

ONE MILLION A DAY.

Value of Imports of Tropical Products Into United States.

Most of the Articles Are Produced in Greater or Less Degree in the New Island Possessions.

The people of the United States are paying \$1,000,000 a day for tropical products used in manufacturing or food and drink, and most of which are produced in greater or less degree or can be readily produced in the islands which have come into closer relationship with the United States through the events of the past two years.

India rubber, fibers, raw silk, cotton, gums, cabinet woods, indigo, ivory, dye woods and certain lines of chemicals make up the share of this vast sum which the manufacturers of the United States take and require in constantly increasing quantities.

Of the constantly increasing proportion of imports of foodstuffs, sugar, of course, is first, and of that the proportion which comes from the tropics is vastly greater in the past year than in immediately preceding years.

ARMY OF CENSUS EMPLOYEES.

Enumerators Now at Work Number 52,631, Pennsylvania Leading.

The exact number of census enumerators now at work is 52,631. Pennsylvania leads the list, with 4,676; New York comes next, with 4,492.

- Alabama, 1,211; Arizona, 86; Arkansas, 921; California, 1,207; Colorado, 361; Connecticut, 545; Delaware, 103; District of Columbia, 51; Florida, 292; Georgia, 1,233; Idaho, 146; Illinois, 5,343; Indiana, 1,940; Indian Territory, 1,864; Iowa, 1,760; Kansas, 1,397; Kentucky, 1,318; Louisiana, 717; Maine, 456; Maryland, 744; Massachusetts, 1,826; Michigan, 1,799; Minnesota, 1,675; Mississippi, 842; Missouri, 2,262; Montana, 217; Nebraska, 1,067; New Hampshire, 274; New Jersey, 1,107; New Mexico, 179; North Carolina, 1,226; North Dakota, 265; Ohio, 2,908; Oklahoma, 258; Oregon, 371; Rhode Island, 251; South Carolina, 748; South Dakota, 426; Tennessee, 1,492; Texas, 1,806; Utah, 212; Vermont, 295; Virginia, 1,993; Washington, 379; West Virginia, 384; Wisconsin, 1,379; Wyoming, 73.

DOG IN LIEU OF RING.

Daughter of Cincinnati Banker Prefers a Pug, Gets It, and Takes It to the Altar.

One of Cincinnati's society young women preferred a pug dog to a wedding ring. She got it. The girl was Margaret Harrison, daughter of President L. B. Harrison, of the First National bank, while the giver of the dog was Howard Childs, who is now her husband.

Hope for Government Ships.

Nearly all the rope used by the United States navy is manufactured in the government ropewalk at the Charleston navy yard. The plant has just been thoroughly overhauled and electrical motive power has been installed there.

The Hat That Killed.

A man fell dead while looking at his wife's new hat. Most men, says the Chicago Record, are able to stare it out until the bill is presented.

PITH AND POINT.

As a usual thing people who attain well-rounded lives are those who live on the square.—Elliott's Magazine.

Next to knowing when to grasp an opportunity the most important thing is to know when to let go of it.—Chicago Daily News.

She—"Then it's all over between us." He—"Yes. All that remains now is to go back to the ones we were engaged to before."—Life.

Patience—"Did you notice how proud Patrice acted with her new engagement ring?" Patrice—"Yes; she always does act that way when the first gets them."—Yonkers Statesman.

Surely Crazy.—The Jew—"Isaac was all burned out, undt no insurance!" The Gentle—"Drive him crazy, won't it?" The Jew—"He must have been crazy already, before!"—Puck.

Mrs. Newliwed—"Goodness, George, how you do snore at night." Mr. Newliwed—"How do you know?" Mrs. Newliwed—"Why, I heard you." Mr. Newliwed—"My dear, you mustn't believe everything you hear."—Philadelphia Press.

He—"Clara, dear, I have long wanted to ask you a question; but I have not the courage. Can you will you?" She—"I can and I will. Why, George, I ordered my trousseau long ago. I knew that the thing was settled."—Boston Transcript.

Miss Punter—"And you accepted him? Why, you told me only the other day that if he proposed you would refuse him absolutely!" Miss Punter—"Yes, but he proposed in the most beautiful Scotch dialect you ever heard, and I couldn't refuse him."—Puck.

A KENNEBEC HORSE TRADE.

They Both Got Badly Sold But There Was No Grudge on Either Side.

"I met Al Stephens out on the road here a ways," said the Kennebec David Harum. "Al is all the time trying to stick me on a horse trade. We pulled up to one side of the road and got to talkin' hoss."

"What ye got there between the hills?" says Al. "Oh, nothin' much—jest a hunk of crow bait I picked up day before yesterday—nothin' ye'd want to look at, I guess."

"Wal, by gracious, from what I can see from here I like the looks of him pretty well," says Al.

"Don't b'lieve he's anything ye want," says I. "But jest fussed Al up. He thought I really had hold of a good one. So he got out of the sleigh and felt and felt of the critter's legs. While he was doin' that I looked his hoss over. Wal, it ain't necessary to give the conversation that followed, but the upshot of the thing was we shifted."

"The hoss I turned over to Al was the worst blamed balky there was in the whole county of Kennebec. The only way you could drive him was by usin' a special harness—and we didn't let the harness go in that change of hoss flesh."

"After we had shifted the harness and had got hitched up, once more we both got into our sleighs and, wal, we set there lookin' at each other. Neither seemed to be willin' to start. I suspected that I had a bomb in between my shafts, as well as Al."

"Honest, now, Al," says I, "what is the matter with this hoss?" "Wal, you might say he was a leetle high pressure," says he with a grin. "Go ahead and start him up and hear the way he blows off steam."

"But I haven't been in the hoss business 30 years without knowin' what to do for a breather. I just slipped out of the sleigh, took out a piece of wire I happened to have in my pocket, and bent it over the critter's nose and drove up the road, a piece, and then turned round and come back. I won't say that the hoss was breathing easy, but he wasn't makin' noise enough so that Al felt like laughin' very hearty."

"Says I: 'Al, I want to see ye start. I've showed ye what I can do with mine, now let's see what ye can show with that high-priced hoss I let you have.'"

"Al hated to cluck up wud kind, but he lifted the reins and touched old Arlander with the whip. No start! 'Giddyap-along!' says Al. But Arlander looked around at him kinder of surprised and planted his feet firmer in the snow."

"Then Al got interested. He used up his whip and I let him have mine. Told him I didn't mean to drive very fast and shouldn't need it. When I went over the hill Al had got discouraged. He'd unharnessed, left the sleigh by the side of the road and had started for home leadin' the hoss."

"Oh, no! No grudge on either side. Hoss dick'r'in is hoss dick'r'in up in Kennebec county."—Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

Met His Match.

A certain Glasgow lawyer was very fond of setting traps for workmen who might happen to be working in or about his house by leaving money or some valuable article about.

A workman, well aware of this fact found a half crown lying on the floor in one of the rooms. He smiled as he said to himself:

"I know what that's for." And, taking a brace and a bit from his bag, he drilled a hole in the coin and, putting a large screw through it, he fastened it securely to the floor.

The lawyer has not set any trap since.—Spare Moments.

His Request.

Judge (to accused)—You are now acquitted of the charge of having stolen a watch and may leave the court.

Accused—May I wear it now?—N. Y. World.

MILITARY LIFE IN ALASKA.

The Weather Is Cold and Mercury Retiring But Conditions Are Not Wholly Bad.

The government having at last expended considerable sums of money toward establishing military posts in Alaska, it is reasonable to suppose that the army must in the future look forward to regular details of service in that part of our country.

It certainly does get cold in Alaska. The thermometer for five consecutive days in January registered 63, 62, 65, 66, 62, while 40 below is quite common, and cold weather lasts from November 1 to March 31.

An officer coming to Alaska need fear no greater hardship for himself and family than those which follow a return to the isolation of a one or two company frontier post.

From June to October people require about the same clothing they would wear in the states. Mosquitoes abound, and window screens and mosquito bars are a necessity.

As to clothing, heavy underwear is indispensable. In addition to these garments, heavy short coats or wraps must be provided to put on whenever it is necessary to go out of doors.

The government furnishes caps and mittens, and most excellent footwear in the form of felt shoes. Ladies will find a fur parki the best of all around outer garment.

To sum up I would say that Alaska is no worse than Keogh or Assiniboine, and the greatest trial will be the lack of a daily paper.—Army and Navy Journal.

TYPICAL CRIMINALS.

Italian Scientists Have Discovered a Type of Man Abnormally Bad from Birth.

Lombroso and the Italian school say that they have discovered a type of man who is born a criminal, and who may be recognized by a Mongolian face, abnormal features, ill-shaped ears, unsymmetrical skull and various physical peculiarities which are the result of bad organization.

Partly Experiences.

"Do you believe in mental telepathy?" "Yes; when I'm late to dinner I know exactly what my wife will say when I get there."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

LIQUID AIR CARTRIDGES.

To Be Used for Blasting Purposes in the Coal Mines of Germany.

Ever since it was demonstrated that liquid air could be readily produced on a commercial scale it has been hoped and expected that one of the principal uses to which it would be applied would be that of an explosive material for blasting purposes.

Some months ago a report announced that liquid air had been formally adopted for blasting purposes in the government coal mines in Germany, says Consul General Mason, of Berlin, in a report to the state department.

Among the most systematic and interesting practical experiments thus far made in this direction has been the series of tests lately undertaken by the Vienna Crystal Ice company.

When put up at the laboratory for shipment the liquid contained 75 per cent. oxygen to 25 per cent. nitrogen; but before it had reached Vienna and was used in the experiments it had lost about half its bulk by evaporation.

By the other plan, the mixture of marl and oil was put into the cartridge, which was inclosed in a lead case with a layer of felt between, and the liquid air then poured in until the paste was completely saturated.

The net conclusion to be derived from these and preceding experiments in Europe is that, notwithstanding the obvious advantages of liquid air as an explosive for mining purposes, the rapid deterioration of the cartridges and their varying and uncertain strength are obstacles so serious that, until they can be overcome, its value and application to that use will remain experimental and comparatively limited.—N. Y. Herald.

CANAL BOAT EVOLUTION.

Craft Large Enough to Carry One Thousand Tons of Grain Are Proposed.

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Meantime the superiority of railway transportation in respect to capacity, speed and cheapness have continued to develop so greatly that the proposed 450-ton canal boat has already begun to seem insignificant, and some of the advocates of canal competition are now proposing a great scheme of new construction and enlargement which, at a cost of \$60,000,000, may make it possible to float boats carrying 1,000 tons of grain.—Philadelphia Record.

A Mere Matter of Form. Pugilistic success is a matter of form.—Chicago Democrat.

HOUSEHOLD SUGGESTIONS.

Odd Bits of Useful Information for the Busy Housewife.

The accepted idea that macaroni should be boiled only about 20 minutes is contradicted by many expert cooks. Much nearer an hour is required to cook it properly, although 30 minutes suffices for spaghetti, which is less than half its size.

Some home-made tally-cards for progressive euchre seen lately at a gathering where the game was played were both pretty and ingenious. One oblongs of green and red paper, one for the ladies, the other for the men, were pasted respectively pictures of men and of girls done by the favorite periodical artists of the moment, and cut from magazines and weeklies in which they appeared.

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French cooks sometimes pour a little diluted bouillon over the potato that is sliced or diced for salad before the dressing is added. The salad is spread out in a sieve or colander, and the bouillon, made from beef extract dissolved in water, is sprinkled over it and quickly drained off.

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To Cook Sweet Potatoes.

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Croustons.

Croustons or crusts to serve with soups may be of several degrees of excellence. To the average cook croustons are croustons, however they are prepared.

WHITE SOCKS BEAT HIM.

How a Georgia Candidate's Opponent Turned the Table Most Successfully.

"Judge Emory Speer, as every one knows, has a remarkable gift of repartee," said a former resident of Georgia, "and in his early campaigning days he frequently impressed that fact upon his opponents on the stump.

"While Blount was haranguing the crowd in that strain Speer happened to notice that he had on a pair of white socks, and when it came his turn to speak he began somewhat like this: 'My Friends: I am greatly surprised that Mr. Blount should have the audacity to refer to me as an aristocrat, especially in view of a little incident which occurred only yesterday in the town of Macon.'

"I don't know, of course, but I would wager that he has on a pair of fine, city-made white socks at this very moment. As for me, whom he terms an aristocrat, I bought the homely socks he professed to scorn, and"—here he pulled up his trousers, exhibiting a couple of blue woolen tops—"I have 'em on right now! Colonel, let's see your socks."

Needless to say, Blount collapsed, and that township returned an overwhelming majority for Speer.—N. O. Times Democrat.

THE BOERS AND THE BIBLE.

They Are "A Queer Mixture of Old Law and Scotch Covenant."

The Boers are, as a people, deeply and narrowly religious, intensely believing in the guidance of God and in their own position as a chosen people, and in some cases even identifying themselves with the fortunes and the history of the Jews; a belief which we can readily understand when we remember that almost every family, however poor, has as its valued possession "a huge family Bible," and that in the old trekking days they knew, in Mr. Bryce's words, "no book but the Bible."

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Left in the Dark.

The policemen of a certain precinct are having a quiet laugh at the expense of a superior officer whose eccentricities have often provoked much amusement among members of the force and his acquaintances.

Before the public lighting commission sent in its estimates, printed slips were sent to each of the stations, with the request that they be returned with the blanks properly filled out, designating the needs of the precinct in the line of street illumination.

Went.

"Went," remarked the officer, with a complacent air, "I guess our precinct is pretty well lighted," and as he reported to the commission, the slip over which he has police jurisdiction, were ignored in the estimates.—Detroit Free Press.