

REFORMS IN GUAM.

Efforts of Capt. O'Leary, Governor of Island, to Better Conditions.

Commands That People Must Marry and Offers Free License and Ceremony—Trying to Get Natives to Take Up Agriculture.

Capt. R. P. Leary, governor of Guam, has officially sustained the rumors in regard to the scarcity of food on the island. He has also presented serious charges against the friars, and gives an account of his plan for lessening the immorality on the island. He says there is a great deal of work to be done on the island, but there is a scarcity of labor. It is necessary to transport building and other material from the coast to Agaña, the headquarters, a distance of six miles, by hand. Intelligent workmen are at a premium. There are enough enlisted men for all the demands likely to be made upon them, but he needs more officers to supervise the work and bring the inhabitants up to a standard of civilization and morality.

He submits an order he issued which had for its purpose the breaking down of the general system of free love which obtained on the island. He prohibited the free system of living and announced that until November 4 the authorities would grant marriage licenses without charge and conduct civil ceremonies gratuitously. Capt. Leary adds that there was a rush by the natives to abide by the new order. These and other conditions which taxed the patience of the officials have improved greatly, says Capt. Leary, since the departure of the friars.

Great efforts have been made also to induce the inhabitants to take up agriculture. It will take some time to educate the natives up to the understanding that they must sustain themselves by their own efforts. This can only be done, evidently, by requiring certain labor, and Capt. Leary has started in to accomplish that end. He expects to have the inhabitants raise their own vegetables. One of his orders is that each grown male shall own 12 hens and one sow.

The report has attracted much attention in the navy department on account of the social peculiarities which it disclosed, as well as the evidence it afforded of the poverty of the island as regards the productive capacity of the inhabitants. The report will probably not be made public in full.

COSTLY WHITE HOUSE FENCE.

Iron Structure About the Grounds Has Been Painted Every Year for the Past Fifty Years.

People going past the white house have noticed that the fence is receiving a coat of paint, and many a curious person has stopped to talk with the workmen about it. This fence is a high iron structure which was built around the grounds more than 50 years ago. Every year it receives the same treatment, and is in a good state of preservation. The process of grooming in this case consists of scraping and the application of a coat of paint. The laborers are employed by the day, and, as is customary in such cases, they take a stroke, stop and answer questions, look up and down the street to see whether there is a car coming or going, and so pass away the time. In this way the process of painting the fence becomes a lengthy one. It is estimated that it costs the government \$200 yearly to paint this barrier, as it is something over a mile around the white house lot, and as this same process has been gone through with year after year for half a century this simple looking fence represents a great many good American dollars.

DANCES FOR FURNITURE.

How a Bride of New Brunswick, N. J., Succeeded in Raising Money to Furnish Her Home.

A bride and bridegroom at New Brunswick, N. J., invented a plan to furnish their home free of expense to themselves. Annie Rubrich was the bride and Michael Ponce her husband. After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of Conrad Haberman, in Nelson street. One gallant asked Mrs. Annie to join him in the waltz. Then she coyly said: "You see, Michael and I have no money to furnish our home. All we had saved up was spent on the first month's rent and on this party. It will cost you one dollar to dance with me, but isn't it worth it?"

The guest had to say that it was and had to produce the dollar. The dance was a short one. After it was over there were many others anxious to buy a dollar's worth of dancing. The husband himself did not have a dollar, and the hat was passed so he could dance with his wife.

IN AID OF EXPORTS.

Strasbourg Merchants Want United States Consulates Established in Alsace-Lorraine.

The chambers of commerce of Strasbourg, capital of Alsace, and Metz, capital of Lorraine, have petitioned the imperial government for the establishment of American consulates in Alsace-Lorraine, on account of the growing export trade to the United States. Since the territory ceded by France at the end of the Franco-Prussian war was incorporated in the reichland no nation has been permitted to establish a consulate within its boundaries.

South African Social Affairs. The ladies of Kimberley, says the Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph, are no doubt giving bombardment porch parties and bombardment teas.

STARVES VALUABLE DOG.

Man Hired to Care for Canine Eats the Food That Was Intended for the Big Animal.

The death of Ponto, an intelligent St. Bernard dog of good pedigree, belonging to Frank P. Marsh, of New York, which occurred in March, resulted Tuesday in the arraignment in the Greenwich (Conn.) borough court of his caretaker, Jesse Terreyer, on a charge of willful neglect of the dog. He pleaded guilty to starving the animal, having eaten the food which Mr. Marsh bought for Ponto.

"Don't sentence him to jail, judge," Mr. Marsh said, "for it might break the hearts of his mother and sweetheart. The dog's death has already resulted in the breaking of my wife's and my heart."

Judge Barnes heeded the request and suspended sentence.

Mr. Marsh lives at the Hotel Bayard, Broadway and Fifty-fourth street, New York. Having no children, he and his wife were greatly attached to the St. Bernard, and on departing for the city from their country home in Connecticut last fall left Ponto in charge of Terreyer. Instructions were to feed him two pounds of beef, a quart of milk, and other articles of food each day.

Terreyer, instead of feeding the food to Ponto, appropriated it to himself. The dog was found dead, and an autopsy revealed not a particle of food in the stomach.

PROSPECTIVE SOCIAL EVENTS.

Washington Preparing for a Winter Season of Unusual Brilliance and Gayety.

No more receptions will be given at the white house until the regular January functions. It is usual for the third year of any administration to be the great social epoch, and this season promises much in that line. Every room and apartment in all the most desirable houses have been secured, and people who intend wintering in Washington and have not had the foresight to secure proper housing will have to be satisfied with whatever can be procured.

At the white house the presence of the debutantes, Miss McKinley and Miss Barber, will make that dwelling the center of the most brilliant social features. The date of their coming out has not been definitely decided as yet. Several weddings will add to the general brilliancy of affairs. Miss Miles, daughter of the general, will be married on January 29, while Miss Lillian Pauncefoot, daughter of the English ambassador, will become a bride on February 22. There is a possibility of a wedding at the Russian embassy this winter, as rumor has it that Mlle. Marguerite Cassini is about to become the bride of the Russian minister to Corea, but this latter statement, although not denied, has not been authorized.

CANADA'S TRADE.

The United States Exceeds Great Britain in the Sending of Imports There.

Supporters of the Laurier government are not at all pleased with official trade returns which have been made public by the department of customs. The figures show that notwithstanding the British preference of 25 per cent. trade with the United Kingdom is not increasing in the manner hoped for, while with the United States it is developing by leaps and bounds. Canada's total imports last year were valued at \$152,000,000, of which \$91,000,000 came from the United States and \$37,000,000 from Great Britain.

It is worthy of note, also, that Canada's imports from the United Kingdom only \$10,000,000 worth came in duty free, while from the United States \$48,000,000 were free. Since the British preference went into effect three years ago the imports from the United States have risen from \$59,000,000 to \$91,000,000, while from the United Kingdom in the same period the increase has been only from \$33,000,000 to \$37,000,000.

The exports for last year were valued at \$159,000,000, of which \$99,000,000 went to Great Britain and \$36,000,000 to the United States.

FAMOUS WARWICK FARM.

Spot Where Revolutionary Cannon Were Cast Has Been Sold—Furnace Put in Blast in 1790.

The famous Warwick farm of 515 acres in Warwick township, Chester county, Pa., has been sold for \$12,000. On this property, the old Warwick furnace, probably the first to make iron in the United States, was put into blast about the year 1730, and here many of the cannon used by the patriot army in the revolution were cast. In the meadows pieces of ordnance lie buried, having been thus secreted to prevent them from falling into the hands of the British after the battle of Brandywine, in 1777, when Gen. Washington and his army were retreating northward through Chester county, leaving the furnace exposed to the mercy of the enemy.

Women Freemasons in France.

French women have the privilege of being enrolled as Freemasons, and, indeed, if they choose, they can join a lodge open to both sexes, which has for grand mistress a lady named Mme. George Martin. The mixed lodge is only six years old, and already numbers 200 members, two-thirds of these being women. Perhaps one inducement for French women to become Freemasons is that they are entitled to wear the same gay insignia, although their alleged reason is that it prevents husband and wife from drifting apart.

USED CURVED PLATES

Successful Experiments Made in Astronomical Photography.

Likely to Revolutionize This Branch of the Science—First Used in Photographing the Meteors at Allegheny Observatory.

Announcement has been made that experiments which will revolutionize astronomical photography and which resulted in securing good photos of the Leonids were made in Pittsburgh during the flight of the meteors. Notwithstanding the disappointment of astronomers over the small number of Leonids seen and the cloudy nights which obscured the views of the local observers, six excellent photographs were secured by Profs. John A. Brashear and F. L. O. Wadsworth. They were taken on a curved plate, which had been made especially for the purpose.

Of the six views three have been developed, and the photographs when completed will furnish some interesting data which astronomers have long been trying to secure. The photographs were taken from the Allegheny (Pa.) observatory and from a special station which had been erected on Green Hill. The latter point is one of the highest elevations in Allegheny county. Prof. Brashear said:

"While the night was very bad for photographic purposes, the pictures of stars which I obtained were the best I have ever seen. We covered ten times the area that was possible with the ordinary plates, and the pictures of stars are well defined, and continue so clear to the edges of the plates, a condition which it was formerly impossible to obtain. In the plates developed the field covered was 900 square miles, while formerly 90 miles were all that could be included."

EXPORTS TO CHINA.

Increased Trade Between This Country and the Celestial Kingdom Indicated by Reliable Figures.

American products seem to be gaining more rapidly in favor in China than those of any other nation. The annual report of the inspector general of customs of China, covering the year 1898, shows an increase of nearly 40 per cent. in imports into China from the United States, while the increase in the total imports is less than five per cent. Imports into China from the United States in 1898 were 17,163,312 taels, against 12,440,302 in 1897, an increase of 4,723,010 taels, while those from Great Britain, our most active rival in oriental trade, fell from 40,015,587 taels in 1897 to 34,962,474 in 1898, while from the continent of Europe the 1898 imports also showed a slight reduction, being 10,852,738 taels, against 11,800,974.

The imports into China from Hong-Kong are largely of European origin, and amounted in 1898 to 97,314,017 taels, against 90,225,587 in 1897. Assuming that all of the imports into China from Hong-Kong and Macao are of European origin, and combining them with those from Great Britain and the continent of Europe, the total imports into China in 1898 of 146,376,046 taels, against 145,547,326 taels for 1897, thus showing a gain in European products imported into China in 1898 of less than one per cent., while those from the United States already indicated show a gain of nearly 40 per cent.

BIG YEAR FOR PATENTS.

The Issue of the Official Gazette Proves the Most Remarkable Number Yet Issued.

The last issue of the Official Gazette of the patent office at Washington will be one of the most remarkable numbers in the history of that government publication. It will contain 535 patents proper, one of the largest in the records of the office. Fifty-nine patents in one line of invention will be issued, granted upon the application of one inventor. The amount of matter to be handled by the printer was immense and necessitated large details of extra men and overtime. The 59 patents referred to contain 1,593 long claims which, with the claims of the patents and drawings, run up the illustrated pages of the Official Gazette to the unprecedented number of 322.

What Man Owes to Birds. The people of this country are beginning to have some appreciation of birds, says the Indianapolis Sentinel, but they are not fully aware of their value. A French naturalist asserts that if the world should become birdless man would not inhabit it after nine years, in spite of all the sprays and poisons that could be manufactured for the destruction of insects. The bugs and slugs would simply eat up our orchards and crops.

Russell Sage Gives Advice. Uncle Russell Sage gives this advice: "The best way for a young man to begin who is without friends or influence, is, first, by getting a position; second, keeping his mouth shut; third, observing; fourth, being faithful; fifth, making his employer think he would be lost in a fog without him, and, sixth, being polite."

Hill-Climbing Bicycle Competitions. A curious feature of cycling, which seems to be confined practically to the northern midlands of Great Britain, is the hill-climbing competition.

Rapid Methodist Extension Work. The Methodist Church Extension society has furnished aid to build churches at the rate of two a day for several years.

STRICKEN BLIND IN A TRAIN.

Strange and Distressing Affliction Suddenly Comes Upon a Traveling Salesman.

Richard R. Lippincott, a traveling salesman for a wholesale grocery house of Philadelphia, was suddenly stricken with total blindness while on a train of the Central Railroad of New Jersey from Lakewood the other morning. He was led from the train at Freehold, N. J., where a physician, after an examination, could give no relief. He was later taken to Philadelphia for treatment by a specialist.

While in apparently perfect health and without pain or inflammation of the eyes, Mr. Lippincott was suddenly deprived of his sight. He leisurely read a newspaper as the train drew out of Lakewood. He was seated in the rear of the smoking-car. The train was moving at full speed and all the windows were closed when men near him heard Mr. Lippincott give a sharp cry. Turning they saw him arise confusedly from his seat, with his arms stretched out before him. Passengers in the car thought he had become insane and ran to seize him. Protesting, he told the men who had gathered about him that he could not see anything.

"I've been stricken blind," he said, with an agonizing cry.

Men in the car hastily pulled down the window shades. They poured cold water over Lippincott's face. But although he suffered no pain their efforts could not make him see again. Dr. Meiffie made a thorough examination of Mr. Lippincott's eyes and finally declared he could not understand the blindness. He advised him to take the first train to Philadelphia and there consult a specialist.

WOMAN SHOWS HER PLUCK.

English Postmistress at Ladysgrey Defies the Boers and Pulls Down Their Flag.

The following dispatch from its special correspondent is published by the London Daily Mail: "Cape Town, Nov. 19.—A superb instance of woman's pluck is reported from Ladysgrey, the chief town of the native reserve near the Free State border. When the Boers entered the town they went to the post office with the intention of taking possession of it. They were met by the postmistress, an English woman, who not only declined to turn over the post office to them, but ordered them off the premises.

"The Boers were nonplussed by the lady's determined manner, but went outside and hoisted the Free State flag. The postmistress pulled it down and ran up the union jack again.

"The Boers stuck up a proclamation annexing the district. The postmistress tore it up and put up the governor's proclamation against treason. The Boers finally retired.

"The last accounts from Ladysgrey state that the heroic woman is still in possession of the post office."

A GIRL DOCTOR.

Niece of Chauncey M. Depew, Young and Pretty, Wins a Diploma from Woman's College.

The niece of Senator Chauncey M. Depew, Miss Elise H. Depew Strong, who recently was graduated from the Woman's Medical College of New York Infirmary for Women and Children with an M. D. degree, would scarcely be singled out as a physician. She is slight, girlish and pretty, and is suited, one would think, more for the lighter duties of her sex than for the trying career she has chosen. She inherited her taste for medicine from her father, Dr. Albert Strong, who was a successful physician of Westchester county.

To a reporter at her home in Poughkeepsie she said:

"The severe college course forces one to be almost a recluse, a student, and nothing else until the four years are over. But the satisfaction of receiving a diploma pays for it all."

CHILDREN STOP A DIVORCE.

Their Pathetic Pleading Reconciles William Miller and His Wife at Toledo, O.

The sensational divorce suit of William Miller, a prominent oil producer, came to an unexpected ending in court at Toledo, O., the other day. Miller had filed sensational charges against his wife. Alimony had been arranged and the two children, a little boy and little girl, were left to choose with which parent each would go. The little ones pleaded so earnestly for both that the parents became reconciled and the case was dropped, after it had been practically settled that a decree would be given.

"Green Grows the Rushes, Oh." When the Americans went to war with Mexico a melody, every verse of which ended with "green grows the rushes, oh," was very popular. It pleased almost everybody's fancy and was sung by old and young. While in camp the soldiers would sing it contentedly and all the Mexicans could hear was "Green grows the rushes, oh." They immediately began to call the American soldiers by the first two words, as it sounded to them: "Gringos." They made it into one word, by which they will ever know the Americans—"Gringo."

Palace Room for 40,000 Men. The most curious palace in the world is the Alhambra, in Spain. It was originally a fortress, so great in extent as to be capable of holding 40,000 men. It was begun in 1248 and finished in 1314. It contains numerous halls and courts, all decorated in the highest style of art.

Mormons Work in the South. Mormons announce that 551 elders are laboring in the south.

GYPSY KING IS DEAD.

Strange Ceremonies Mark the Passing of Seth Lovell.

All His Belongings (Costly Wagons, Harness, Clothes, Lines and Ornaments) Burned and His Arabian Horses Killed.

The king of gypsies in this country passed away with the death of old Seth Lovell at Sharp's hotel, Forty-eighth and Market streets, Philadelphia. All of his belongings—wagons, harness, clothes, linen and ornaments, some rare, some beautiful—all valuable, were heaped together in a huge pile on the lot back of the hotel, well saturated with oil and set on fire. The seven wagons thus destroyed were worth over \$500 each. They were miniature dwellings, and were fitted up with the most exquisite furnishings imaginable. Lovell and his tribe had made four trips around the world. The old man—he claimed to be nearly 100 years of age, although he scarcely looked over 65 or 70—always carried large sums of money with him, and the jewelry worn by Queen Lovell, a woman of some 70 years, is not only valuable, but remarkably beautiful. The Arabian horses which drew the regal van of the Lovells were led to the side of the burning pile and deliberately killed by Ronald Kaye, who seemed to be conducting the weird ceremonies under the personal direction of Queen Lovell, who would not leave the spot until the last thing owned or used by her departed lord had been given to the flames.

As the fire died and the great crowd passed from the scene the old woman and the members of her tribe wrapped themselves in their blankets, and, stretching out to sleep with their feet close to the charred remains of all that belonged to their dead king, Queen Lovell refused to say anything concerning the singular performance beyond the single expression: "Tis our way." She has ordered a new outfit of wagons and four new horses will be secured for her van, and as soon as they are ready the tribe will leave Philadelphia and never appear there again under any circumstances.

The burial of King Lovell was a simple affair. The tribe assembled about the grave and chanted several unintelligible odes and left the place before even the first spadeful of earth had been thrown into the grave. The period of mourning for the king will cover one year.

LA FAYETTE DOLLARS.

United States Mint at Philadelphia is Soon to Start on a Memorial Coin.

The La Fayette memorial commission has announced that the United States mint at Philadelphia would soon begin striking the La Fayette dollar authorized by congress in aid of the monument. The coin, a legal tender, will bear upon its face in relief a double medallion of the heads of Washington and La Fayette, and upon its reverse a miniature reproduction of the equestrian statue of La Fayette, to be used on the monument. The number is limited to one for each 1,500 of the population of the country. The first coin struck of the \$0.000 will be presented by the president of the United States to the president of the French republic. As the La Fayette dollar will be a desirable souvenir and memento of the children's monument to the "Knight of Liberty," the commission has fixed the price at two dollars. The dies are finished and a specimen coin has been sent to Washington.

A NEW PRESERVATIVE.

Process Said to Keep Meats and Fruits, Vegetables and Eggs Fresh for Months.

A valuable secret process for the preservation of fresh meats, fruits, vegetables and eggs is said to have been left under seal to her son and daughter by Dr. Isabel Mitchell, who died recently at the Philadelphia hospital, a victim of paralysis.

Since Dr. Mitchell's death her son, H. B. Mitchell, has taken steps to put the preservative process into operation. The process is in the nature of a disinfectant. It is said that no germ can live where this is present. Mr. Mitchell thinks that in time it will be used entirely where fruits are to be shipped from one country to another and that it will do away with the necessity of shipping unripe fruit. Eggs six weeks old are said to be as good when treated with this process as those freshly laid.

IRON FURNITURE.

First Step Towards Doing Away with All Possible Inflammable Material in Warships.

The United States cruiser Atlanta, now fitting out at the navy yard, will be equipped with iron furniture throughout. A consignment of beds and chairs is expected at the yard in a day or two. This is a part of the navy department's plan to put iron furniture in all the ships. During the Spanish war all movable wooden furniture was left on shore or thrown overboard to lessen the danger from fire. There was, however, enough inflammable material left on the ships to make a dangerous blaze in case our vessels had been raked with the enemy's fire.

Paper Made of Seaweed.

A kind of paper is made from seaweed which is so transparent that it may be used instead of glass for windows.

Missed His Vacation.

What a magnificent district messenger boy Aguinold would have made! exclaims the Louisville Post.

THE NAVAL PROGRAMME.

If Adopted by Congress as Proposed by Secretary Long It Will Cost the Government \$25,000,000.

Secretary Long's naval programme will cost the government \$25,000,000 if adopted by congress. The most conservative estimate by judicious naval experts placed the total cost of the 18 ships which will be recommended by Secretary Long in his annual report at that figure.

The scheme embraces 12 900-ton gunboats, three 13,000-ton armored cruisers of the improved Brooklyn type, and three 8,000-ton protected cruisers of the improved Olympia class. The cost of the small gunboats is placed at \$275,000 each, that of the armored cruisers at \$4,500,000, and that of the protected cruisers at \$3,000,000.

The small gunboats are in the nature of a compromise between the heavier type of 1,000-ton and the smaller of 800-ton, which were suggested for duty in Philippine waters. There are experts who still contend the situation will be more completely met by building gunboats of 300 or 400 tons displacement, such as were used by the Spaniards and as represented in the captured gunboats at Manila. The difficulty would be in getting vessels of that size out to the Asiatic station, but they could be easily transported in sections.

The block in the way of legislation for naval ships is the great expense to which the government will be put in keeping up repairs on ships in commission and in meeting contract obligations of ships under construction. The latter item amounts this year to \$18,000,000.

Another difficulty in getting heavy ships built is that only three concerns in the country possess the requisite plant for such work, and those firms are busy beyond present capacities. The steel producers also have all the orders they can fill, and the delays on ships of war are increasing daily owing to the failure of the steel people to deliver material.

The navy department does not expect the recommendations to be adopted by congress, but the suggestions for future construction will be made, with special arguments in favor of building the gunboats, one of the advocates for which is Admiral Dewey.

INDIAN RELICS.

The Collection in the Possession of Gen. Miles is Most Complete and Interesting.

In what Gen. Miles calls his gallery, but which is known to the neighborhood as the "Spite room," is located a veritable museum of Indian relics and Indian art. Some of them recall stirring scenes in the general's career as an Indian fighter, especially a head dress of eagle feathers worn by a chief who fired at the general while in confinement. The head band is marked with a round bullet hole, a token of the unerring aim that carried him to the happy hunting grounds for his treacherous act.

The gun of Joseph, chief of the Nez Perces, which was surrendered to the general at the time of the arrest of his band and their deportation to the government reservation at Fort Leavenworth, forms the center of a rack of rifles. There are many other relics of this tribe, and all recall the pathetic taking off of numbers of the tribe—so savage, yet so civilized in the art of enduring their encampment in the unhealthful river bottoms of the Missouri. The bow and quiver of Geronimo show the uncivilized mode of warfare the general encountered. The rest of the collection is rich in buffalo and elk heads and the prepared and decorated skins of wild animals, the collection of blankets representing nearly every tribe of North American Indians. There are Indian pottery, head dresses, scalp, moccasins, shields and arms of all kinds, each telling a story of the general's western career.

THE MAINE DEAD.

It Has Been Decided to Bring Back the Remains of Those Who Perished in Havana Harbor.

It has been decided to bring back the Maine dead from Havana. Orders were issued to the naval authorities at Havana to proceed with the work of exhuming the bodies and preparing them for shipment to the United States. The bodies will be incased in zinc caskets and the transportation will be conducted under the usual sanitary requirements. Congress appropriated \$10,000 for this purpose, but there was some hope arrangements could be made at Havana to retain possession of the plot in the cemetery where the victims of the Maine disaster are buried. It has been recently discovered, however, that there are legal difficulties in the way of acquiring and retaining full possession of this section of ground and there is danger that after five years the bodies would be removed by the cemetery managers. In addition to this it was found there was in the lot one private grave. The place has been properly marked and suitably inclosed. The removal of the bodies must be effected between December 1 and February 1. There will probably be a national observance of the funeral, which will take place at Arlington, Va. The Texas, commanded by Capt. Sigbee, will probably be used for the transportation of the dead to these shores.

Small Coins in Greece.

The smallest coin now current in Europe, and the one having the least value, is the Greek lepton. The lepton is, according to the decimal monetary system, current in all countries belonging to the Latin union. Some idea of this valueless little disc of copper may be gathered from the fact that the lepton is the one-hundredth part of a drachma. The Greek drachma usually passes for the value of 20 cents.