

OUR TRADE OUTLOOK

That with South Africa Has Untold Possibilities.

One of its Obvious Features is the Foothold Already Gained by United States Goods.

A special to the New York Tribune from Washington says: Not only is it true, as asserted by Consul-General Stowe in his long report to the state department on the imports into South Africa, made from Cape Town, that trade in that region has untold possibilities, and that one of its obvious features at present is the foothold gained by United States goods, but it is also true that the trade of this country with the British and Dutch communities of southern Africa tends to weld together in a common brotherhood the peoples who are interested in the trade and strengthen the bonds that bind them in sentiment. These are the world's freest and possiblly happiest communities. It is therefore a matter of deep interest to the lover of free government on the original Teutonic model, as well as to the enterprising tradesman and manufacturer, that the commerce of this republic with South Africa is largely on the increase and has already reached a highly respectable stage of development.

The trade of the United States is mainly in foodstuffs. Among the articles mentioned as having held their own in the last year are electrical goods and appliances, steel and iron, galvanized iron, tools, hoes, forks, hardware, silver-plated ware, furniture and window glass. An improved demand for drilling and hoisting machinery and oil gas engines is noted. England, it is stated, sent more goods in 1897 than ever before. English shipper urge that they are not on the same footing with Americans and Germans. They hope that preferential rates to American shippers will be withdrawn.

The imports into South Africa aggregated last year \$129,150,126, of which Cape Colony took \$87,148,927.

This trade came from the following countries: Great Britain and possessions, \$38,670,322; United States, \$13,151,071; Germany, \$12,122,738; other competing countries, \$15,745,291; foreign countries not competitive, \$6,460,666.

The United States, the great silver-producing country, sent only about \$10,000 worth of silver-plated ware, to Great Britain's nearly \$15,000. It is pretty much the same way as to manufactured tobacco, and worse as to whisky, by comparison with the United Kingdom.

The total imports of Cape Colony for 1897 were \$31,244,492; for 1898, \$7,767,748. The exports were, respectively, \$28,441,549 and \$37,664,875.

EYESIGHT IMPROVING.

Another Test Shows That the New York Blind Millionaire's Substitute Will Ultimately Recover.

The sight of John F. Martin, of New York grows better and stronger. He sees more things and smaller things, and he is sure that within a few weeks his sight will be fully restored.

A month ago Martin, the blind substitute for millionaire Charles Broadhead Rous, began to recover from blindness. Another long and satisfactory test was given at 215 West Forty-fifth street in the presence of several physicians and newspaper men. Tests were made by those who saw Martin two years ago, when he could barely distinguish light from darkness, and who saw him again four weeks ago. They were amazed at his progress toward recovery.

Martin sat in a room at Mr. Cassidy's house until asked to step to a window. He leaped briskly from his chair and walked around the table between several chairs and stood before a light that was bad, for the sky was dark and cloudy.

Four weeks ago Martin described the dress and general appearance of a man a foot away. On the day of the last test he stood four feet off and gave a much more minute description than could give at the former test.

Martin stood four feet away from James F. Hyde, the theatrical manager, and called attention to a white button an inch in width, which was in the lapel of Mr. Hyde's coat.

DEVOTED TO MISS GOELET.

Lord Herbert Scott, Son of Duke of Buccleuch, Aspires to Hand of New York Heiress.

Lord Herbert Scott, son of the duke of Buccleuch, is paying devoted attention to Miss May Goelot at Homburg. He is a young man, is trying hard to raise a mustache, and looks diminutive beside his big, older companion, Ivor Guest.

All the Goelots and all the Buccleuchs are at Homburg. The young people met last May while crossing on the Lusitania. Lord Herbert's devotion began with a rush in mid-ocean and has never wavered. His father is one of the richest dukes in England, but Herbert is the fourth son, and stands no chance for the title.

Despite this affair, which appears quite mutual, the latest gossip says Miss Goelot will eventually marry Prince Francis of Teck.

SUGAR TO PREVENT EXHAUSTION.

A little sugar taken with water, not too cold, in case food is not obtainable, will relieve any feeling of exhaustion and sharp hunger.

First Prince of Wales' Grandfather. No previous prince of Wales has been a grandfather.

DENIES SON WILL WED.

Ex-Mayor Strong, of New York City, Says No Engagement Exists with Princess Kaiulani.

A report has reached New York city from Honolulu saying that Capt. P. Bradley Strong, son of former Mayor Strong, who is now with one of the expeditions to Manila for the relief of Admiral Dewey, was so attentive to Miss Kaiulani Cleghorn, better known as Princess Kaiulani, that there was talk that they were engaged. Capt. Strong went out driving, attended the princess' afternoon tea and walked with her constantly. He expressed regret when he started to board the transport bound for our new possessions among the South Sea islands that he could not remain longer in the land of the Kanakas.

From all these incidents arose the rumor and much talk about the supposed engagement of the captain to the 24-year-old descendant of Kamaha the Great and daughter of former Governor-General Cleghorn. The governor-general was a Scotchman. He married the sister of Queen Liliuokalani. The princess was educated in England and speaks French, Spanish and German fluently.

When former Mayor Strong was seen at Seabright he said that he had heard nothing of the report.

"There's not a word of truth in it," he declared. "It may have arisen from the fact that my son was at one time a pupil with the princess in my term as mayor. We often plagued the boy about her."

FARM FOR POOR BOYS.

Grover Cleveland Offers His Land at Princeton, N. J., to Carry Out a Professor's Project.

Grover Cleveland's farm school for poor boys at Princeton, N. J., has started with two boys, and hundreds have written to John Henry Vroom, the Princeton graduate who originated the plan.

ACCUSED OF GRAVE OFFENSE.

German Explorer, It Is Said, Acted as Judge in China and Freed 13 Murderers of Missionaries.

Herr Eugen S. Wolff, the well-known German explorer, who has just returned to Berlin from China, where he acted as the correspondent of the Tageblatt, is being prosecuted upon a charge of having, without authority, assumed the role of judge and with having liberated 13 Chinese murderers of German missionaries.

According to the evidence of Bishop Anzer, on which the prosecution is based, Herr Wolff, having heard of the trial, appeared in court with a dog named Schuster. Four vacant chairs stood in the hall in which the trial was to be held. Wolff seated himself in the most imposing of these, saying: "I'll take the highest, and you, Herr Schuster (addressing the dog), will take the second highest to my right."

Then he ordered the clerk of the court into the next chair on his right, and lastly, with a gesture, bade the wandering mandarin to take the fourth and lowest chair.

The mandarin questioned Wolff's authority, whereupon the latter drew a roll of papers from his pocket and flourished it as his authority; and the prisoners being introduced and declaring their innocence, Herr Wolff solemnly acquitted them and declared the proceedings ended. He then saluted his horse and departed.

RAILROAD FIGURES.

Extracts from the Report of Interstate Commerce Commission.

Total Railway Mileage is 184,425—Number of Employees 832,475—Passengers Carried Numbered 450,445,198 for the Year

From summaries which will appear in the tenth statistical report from the interstate commerce commission, prepared by its statistician, the following advance figures are obtained:

On June 30, 1897, there were 128 roads in the hands of receivers.

The total railway mileage of the United States was 184,425 miles, there being an increase of 1,651 miles, or .90 per cent. during the year.

Ninety-five per cent. of the railway mileage of the country is laid with steel rails. The total number of locomotives in service was 35,986, an increase of 36 for the year. The number of passenger cars was 35,626, and of freight cars, 1,221,760.

The total rail mileage of the railroads of the United States on June 30, 1897, as reported, was 92,475. These figures, assigned on the mileage basis, show that 449 men were employed for 100 miles of line. The corresponding figures for the year 1896 were slightly larger.

On June 30, 1897, the amount of wages and salaries paid was \$45,601,381. This amount represents 61.57 per cent. of the total operating expenses of railways, or \$2.50 per mile of line. The total compensation for 1896 was \$32,227,000 greatest.

The number of passengers carried during the year was 450,445,198, a decrease of 22,377,539.

The number of tons of freight carried, was 741,706,946, which is 24,185,430 less than for 1896.

The total number of casualties to persons on account of railway accidents for the year ending June 30, 1897, was 43,168. Of these casualties 6,432 resulted in death and 36,731 in injuries of varying character. Of railway employees, 1,659 were killed and 27,760 were injured during the year.

From summaries showing the rate of compensation, appears that one out of every 480 employees is killed, and one out of every 30 employees was injured during the year. One passenger was killed for every 2,294,709 carried, and one injured for every 175,115 carried.

From the statistics of the Bureau of Labor, the number of tons of freight carried, was 741,706,946, which is 24,185,430 less than for 1896.

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Mr. Cleveland was so impressed by Mr. Vroom's earnestness that he gave him the use of his 65-acre farm at Princeton, and neighbors have added land until it approximates 100 acres.

The publication of the story has brought a big pile of letters to Mr. Vroom, bearing postmarks of towns and villages from Maine to Texas. The boys are eager. The only question is: Who will assist in establishing the farm?

Mr. Vroom said that the idea was not to take children from the slums, simply because they were there, but to offer farm advantages and a thorough English education to deserving boys whenever found.

"Every boy will be self-supporting," said Mr. Vroom to a reporter. "An acre of ground will be given each, on which we can raise chickens, vegetables, violets or roses, whatever the considerables best paying."

Agencies to pick boys will be established in New York, Philadelphia and the principal cities of the United States.

BOY LEADS LABOR STRIKE.

Fourteen-Year-Old Samuel Gladstone Directing a Fight for Shorter Hours and Increased Pay.

Samuel Gladstone, 14 years old, is a labor leader. He organized the Boys' Children's Jacketmakers' union, which is a branch of the Federated Hebrew trades of New York city, and he ordered the 75 members of the union to strike. He did this all by himself. Here is his statement of what the boy strikers are fighting for:

"The boys are fighting the contractors. The contractors refuse to give the boys working day of nine hours, and now we are fighting the contractors tooth and nail. We also want an increase of wages of 20 percent."

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