

A FINANCIAL PUZZLE.

Why American Money Goes to Europe and Little Returns.

Treasury Department Answers Indian Gentlemen Meeting in London and Explains an Interesting Commercial Situation.

What has caused so much produce, merchandise and specie of the United States to go out of the country without the ordinary corresponding returns? is a question recently propounded to the treasury bureau of statistics by Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, an Indian gentleman residing in London.

Mr. Naoroji in his inquiry addressed to the bureau of statistics quotes the recent figures showing a large excess of exports of merchandise and specie over the net imports of merchandise and specie, and says:

"In India a heavy net excess always takes place because the system of exports of India consists of a heavy tribute, i. e., a large drain of the produce of India to England without any material return of merchandise or specie. America is not under such a draining system of an alien foreign government, and I therefore desire to know the causes, and their extent, of such heavy net excess of exports of America's wealth or produce, and how this large balance of trade is expected to be settled."

The following is an extract from the reply of the chief of the bureau of statistics:

During the period immediately following our civil war great internal developments of our railways and manufacturing capital were brought into the United States for use in this development, and during that time much of our surplus was largely marketed abroad. The commercial results of this development of railways and manufacturing establishments, including the opening of new fields of production, was an enormous increase in the operations and a disposition to relatively decrease the importations because the development of manufacturing in the United States has produced at home from our own materials much which was formerly brought in from abroad. Thus the great business development of the year 1899 had a tendency to stimulate production and exportation, but discouraged importation, and as a consequence, exports exceeded imports.

The fact, however, that large sums had been borrowed abroad for the internal developments above alluded to required payment of large sums for the annual interest charges, and thus absorbed a part of the proceeds of the surplus exports. The earnings of foreign capital invested in the great enterprises in this country, other than that of the railroads, the sugar or by direct loans, also require considerable sums for the payment of the dividends and profits of the enterprises in which it was invested. It is also noted that internal developments and investments in internal developments were extremely profitable, reduced and temporarily suspended shipping to the United States, and, as a consequence, the increasing traffic came to be carried more and more in foreign ships. Another factor to be considered is that of the money expended by Americans traveling abroad.

Until recently these four great factors: (1) the payment of interest on American securities held abroad; (2) the payment of earnings of foreign capital invested in business enterprises in the United States; (3) the payment of foreign freight charges on goods imported into the United States, and (4) the expenditures of Americans traveling abroad, have been considered the chief cause of the fact that the exports of merchandise from the United States, the combined imports of merchandise, specie and bullion. Within the last two or three years, however, three further factors have apparently been added: (1) the cancellation of American indebtedness abroad, including a return to the United States of the railroad and other securities; (2) the sale of foreign securities in the United States, such as the German, British and Russian securities which were placed upon the markets here during the last year, and in most cases quickly takes to the amount of probably \$200,000,000 in the year; and (3) the credits which now stand abroad in favor of our exporters and which are permitted to stand because better interest rates could thus be realized than by insuring upon their immediate payment.

FIND GOLD NEAR THE POLE.

Sensational Discoveries Are Reported by Old Miner in the Arctic Regions.

Sensational reports of rich placer discoveries in the arctic region made to Capt. Francis Tuttle, of the revenue cutter Bear, by a dying arctic have been confirmed by T. W. Wyatt, manager of the Cutter Bear Mining company, organized by Tuttle. Wyatt wrote from the arctic district, as it has been named, in a letter dated January 25, saying: "There is no use disputing we have struck it rich in the arctic. One man has just brought in 25 pounds of gold and I am satisfied that we will have no trouble next summer in getting all the money we want. Tomelson says Tuttle creek will average 75 cents per pan at bedrock and we have taken out some pans that range as high as \$2.50 per pan. The district is 75 miles above the head of Behring straits. Tomelson is a miner employed by a company."

KEEP CHECK ON AUTOMOBILES.

Scheme of Police in Paris to Catch the Breakers of the Speed Laws.

The Paris police have hit upon a clever, practical method for determining the speed of automobiles. They travel in Paris and measure over certain lengths on one of the most frequented drives. Then one of the officers stations himself at one end and the other at the other, the latter being provided with a split-second chronometer. When the automobilist crosses the first line officer No. 1 gives a signal with a white handkerchief and officer No. 2 presses the stem on his watch. If the automobilist crosses the second line in an interval that indicates an excess of lawful speed he is halted and arrested.

Youthful Husband in Prussia. In 1899 the number of Prussian males who married before they had reached the age of 20 were 358.

ON THEIR SEA LEGS.

Cattle Do Not Get Frightened or Dismayed About in Rough Weather.

"Do the horses and cattle get frightened and make much disturbance in rough weather?" "Bless you, no," said a cattleshop sailor, according to the New York Sun. "They've got sea legs that would put an old salt to shame. Occasionally a horse will lose his balance, but a bullock is the greatest balancer you ever saw. They are knowing brutes, too. You know we put them four in a pen. Well, you'll never find all four standing up lying down at one time. They figure the thing out and decide how they'll get the most room and most comfort. So two of them stand up while two lie down. When they get tired, they shift the watch. "The horses like to be talked to when there's a big sea on and things are pretty lively. They always like certain men better than others. So do the cattle. We have one man who can do anything with them. Every bullock and horse on the boat knows him by the time we've been out two days. He comes in handy when there's an accident. "It's mighty seldom that a serious accident happens nowadays, but once in awhile a horse or a bullock does get thrown and break a leg or do some bad damage. We don't carry a veterinary. The men know as much about ordinary cattle and horse ailments as any vet, and if one of the brutes breaks his leg there's nothing for it but to kill him. A veterinary couldn't do anything for him. "The company charges from \$6 to \$20 a head for carrying cattle and from \$25 to \$30 a head for horses. When the government inspectors were put to work and stopped overcrowding they cut down the carrying capacity of some boats 75 head. That made a pretty big hole in the ship's profits in the course of a year."

SEE IS TOO TALKATIVE.

Shee Saleswoman Who Reminds One of the Verbose Barber of Tradition.

Said an Auburn-haired girl noted among her friends, says the Chicago Chronicle, for her excellent sense and good judgment: "A good deal is said in the newspapers about talkative barbers, but I am convinced that not the most garrulous knight of the razor that ever lived could exceed in conversational powers the saleswoman whom I buy my shoes from. "She's a very crafty young woman, is this saleswoman, for she doesn't begin to chatter until she has both shoes off and is beginning to fit me in others, then she tells me the story of her life. I learned yesterday while I was buying a pair of slippers that she was an orphan; that she lived with her sister-in-law; that her brown eyes were hereditary, her grandmother having had orbs of the same color; that she preferred roses to lilacs in summer millinery; that her cousin had a child that had the croup regularly once a week; that there were red chairs in the parlor of her house, and that hair could be made to stay in curl by dampening it with alcohol. "Incidentally, quite by accident, indeed, I learned the price of the shoes I had decided upon while her voluble ladyship talked. Then I induced her to replace my old footwear and walked away happily, but with averted face, for I knew I had hurt her feelings. She was right in the midst of a vivid description of her spring frock and, losing me, whom had she to sympathize with her in her happiness. It was cruel, but it was necessary that I should go. "Dye think a barber could have talked on more subjects in as short a time?" asked the Auburn-haired girl, defiantly. "Well, I brow not."

MENTAL SUGGESTION.

Singular Instance of Its Manifestation Observed in a Restaurant.

"Did you ever notice how easily a person is influenced in his eating?" remarked a gentleman recently in a well-known restaurant. "Just watch those who sit down to this table." The writer was already there, says the Baltimore Sun. The order for the two gentlemen was just being served when two others took seats at the table. They glanced at the bill of fare and over it at the dishes. One of them gave an order for the same things and the other simply said: "Bring me the same, please." Another sat down, and when he saw the order of the last two served for the same, simply changing to milk instead of coffee. That made five in succession who had ordered the "same thing." "Well, that beats all!" exclaimed one of the first in astonishment. "Nothing at all remarkable," said the first speaker. "Why, in the house of the late 'Fatty' Townsend, who first introduced 'three out and draw one' in this town, I heard every waiter yelling 'Strawberry shortcake,' so when I started out I said to Mr. Townsend: "Well, old man, did you succeed in rousing the shortcake?" "You bet. Did you catch on? Well, you see all we got to do to increase a popular demand for something we fear we are going to be stuck on is to give the tip to the waiters. At first not one order in ten is genuine, but after awhile every customer follows suit like a game of euboe, and the thing's accomplished and every one is satisfied. EA, see?"

California's Fruits.

No equal area of the earth's surface has produced profitably a variety of the fruits of tree, vine and shrub equal to that of California.

A STEADY GROWTH.

Gratifying Development of American Trade in Scotland.

Food Products and Numerous Variety of Manufactures in Great Demand - Scotchmen Appreciate the Merits of an Article.

The bureau of foreign commerce of the state department has just made public advance sheets of "Commercial Relations for 1900," which deal with American trade in Scotland. The tide of American imports into Scotland, it is stated, steadily rises. This is true not only of our food products, which are in almost universal demand, but also to a numerous variety of manufactures. During the past year the quantity of American goods in the markets of eastern Scotland has been much larger than ever before and the volume of trade visibly greater. The market which has been gained for many lines of our manufactures is a permanent one, it is stated. A growing preference for American goods is held accountable for this very encouraging state of affairs in Scotland. It is pointed out that while the Scotsman is a somewhat fastidious buyer, he becomes a most devoted and profitable customer when once assured of the merits of an article offered for sale. It is this phase of the Scottish character which has prompted American exporters and manufacturers to consider this commercial field as one apart from England, and to deal with it accordingly. Social and economic conditions, it is said, have not been affected by the South African war. Business in nearly all mercantile lines has been active, but the depression in the iron and steel trade resulting from the high prices of raw material and fuel, as well as from American, German and Belgian competition, will, it is feared, soon be severely felt in industrial communities. Of the great number of articles which the United States now sends regularly to Scotland, perhaps the most marked increase, except in food products, has been noted in the sale of hardware. Our woodware has also secured an important position in this market. Other American productions which are gradually mounting to higher favor are American furniture, boots and shoes, rubber goods, machinery and tools, wire and wire goods (whose importation last year doubled that of 1899), leather, oil, clocks and watches, paints, drugs and chemicals, organs, glassware, confectionery and a number of other articles. About 3,000 beams and plates needed in the construction of the new North British railway station in Edinburgh were supplied by the United States. A vast increase in the importation of American barley since 1899 has been noted, and a decrease in the import of corn. There is a growing trade in fruits, meats and nearly all articles of food.

BOGUS EXHIBITION IN PARIS.

Distinguished Frenchmen Lead Their Patronage Without Investigation.

Some commotion has been caused among the members of the French academy and other distinguished Frenchmen of Paris who find themselves in the position of having patronized a bogus exhibition rejoicing in the high-sounding title of "Exposition Permanente et Internationale des Industries." This was held in a moderate-sized room in an ordinary Paris flat. Investigation showed that a melancholy ham and some trimmed vegetables formed the principal part of the exhibition. Every one of the exhibitors was, of course, given a gold medal and grand prix. M. Guilly Prudhomme, of the French academy, has been unwary enough to let himself be named as president, and as such, in company with half a dozen other distinguished Frenchmen, he signed all diplomas presented to him. When the real character of the affair was made public he and all the other patrons hastened to resign office.

PATTI ADVISES YOUNG WOMEN.

She Makes an Address at Paris Which Does Not Meet General Approval.

Adelina Patti is the recipient of the special attentions at Paris. She and her young husband dined with Baron Rothschild Thursday. Friday night Sarah Bernhardt gave a reception in Patti's honor. During the afternoon the famous singer delivered a short talk before the Paris International Society of Female Students. It was called on the program "Mature Advice to Young Women," and the burden was to "enjoy the present moment." Some of Patti's precepts were rather cynical, though she took care to back them up by quotations from the Rubiyat. There were many excited, loud hums of protest during her talk, and severe comment afterward from the minority of the university girl who still clings to less modern ideals. What Next? The year of the Columbian exposition was marked by a business panic. The year of the Pan-American exposition has been signalled by a stock panic, and the Chicago Tribune thinks something unique and interesting must be in reserve for St. Louis. Translation into Japanese. The first European book that ever appeared in the Japanese language was a translation from the German of Heine's songs.

JAPANESE PILGRIMS.

Odd Features of Their Attire and Distinguishing Badges of Their Different Parties.

The Japanese peasants, when they get themselves up for the business of a pilgrimage, are the quaintest figures imaginable, says Good Words. The women generally tuck up their petticoats well above their knees, either leaving the legs bare, or else swathing them with white bandages, which form a kind of leggings. Their hair is done in the usual elaborate Japanese style, and generally an artificial flower is stuck in at the top. It does look so comic to see the wisened face of an old woman with a large red nose bobbing over it. And this floral decoration is not confined to the women; when you meet a party of pilgrims you often see the old men also with a flower stuck coquettishly above the ear. I found out the reason of this rather inappropriate ornamentation when I was at Nagano. It appears that many of the poor old dears from the country get so bewildered by the magnificence of the places they go to, and the distractions of shopping, that they quite lose their heads, and consequently their way. So the ever-thoughtful Japanese police have insisted that every party of pilgrims is to have a distinguishing badge. At Nagano it was the commonest thing possible to see some ancient dame rushing about wailing: "Where is my party? Where is the purple iris party?" or "Where is the yellow-towel-around-the-neck party?" And then she would be told that the "yellow-towel-around-the-neck party" was on its way to the station, or that the "purple irises" were still saying their prayers in the temple.

A BATTLE OF THE BEES.

The Queen Died Fighting and Her Subjects Were Forced into Bondage.

One colony of wild honey bees, less than a mile away, had survived the famine of the previous summer, and in July, made desperate by lack of forage, certain of their wanderer discovered my hive, and succeeded in sneaking by the sentries and getting away with honey-bags filled with plunder undetected, writes William Everett Cram, of "My First Colony of Bees," in Ladies' Home Journal. Returning later with others of their tribe they were discovered and driven off. But the whole colony of forest dwellers was now eager for booty and came in overpowering force. I narrowed the entrance to the hive, and my bees defended it valiantly; the fighting was fierce until long after dark, and in the morning it was again renewed, and finally the defenders were defeated with heavy losses. The survivors were compelled to go into bondage and assist their victors to carry away the captured honey to the woods, and before the midsummer sun was half way up the sky the hive stood silent and deserted, save for a few loitering pilferers crawling about the torn and empty combs, searching among the dead for a last drop of honey. The queen, I presume, must have been killed, for the certainly would never have consented to accompany the enemy with the other prisoners. Yet I was unable to find her among the dead, and believe she died fighting in the open and dropped into the grass.

MAYA INDIANS IN EXILE.

Yucatan Savages Driven from Their Homes by the Mexican Troops.

The former residents of Bacalar, state of Yucatan, are rejoicing over the occupation of that town by the government troops under command of Gen. Vega, says a recent report. Many of these people still hold title to valuable property in the Bacalar district, although they were driven from their homes by the Maya Indians many years ago. A large number of these persons are now residents of British Honduras and they are already looking up their deeds and title preliminary to reclaiming their properties. The villa of Bacalar, which has been besieged various times by the Mayas, and it was only after a desperate resistance on the part of Jose Dolores Zentel that it finally fell into their hands. There are still ruins of the ancient fort and rusty cannon employed in the last defense against the Indians. The latter, after taking it, did all in their power to obstruct navigation, felling trees and casting huge boulders into the streams. The waterways have been cleared during the present campaign and there is now communication between the port of Zocalak Quebrada, on the coast, and Bacalar, by means of the bay of Anauccion, the Hondo river and the Bacalar lagoon. Polish "Switching Days." The Poles in the vicinity of Shamokis, Pa., observed "switching days" this year, following a custom observed in their native home in honor of the ending of the Lenten period. On Monday the men had their turn in switching and slapping their better halves, who had to grin and bear it. On Tuesday the women had their innings, when they chased the men around, pouring water on them and applying the switches used on them with compound interest. When single girls submitted to switching at the hands of single men, and the former did not complain, it indicated that they would accept attentions of the men with a view to matrimony. Storms in the Orkneys. In 20 years, at a small lighthouse in the Orkneys, 14,000 hours of storm have been recorded.

PLAN BIG BANQUET.

Affair to Be Held at London to Be of International Character.

Andrew Carnegie Promises to Secure Attendance of Brilliant American Financiers, Manufacturers and Business Men.

Extraordinary preparations are being made for the banquet the London chamber of commerce intends to give June 5 in honor of the New York chamber of commerce. The arrangements on behalf of the Americans concerned are in the hands of Andrew Carnegie, the multi-millionaire steelmaster, who came to London not only to attend the annual meeting of the British Iron and Steel Institute, but also to give his personal attention to some details in connection with the coming international dinner. Mr. Carnegie has pledged his word to Albert G. Sandeman, president of the London chamber of commerce, that he will secure the presence at the banquet on June 5 of the most brilliant company of American manufacturers, merchants and financiers ever assembled in Europe. He has induced President Morris K. Jesup, of the New York chamber of commerce, to come to London thus early in order that he may have time before the banquet to visit among the British business men and win their friendship. Mr. Jesup said to the Chicago Record-Herald correspondent: "This banquet will be the first of the sort ever given. The sentiments gathered about it appeal strongly to all lovers of peace and good will among men. It seems impossible that the occasion should be less brilliant than unique. International amity ought, I believe, to take its rise in commerce, for commerce underlies politics and often shapes the course of political events. Once the great producing and distributing classes of Great Britain and the United States understand each other and realize the interdependent character of their relations, the two nations will have little difficulty in strangling Jingoism."

AGED MAN CLIMBS TOWER.

New Jersey Septuagenarian Performs Risky Feat for a "Dime" and a Dollar.

Willard Barcus, 70 years old, a well-known citizen of Vineland, N. J., laughed the other day at another citizen who remarked that he wouldn't climb to the top of the town's water tower, which is 150 feet high, for \$1,000 and offered to do it for a dollar. Some one offered him a dollar and dared him to earn it. Barcus walked to the base of the tower, glanced up critically and then, with the agility of a youth, climbed up the narrow iron rungs, while his friends looked on, fearing for his safety. Over the sharp edge of the water tank he crawled and then he waved his arms, doffed his hat and danced a jig. Presently he crawled slowly down to the bottom. They demanded his dollar, which was promptly handed to him. "Did I feel nervous?" Barcus replied to questions. "Why, no; you see, I never did take a dare when I was a boy and when they dared me this time my boyhood strength seemed to return. Perhaps I wouldn't try it again. I did it under impulse."

SUGAR OF GREAT FOOD VALUE.

English Physician Says It Creates Energy and Maintains Stamina.

An important paper on the dietetic value of sugar appears in the British Medical Journal by Dr. Willoughby Gardner. He says that the world's consumption of sugar during the last 15 years has doubled, while that of Great Britain has tripled per head in the last 40 years. The English and Americans head the list as sugar-eating people. Dr. Gardner established the fact that sugar is a potent creator of energy and a maintainer of stamina. This, he contends, is not only proved by laboratory experiments, but by the date-eating Arabs; the fine health of the sugar-eating negroes, and the results achieved by Alpine climbers, arctic explorers, athletes and German soldiers, who were fed on this special diet. Dr. Gardner's general conclusion is that the increased height and weight and the improved health of the English people in the last half-century has been largely due to the increased consumption of sugar.

SEEKING TALLEST MAN.

Giants in the Service of the United States Army and Navy.

Who is the tallest officer or man in the United States army? Private letters received here from the Philippines say that there has been considerable discussion of the question out there. The honor is claimed for a soldier named McGiffen, who was transferred from the Sixteenth infantry to the Manila police force. The friends of another man of the Sixteenth, name not given, maintain that his six feet eight inches tops McGiffen's height. Naval officers say that the tallest member of their service, commissioned and enlisted force included, is Surgeon James E. Gardner, who was recently ordered from duty at Boqueo to duty at Manila. Nobody here remembers his exact height. Ward to Season. It requires eight years for some sorts of wood to become seasoned.

STRANGE RITUAL MURDER.

Capital Crime Committed by Man in Germany Under Singular Circumstances.

A German named Lebedeer, serving in the French foreign legion, has told a strange story about a ritual murder to the officers of a court-martial assembled at Oran, in Algeria, says the London Telegraph. The soldier was being tried for having made away with his military effects, and he excused himself by stating that he was preparing to desert, as he was afraid that he would be killed and cut up by a young Catholic student named Worsser, at Koenitz, about two years ago. This was a case of what is known as ritual murder, and it caused much sensation at the time of its perpetration. Lebedeer's story is that he was out of work one day at Koenitz and a man offered him money to accompany him to a synagogue. There he saw some masked men, who ordered him, under pain of death, to kill a young student who was asleep in the place, and who had evidently been drugged. Lebedeer had to do what he was told. He cut up the body, and the blood was drained into a silver basin. When all was over Lebedeer was paid, and was told that whenever he wanted assistance, he had only to present a sealed letter given to him by the masked men to any Jews whom he should meet. He used the letter at Breslau and at Frankfurt-on-the-Main, and then returned to his home. Fearing arrest he joined the foreign legion. Lebedeer was condemned by the court-martial to six months' imprisonment and a magistrate has been appointed to see if his extraordinary story can stand verification, or if he merely told it for the purpose of avoiding military punishment.

DANISH EXPORT OF EGGS.

There Has Been an Immense Growth of the Trade Within Five Years.

In 1895 we scarcely knew Denmark as an egg producer; but in that year was founded the first Danish cooperative society for the export of eggs. The same system which had succeeded with butter was now to be applied to eggs, says the London Mail. The country was divided up into districts; each district had in some railway station a collecting depot, and all members of the society were bound to deliver three times a week at the depot. The depot agent refused, or had a right to refuse, all eggs more than four days old, and every producer of each district had a distinctive number branded on the egg. Thus, in the event of an egg proving bad, the depot which shipped it would be proceeded against, and by means of the distinctive number, the depot agent would be able to detect the producer, on whom the loss would finally fall. By thus guaranteeing absolute freshness and making good any occasional loss, the Danes established a high standard, and so created a continuous demand. And what is the result? In 1895—the first year of the experiment—there were established six local egg societies, with an aggregate of 2,000 members; in 1900 there were actually no fewer than 837 separate cooperative societies, with a total membership of 130,000 producers! Is it surprising that Denmark should send to England alone 300,000,000 of eggs annually?

LIGHT AND DARK BLUE SKIES.

Reasons Given by Scientists for the Monthly and Monthly Changes in Color.

Changes of color in the sky have been made a matter of scientific investigation, and it has been found that during some months of the year the sky is deeper blue than during others. The sky is most intensely blue in December, January, March and September, and paler in color during July, August and November. In observing the changes in the sky from hour to hour, it has been found that the sky is a deeper blue in the morning than during the heat of the day, says the Albany Argus. This indicates that, since the deepest color is seen in the coldest months and during the coldest part of the day, heat plays an important part in determining the sky color. Prof. Tyndall made experiments showing that the sky tint is caused by the reflection of the blue waves of light from minute particles floating high in the air. The waves of blue light are shorter than those of yellow or red, and consequently are more easily arrested and reflected back. When the sun is blazing hot high in the heavens it dissolves the fine particles of vapor to a great extent, and leaves fewer of them to split up the scattered daylight and send its soon blue beams back to the observer's eyes.

Invention of Playing Cards.

If we may believe tradition, playing cards were invented for a fool. Certain it is that they were first made for the amusement of Charles VI., the idiot king of France. Leubens, a German lunatic, bet that he would succeed in turning up a pack of cards in a certain order stated in a written agreement. He turned and turned for ten hours a day for 20 years, and repeated the operation 4,246,028 times, when at last he succeeded.

Sweden's "Venice of the North."

The Swedish court is one of the least formal in Europe, and in the beautiful "Venice of the North" (as Stockholm has been aptly called) King Oscar and his wife and family lead an ideally domestic existence, and are accessible to even the poorest of their subjects.