

DESIRE ANNEXATION.

British West Indies Eager to Join the United States.

An Old Question Again Being Agitated—Industrial and Commercial Interests Are Much Interested in the Question.

The abstract question of the political possibility and the industrial and commercial desirability of the annexation of the British West Indies to the United States is nothing new.

It, however, remained for the American conquest of Cuba and Porto Rico to awaken the English colonists to a full realization of the outlook.

As far back as August of last year the question of securing annexation to the United States was mooted in Jamaica.

The continued industrial decadence of the islands under the unfair treatment of the mother country and the ever-growing menace of Cuba and Porto Rico has again brought the question to prominence.

As might have been expected, the West Indian newspapers, as a whole, being mostly in the hands of colored men, to whom the very word American is obnoxious, have denounced the plebiscite and endeavored to obscure its significance.

Under the circumstances, the St. Kitts annexationists have issued a manifesto to the sister colonies setting forth their position and furnishing seven reasons why West Indians should seek admission into the United States.

LOANED BABY FOUND AT LAST.

Mother and Child Reunited After a Separation of Twenty Years.

Mrs. Mary Williams has returned to Muncie, Ind., from the quest of her daughter, who has been lost for 20 years, having found her and paid her a visit.

STOPS DIGESTION.

Cat Under the X-Ray Teaches an Important Lesson to Man—Don't Worry.

The cat has served to teach mankind an all-important lesson concerning the working of the stomach. The X rays directed upon a cat's stomach have demonstrated that any irritation or disagreeable nervous excitement arrests the process of digestion.

One Case of France's Troubles.

While the population of France has increased only ten per cent. in the last 50 years, says the New York Sun, the number of state officials, according to M. Turquan, shows an increase of 120 per cent.

FISH, BIRD AND SNAKE YARNS

Trout and Hawk Caught on the Same Hook—A Voracious Snake.

A farmer residing near Middletown, N. Y., recently noticed a remarkable falling off in the production of eggs at his henry, which he was unable to account for.

Edwin Robinson, a respected resident of Pawling, is credited with capturing a fine trout and a bird resembling a hen-hawk with the same bait.

SOUTHERN NEGROES.

Suggestion of Col. Duncan B. Harrison, of Chicago, for Supplying Army for Philippines.

"If it becomes necessary to send volunteers to the Philippines," said Col. Duncan B. Harrison, of Chicago, "I would suggest negro soldiers without hesitation.

"The colored troops are greatly benefited by army service. They learn a great deal, acquire personal dignity, discover there is something in sanitation, and go back to civil life better than when they came into the army.

FORCED TO EAT LOVE LETTER.

Serious Consequences of a New Jersey Man's Joke on a Married Friend.

Albert Waugh, of Paterson, N. J., harbors in his stomach a lump of desiccated note paper, flavored with violet ink.

Mrs. Watkins found the letter in her husband's coat and it caused a temporary separation. Waugh then acknowledged that it was all his work.

FIRE IN A COFFIN.

Cigarette Fiend Comes Near Making Feigned Death the Real Thing.

Carl Athemo's performance of suspended animation at Fall River, Mass., came near ending in cremation, the fire in his coffin being discovered just in time.

Dandelions.

The market gardeners around Paris cultivate the dandelion on a large scale and sell it for good prices in the market.

A LION AT LARGE.

Causes Great Excitement on the Streets of Indianapolis.

Brutus, the largest cub in the lion family of the trained animal show exhibiting at Illinois and Pratt streets, Indianapolis, Ind., escaped from his cage the other day and gave the residents of North Illinois street and vicinity the worst scare they have received in some time.

Brutus is a well-developed Nubian lion cub, and his appearance bounding down the pavement on Illinois street caused every one in sight to give him the right of way.

Upon discovering that he was sole master of the store, Brutus tasted of all the meat in the meat market. His exact course could not be ascertained, for the reason that the neighborhood was vacated for some distance on all sides.

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MISHAPS AT A WEDDING.

Peculiar Circumstances Attend a Ceremony on Board a Steamboat.

J. A. Carson and Miss Maud Cranston, a young couple residing on Kootenai lake, Washington, were married the other day under circumstances seldom paralleled in fiction.

The ceremony had proceeded almost to the point where the preacher was about to pronounce them husband and wife when Capt. Newman's dog and the bulldog got into a fight.

The governor turned the letter over to Private Secretary Alien with instructions to assess the members of the state committee for the necessary amount to pay the tax.

NAVY INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

Proven to Be on a Sound Basis and It Is Not Likely to Be Discontinued.

Naval officers who have been a good deal exercised over the proposition to abolish their mutual insurance association are greatly relieved to know that a majority of the communications so far received express a desire to continue with the organization on its present basis.

MEDALS FOR DEWEY'S MEN.

Navy Department Is Ready to Distribute the Bronze Medals.

The navy department has received the 1,700 bronze medals authorized by congress for the officers and men who participated in the battle of Manila bay.

Why Iceland Wants a Cable.

The Chicago Record suggests that the people of Iceland would like to be connected with the rest of the world by cable, so that they might call down occasionally through the summer and innocently ask if it is hot enough for us.

Big Australian Sheep Farms.

It is said that some of the sheep farms in Australia are as large as the whole of England.

WILL SHOW A COLUMN OF GOLD

Plans for Dazzling American Attractions at the Paris Exposition.

A meeting of Commissioner Peck and the members of the staff of the New York office of the United States commissioners to the Paris exposition of 1900, was held at New York the other day to discuss the allotment of space to exhibitors.

E. W. Runyon, the California state commissioner, said that California had appropriated \$130,000 for the exhibition already, the largest amount given by any state, and would put up \$100,000 more if assurances were given that adequate returns would be got for the money.

Commissioner Peck suggested that if California would contribute a certain amount to the general fund it would be given a special room in the national building. He said that this offer would be good to every state in the union.

TO MUMMIFY HER BODY.

Little Eskimo Girl Who Died at Mount Vernon to Be Given to Scientists.

Little Aitmarhoke, the Eskimo girl, who smiled, bowed, danced and said "Alana mik" instead of "good by," so prettily at lectures in the public schools at New York last winter, died at Mount Vernon on Saturday.

She died of the heat and of consumption. She was in Dr. Walton's sanitarium. The physicians there say that she was a free patient in the interest of science.

AN ODD REQUEST.

Kansas Governor Asked to Pay a Dog Tax by an Impenitent Old Maid.

An old maid in Kansas City, Kan., with an unusual amount of faith in men, has written to Gov. Stanley asking him to pay her dog tax.

The governor turned the letter over to Private Secretary Alien with instructions to assess the members of the state committee for the necessary amount to pay the tax.

MAY REORGANIZE.

Report Received That the Standard Oil Company Will Be Capitalized at \$500,000,000.

The report has been received that the Standard Oil company will be organized in the shape of a giant corporation under the laws of New Jersey, and the present trust features abandoned entirely.

At present the concern is in the hands of the liquidating trustees. The stock which the trust holds in the subsidiary companies (a majority interest in each case) has been taken up and liquidating certificates issued.

Real Game Preserve.

One of the most curious sporting estates in the whole of the British Isles is that of Arnold P. Hills, Redleaf, in the county of Kent.

She Saw Napoleon in Exile.

Miss E. P. Bagley, one of the few surviving inhabitants of St. Helena who remembered having seen, when she was a child, the great Napoleon, recently died at the age of 90.

Minneapolis Flouring Mills.

The Minneapolis mills make 14,000,000 barrels of flour a year, and consume 60,000,000 bushels of wheat.

PROBLEM OF UNIFORMS.

Complaints Received from Officers in Cuba and the Philippines—Proposed Changes.

Complaints continue to be received from officers in Cuba and the Philippines in regard to the uniform which the troops are wearing.

Many of the articles issued to the troops are declared unsuitable for military uses. This is accounted for by the fact that inferior goods were bought in the haste of acquiring military supplies in the days just before war broke out.

It is proposed, among other things, to authorize coats and trousers of bleached cotton duck for non-commissioned officers and bandmen and of unbleached duck for the privates.

AGUINALDO'S THEFT

How the Filipino Chief Became Possessed of a Supply of United States Shells.

Military officials are not much surprised to learn that the insurgents driven out of the territory around Baco by Gen. Lawton had a supply of five-inch shells marked "U. S. Navy Yard."

There has been no secret of the fact that Aguinaldo helped himself at Cavite with the permission of Admiral Dewey, as the insurgents were then supposed to be faithful allies.

It is said that it is impossible that any large amount of American ordnance stores can have found their way into the hands of the insurgents, and all these transactions are ascribed to the interval between Dewey's victory and the landing of the American infantry, during which time Aguinaldo did pretty much as he pleased ashore.

A BRIGHT OUTLOOK.

Crops and Business in the West Promise Well—Opinion of Anson R. Flower.

Anson R. Flower, head of the firm of Flower & Co., who has just returned to New York from the west, said, in discussing his trip: "I visit the west every year at about this season with the object of learning for myself the state of business and the crop outlook."

Everything was ready in the operating-room in New York when the clergyman reached the sanitarium.

It was feared that Miss Rebekah Howe might die under the knife. Her affianced, Wilbur Rogers Corbin, desired at least that she should become his wife before surrendering her consciousness to the ether, not knowing whether she would ever awaken.

The first electric railroad operated in America was constructed and first run successfully in Baltimore.

This was the suburban line between the city and the village of Hampden. On August 10, 1885, successful trial trips were made, the cars being drawn by a Duff motor, the invention of Prof. Leo Duff, of Jersey City, N. J.

Fencing Masters of Paris.

There are more than 70 halls in Paris devoted to fencing, each presided over by a fencing master more or less famous.

SUBMARINE VESSELS.

Doubt as to Their Adoption by the Navy Department.

Another Test of the Holland to Be Made—Demanded That She Run Submerged for Two Miles.

There is a division of expert opinion within the navy in regard to the submarine boat, which is still in its experimental stage. The construction board at Washington came to no conclusion the other day, although it implied its favorable view of the submarine boat in warfare.

Now the board of inspection has laid down rules governing the trial which are deemed excessive by the designers of the boat. One requirement to which objection is made is the demand that the Holland shall run for two miles in a submerged state.

The matter has been laid over until the return of Rear Admiral Hiebhorn, the chief constructor of the navy, who is believed to be not especially in favor of submarine construction.

WATER TUBE BOILERS.

Engineer in Chief of the Navy Decides That the Straight Tube Variety Shall Be Used.

Rear Admiral Melville, engineer in chief of the navy, has determined that in ships of the cruiser class above the type of torpedo boat destroyers water tube boilers of the straight tube variety shall be used.

The adoption of the serpentine tube type, the adoption of the straight tube boilers means greater economy in this part of warship equipment and greater facility in the fitting and repair of boilers.

UNDER SURGEON'S KNIFE.

Wilbur Rogers Corbin and Miss Rebekah Howe Married in Operating Room.

Everything was ready in the operating-room in New York when the clergyman reached the sanitarium. His mission was not to offer spiritual comfort to the patient, but to make her a bride.

Their wedding had been looked forward to as a great social event in New Haven, but it would have lacked the sincerity that marked the ceremony at the threshold of pain and darkness.

Mrs. Corbin was carried away, and the door of the operating-room closed upon her, and for hours, that seemed years, her husband waited to hear. When he left the place he walked as upon air, for the surgeon had told him that all was well.

American's First Electric Road.

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