rib of a palm leaf. The first or top kernel is then lighted. All of the kernels are of the same size and substance, and each will burn a certain number of minutes and then set fire to the one next below.

A Healthy Pince.

Greater Glasgow, with a population of 853,000, has only 494 medical men, or one doctor to 1,726 of the population.