

DEWEY'S WARSHIPS.

Repairs Necessary on the Vessels That Fought in Manila Bay.

Cruisers Raleigh, Boston and Olympia New in Home Waters, Will Require an Expenditure of \$500,000 Each.

It is already apparent to naval experts that the government will have to spend several million dollars in refitting for active service the vessels which comprised Admiral Dewey's fleet when it destroyed Spain's naval power in the far east.

Secretary Long has approved the making of repairs to the cruiser Raleigh which will cost approximately \$500,000. The report of the board of survey which inspected the cruiser Boston, lately returned to the United States and now out of commission at Mare Island, shows that another \$500,000 will have to be spent upon that vessel in order to put her in condition for recommission. Reports received at the department regarding the condition of the cruiser Olympia show that she will have to be laid up for some time, and naval experts estimate that before she is again in service she will have cost the government not less than \$500,000 to repair.

There are three vessels still on the Asiatic station which were under Admiral Dewey's command when he fought the battle of Manila bay—the Baltimore and the gunboats Concord and Petrel. The Baltimore was only placed in commission during the winter of 1898, and will probably not come home until 1901.

The Concord and the Petrel are needed for service in blockading the Island of Luzon. They were both thoroughly overhauled in 1896, and upon completion were sent to the Asiatic station. Their cruise in the far east will cease next year, provided the situation in the Philippines is such as to permit their return home, though by that time it may be decided to refit them in the east, and keep them permanently on the Asiatic station.

The repairs to the Boston will be thorough, and when completed she will be a modern ship. The repairs contemplated will cause her reconstruction, as in the case of her sister ship, the Atlanta. She will be equipped with water tube boilers, and be supplied with a new battery of the latest eight-inch and six-inch guns.

It is understood that before final action is taken in the matter of the Boston repairs Rear Admiral Hichborn will bring the report of the board of survey to the attention of the board of construction. The board of survey estimates that a year's time will be necessary to reconstruct the Boston, but it is the belief of department officials that two years will have passed before she is again ready for service.

SMALL IS THE EARTH.

Carrier Brings Chicago Club Woman an Interesting Mail from Widely Separated Points.

"Truly," said a prominent Chicago woman at the Woman's club the other day, "the world is small, and the ends thereof are near together in these days of post offices and steam. In my mail this morning were messages from friends and dear ones all over the globe. There was one from the Philippines. I opened that first because I knew it was from my boy. The next one I took up was from a dear woman friend traveling in Asia Minor. Next came one from an uncle in San Francisco. Having read these, I came a step nearer home and opened a letter from another son who is camping in the northern Michigan woods. Then I took one up at random and found it to be from a clubwoman in Georgia, asking my advice about the management of a club. Then I descended to come to Chicago and open several local letters. How is that for one day's mail?"

PORTO RICAN RAILROAD.

Scheme on Foot to Finish the Line with American Capital—Fifty-Four Miles Yet to Build.

A scheme is on foot to secure American capital for the completion of the unfinished Porto Rican railroad in Porto Rico. Edward Lauterbach, acting for the interests now identified with the road, has consulted with the authorities at Washington as to the government's willingness to adopt the terms of a concession granted in 1882 for the building of the road. The matter is now being considered.

About 130 miles of railroad have already been completed, extending around the eastern coast of the island, and have been operated since 1892. Fifty-four miles have yet to be built. The securities of the company are owned chiefly by French and English citizens.

Mark's Livingstone's Grave. Dr. Livingstone's grave in Africa is now, carelessly secured, as the deputy administrator for the district north of the Lambesi reports with satisfaction. The tree under which the explorer's heart had lain was rotting, so the section containing the inscription was cut out and shipped to the Royal Geographical society, while in the center of the stump the telegraph pole was set.

A Millionaire "Pauper." An old man named Anton Kain, who died recently in an Austrian almshouse, was found to be worth \$5,000,000.

Albert Edward and the Women. Since he has been at Marienbad the prince of Wales has been asked for a lock of his hair by 200 women.

WARNING TO INVESTORS.

Americans Advised by the Consul at Batavia Not to Invest in Dutch India Mining Companies.

Consul Everett at Batavia, in a communication to the state department, warns Americans not to invest in mining stocks of companies operating in Dutch India, as the affairs of nearly all the concerns are conducted recklessly, and within a short time, he predicts, the bubble will burst, with disastrous effect to investors. The consul says gold exists in infinitesimal quantities in that colony, and this has been seized upon by prospectors to launch "exploration companies," with capital varying from \$100,000 to \$1,500,000, according to the money-drawing qualities of the directors and the possibilities of finding gold. Where the prospects were the most hopeless they generally started with the largest capital. As concessions were secured from the government it became necessary to make a pretense of prospecting. Expert mining engineers from the United States were engaged and expensive machinery was imported, commissions being given to impecunious friends of the directors. Then the public was informed things were progressing satisfactorily, and the directors disposed of some of their holdings. The engineers were hampered in every way and blamed for not finding gold. In one instance a petroleum motor was supplied with coal to run it. The consul says it is needless to say the coal merchant was a friend of the director. "For the last year," says the consul, "I have been in direct correspondence with mining engineers in some of these concessions, and speaking confidentially to me they do not hesitate to say that few of the mining concerns will amount to anything. The Dutch, while good agriculturists and traders, are not good financiers, and in the long run it is to be feared that the honestly managed concerns will, when the bubble bursts, as it inevitably must some day, fare as badly as the out-and-out swindlers."

FILIPINO BORN ON A TRAIN.

A Black-Eyed Little Girl Blesses the Union of Oliva and Sinfroso Francisco.

Travelers in a day coach on the Nickel Plate railroad interested in a group of Filipinos who were fellow-passengers were bustled out of the car at South Chicago, Ill. the other afternoon, and when the train reached the Dearborn street station another passenger had been added to the number. A tiny black-eyed Filipino baby girl was born as the train sped through Grand Crossing. The mother, Mrs. Oliva Francisco, and the baby are guests of the Mary Thompson hospital for women and children. The mother is a young woman, 18 years old, and barely four feet tall. She and her husband, Sinfroso Francisco, will remain in Chicago until the little one is strong enough to stand the journey to the Manila home. Six men, two women and two children were in the party. They had been in New York since June, whither they had come from Manila to establish for a rich Gothamite a conservatory devoted to Filipino plants and flowers that were shipped from the islands last spring. The conductor had been apprised of the expected event while the train was running through Indiana and a telegram was sent to Dr. George F. Slater, of South Chicago, to meet the train at that suburb. In the meantime Dr. Liston H. Montgomery, of 20 Delaware place, who was on board, tendered his services, and a few moments after Dr. Slater stepped on the platform the first Filipino child ever born in the United States saw the light.

GIRL STOWAWAY.

Olga Nelson Pluckily Faces Hardship That She May Find Her Lover in America.

When the steamship Norge left Copenhagen on its last trip for the port of New York it carried one passenger who was not on the books. A girl who had run away from home had stowed herself away to join her sweetheart in this country. They did not find Olga Nelson until the Norge was three days out. Then she told her simple story. The captain ordered her to be kept in the steerage until this port was reached. On the arrival of the steamship she was turned over to the officials of the detention bureau.

She had written to her sweetheart beforehand and knew that he would be waiting for her. Sure enough, Ansel Gottsman, of 215 Twenty-seventh street, South Brooklyn, hurried to the immigration bureau on Saturday and claimed her. He said his family would take care of her, and was much surprised when the girl was sent to Ellis island.

"I marry her," he said, plaintively, but his remonstrances were useless. If he can prove his ability to support her she will be released.

Gold Receipts at Seattle. Official figures, showing the receipts of gold at the Seattle assay office for 14 months, bring the total, September 5, to \$12,058,308. The assay mint was opened for business July 15, 1898, and up to January 1 following—5 1/2 months—the gold receipts were \$5,669,157.92. From January 1 to September 5 the gold received amounted to \$6,389,150.08—\$5,500,000 of this latter amount having been received during July and August. The number of deposits received this year is 2,367, the average value being \$2,327.

Music of Paris Exposition. The music of a big exposition is commonly on too vast a scale to be especially interesting, but the musical side of the Paris exposition of 1900 will be fairly justified by the production of some of those works of Berlioz which call for a colossal orchestra. Berlioz himself demanded 467 performers, and an orchestra of this size will be heard in Paris.

THERE'S MONEY IN IT.

Secretary Wilson Enthusiastic Over Beet Sugar Possibilities.

Will Endeavor to Get the Farmers Interested and Show Them What Handsome Profits Can Be Made.

Secretary Wilson will not return to Washington with the presidential party from its western trip, but will go to Clear Lake, Ia., where he will deliver a speech October 18 before a convention of Iowans which is to be held to consider the question of erecting sugar beet factories. "The money with which to build these factories has been provided," said the secretary, "and we must now get the farmers interested. They do not seem to realize the importance of making beet sugar, and I will endeavor to awaken interest and show what handsome profits can be made. The few who are making beet sugar are reaping a profit of 20 per cent, and this can be increased if the farmers will feed the pulp to their cows. In a few instances that is being done, and it can be used successfully as horse feed.

"It is possible for the American farmer to raise enough beet sugar to supply the home needs, and a surplus, which can be profitably exported. This kind of sugar can be raised as cheaply as cane sugar, and our farmers will be able to defy the competition of the world. As is well known, all farming implements have been revolutionized, and with American machinery, which will do twice as much work as any other, the sugar market can be controlled absolutely by our own citizens.

"It has been said that beet sugar is not as good as that produced from cane. This is not true, and when all the impurities have been removed it is impossible to tell beet sugar from that made from cane. Another advantage in raising sugar beets is that it does not impoverish the soil."

CAN'T TAKE THEIR WIVES.

Reply Which Secretary Root Makes to the Many Requests from Army Officers.

Many requests from army officers have been received at the war department for the privilege of taking their wives with them to Manila. To all such a firm denial is sent. This reply is made by Secretary Root to the appeals: "I have your letter in behalf of —, who wishes to go on a government transport with her husband to the Philippines. I regret that I am constrained to deny her request. On account of the exposure and danger to which they would be subjected, Gen. Otis has protested against sending any more women to the Philippines as long as an insurrection exists in the island of Luzon. These are uniformly declined, not only on account of the recommendations of Gen. Otis, but because of the limited passenger accommodations at the disposal of the government. Moreover, the war department is of the opinion that the best interests of the service, as well as the safety and welfare of those most concerned, make it inadvisable for the wives to accompany officers now serving in the Philippines under hazardous conditions resulting from active military operations in the field."

HISTORIC EMBLEM.

Historic Flag Improvised During the Civil War Presented to Admiral Dewey.

On board the Hartford during the civil war a quartermaster named Knowles improvised an admiral's flag by stretching four white stars on a blue field (a "number"). This was flown on the Hartford and later on the Franklin. When the Farragut statue was unveiled in Washington on April 26, 1881, one of the survivors of the Hartford's crew flung this flag to the breeze. That survivor was Bartholomew Diggins, now captain of the watch in the state, war and navy department building. Capt. Diggins has handed this flag to Commander Baird to be presented to Admiral Dewey. After the Farragut statue was unveiled the department allowed Mr. Diggins to turn into store at his expense a new flag and keep the old one. The bunting is in a good state of preservation. It will no doubt be prized by the admiral.

ALL TO HAVE CORK JACKETS.

Entire Navy Afloat to Be Furnished with Enough Life Preservers to Supply Each Man.

The entire navy afloat will be furnished with suitable means of preservation at sea. Orders have been placed for a large number of cork jackets, to be placed on board all the vessels in commission. Each officer and man afloat will be furnished with one of these devices. There has always been a limited number of these jackets carried by ships of war, but it has never been considered necessary to provide for everyone on the ship. It recently occurred to the authorities if such precautions were worth taking at all they were worth taking for the benefit of everybody instead of for a few.

Prince Bismarck's Checkerboard. The late Prince Bismarck was an ardent lover of a game of checkers and is said to have possessed the most valuable checkerboard in existence, the squares of which were made of gold and silver, to represent the light and dark squares respectively. The men were made of the same metals, the silver men having the addition of a diamond in the center, the gold men having a ruby inlaid in the center of each.

For the Cuban Orphan Fund. The trustees of the Cuban orphan fund report the receipt of \$30,676.89.

AFRICA'S COMMERCE.

A Study of Figures Shows That It Is of Great Importance—Last Year's Business.

Africa is taking a prominent place in the commerce of the world, as last year the imports amounted to \$400,000,000, while the exports were \$350,000,000. Of this amount this country sent \$18,000,000 worth of goods and received in return \$10,000,000 worth of the products of Africa. Naturally a large proportion of the commercial business of Africa is transacted through the British colonies, their share being \$131,000,000 of the imports and \$132,000,000 of the exports.

The trade of the South African republic, or Transvaal, is attracting much attention. Its imports amount to \$104,000,000 and its exports \$54,000,000. The chief exports are gold and other minerals. French Africa imported goods valued at over \$70,000,000 and exported nearly an equal amount. Turkish Africa, principally Egypt, imported \$54,000,000 and exported \$62,000,000, while Portuguese Africa, whose ports on the eastern coast are adjacent to the gold and diamond fields, is also a scene of commercial activity, the importations being \$12,000,000 and the exportations nearly \$7,000,000.

Physically the African continent is unique. Five thousand miles in extreme length and over 4,000 in breadth, its area is greater than that of any other continent except Asia, the latest estimates being 11,874,000 square miles. Its coast formation is peculiar in the absence of deep indentations, bays or harbors and the small number of waterways which offer entrance to the interior. Not until the explorations of Livingstone, Stanley and others was it known that vast navigable streams existed in the interior. When these conditions were known modern ingenuity and energy soon found means of transporting steamers in small pieces upon the backs of men through hundreds of miles of dense forest. These were put together and set afloat, and steamers which penetrate thousands of miles in the interior develop facts never known before.

DEWEY'S RABBIT HUNT.

A Sporting Experience in Virginia That Illustrates the Noble Qualities of the Great Admiral.

"Did you ever hear of Dewey's rabbit hunt over in Virginia?" asked a war department official.

"Well, it was one of the first things I thought of after I heard of his victory at Manila. Several winters ago Admiral Dewey, Capt. Frank Hume, A. B. Harlow, several other gentlemen, and myself concluded to take a rabbit hunt over in Virginia. We had plenty of guns and ammunition, without any rules as to what kind of shooting should be done. There was seven inches of snow on the ground and we found an abundance of rabbits. We had a dozen or more when Harlow shot one in his bed. Dewey walked up and said:

"Well, that does settle it. Any man who would shoot a rabbit sitting in its bed would rob his mother-in-law. Why, Harlow, you would be drummed out of Vermont if you did such a thing up there."

"The fellows laughed, and after a little while we continued the hunt. Everything went swimmingly until about two hours later Hume pulled down a rabbit without giving it a chance to run for its life. Dewey called him down by saying: 'Gentlemen, I believe in giving everybody and everything a show—a fighting chance. A man who can't kill a rabbit on the jump has no business with a gun. It is taking an unfair advantage of the little fellow to shoot him in his bed. Let's have no more of this kind of sport. Give 'em a chance, boys; give 'em a chance.'"

"The boys then began to realize that Dewey really meant what he said and though the hunt was continued all day no more rabbits were killed in their beds."

COFFIN OF WILLIAM PENN.

London Newspaper Makes an Odd Blunder in Relating a Discovery in the Village of Penn.

The London newspapers the other day printed an account of the discovery in Penn, a little village in Buckinghamshire, under the floor of a church, of the coffin of William Penn. The oak of the coffin is black from age, but perfectly sound. Of course the discoverers of this coffin are mistaken in identifying it as the founder of Pennsylvania, since the date of it is 1638. William Penn, who founded the American colony, died in 1718, and these hasty writers might have readily discovered that they were in error if they had taken the trouble to investigate the matter. Furthermore, the celebrated William Penn was buried at Jordans, eight miles from the village of Penn. It is probable, however, that the remains are those of some ancestor of the great colonizer. His father, Sir W. Penn, the associate of Samuel Pepys, died many years after the date on the coffin.

Catering for Fat People. A New York restaurant recently undertook to cater exclusively for obese people. Nothing of a fattening character was served. The establishment was hailed with delight by a large crowd of banters. Its history was about as follows: The first day 100 ate there, the second 90, the third 80, and so on down until the proprietor found himself without a single patron until the sheriff came and took everything in sight.

Vivisection. The opponents of vivisection have arranged for a special exhibit of instruments of torture during the Paris exposition.

SAVED BY HIS VIOLIN

Chicago Musician Soothes the Savage Breasts of Robbers.

Attacked by Two Men at Midnight, He Gives Them Melody Instead of Money, and Leads One to the Station.

Ole Bull, it is said, with but one string to his violin, played music that made his audience weep, but Chicago has produced a violinist who could fiddle the Swedish virtuoso off the earth with one hand tied behind him. His name is Joseph Klepach, and he lies at No. 1543 West Sixty-seventh street, where for years he has scraped on the well-reined strips of a cat's digestive apparatus till his execution and technique have become the wonder of the neighborhood.

The other morning early the weird strains of his violin staid the treacherous arms of two highwaymen and landed one in the police station. Klepach was on his way home from a dance, where he had saved his way in to the hearts of the merry-makers. He was gloating over his triumphs when at Twenty-second and Halstead streets he was stopped by the highwaymen, one of whom in a threatening tone commanded: "Throw up your hands and give us your money!"

"I have no money," said the violinist.

"Then give us your violin."

"You cannot play it," replied Klepach, "so why do you want it? It is of no value to you and it is dearer to me than my life."

"I can play," declared one of the robbers. "Give me the fiddle or I'll take it away from you and break it over your head."

Klepach, though frightened, was determined to protect his instrument with his life, if necessary. He prepared to resist the robbers, when he remembered the power of his art. Opening the violin box, he yanked his beloved fiddle from its velvet bed, and began a mysterious melody so enchanting that it might have coaxed the rats away from the Pied Piper of Hamelin.

One of the robbers, who it was afterward explained was deaf, ran away, while the other, as rigid as a hitching post, stood glued to the curbstone. Alternately as the music changed the highwayman cried and laughed, and when the fiddler was sure he had him under his control he led the fellow into the Canal-port avenue police station, where he was locked up.

CANNOT VISIT FORTIFICATIONS.

Secretary Root Issues an Order to the Military Officials Emphasizing Former Order.

Secretary of War Root has issued an order calling attention to an order of August 24, 1897, which prohibits persons from visiting the fortifications of the United States. The secretary says the former order has frequently been disregarded and he directs a rigid enforcement of its provisions hereafter. One instance in which the old order was not enforced was in the case of a military attaché of one of the foreign governments who visited the military posts at the mouth of the Columbia river. It is understood that he had a letter in general terms from Secretary Alger, but it is said that it was not sufficient to entitle him to inspect the coast defenses. Upon this letter he was permitted within the military posts and given privileges which the war department does not allow except to authorized persons connected with the federal or state governments.

TO BECOME AN AMERICAN.

Two Japanese Women Apply for Citizenship So as to Be Able to Peddle Bananas.

A tiny Japanese woman, with black hair and black eyes, went into the office of Clerk Edick in the United States court at New York a few days ago and told him that she wanted to become an American "citizeness." She was the first Japanese woman who ever applied for the proud privilege of Americanism. She became the center of attraction for everyone in the office.

The clerk took her name, which she said was Miss Harasia, and her address, 104 Sands street, Brooklyn, the center of the Japanese colony, which from the fact that the government employs many Japanese on its warships clusters around the navy yard.

She wanted to become an American citizen so that she could peddle bananas.

WOMEN WORKED WITH MEN.

James O'Connell, President of International Machinists, Discusses English Working Classes.

James O'Connell, president of the International Machinists, who had been a delegate to the British trades congress meeting, held in Plymouth, England, spoke to the Central Federated union of New York of his experiences and observations at the congress and among the working classes in England. He did not have a high opinion of them, and said he was glad he was an American and lived in the United States. The condition of the English workingmen and working children, he said, was deplorable. He saw the women going about in clogs, dressed in men's clothes, in blacksmiths' and other shops, wielding the sledge hammers with the men. The difference of sex seemed to be entirely lost sight of.

Cost of French Instruction. The instruction of each student costs the French universities about 511 francs per annum on an average.

WEARS FAMOUS RING.

Edna May, the Actress, Appears on London Stage with Heirloom of Nobility on Her Finger.

That Edna May, daughter of a letter carrier of Syracuse, N. Y., the pretty American actress, may really become, in time, the duchess of Devonshire, seems highly probable from the fact that she appeared the other evening in London wearing on the third finger of her left hand the famous signet ring of the Cavendish family.

It was a gift of Henry Sheppard Hart Cavendish, a young man of 23, and nephew of the present duke of Devonshire. The duke is elderly and childless, and Cavendish, who, in spite of his youth, has already won fame as a traveler and explorer, will probably succeed him in the peerage.

Cavendish was formerly a lieutenant in the Royal Warwickshire regiment, and is a handsome and popular young man. It was reported from London, recently, that he had made Edna May a gift of a diamond necklace valued at \$200,000, and rumors of an understanding between them at once began to agitate British society.

Cavendish has a large private fortune and is about to leave for British Columbia to engage in extensive mining interests.

It is now believed certain that Edna May will marry Cavendish as soon as her divorce from Titus, the bicycle rider, is granted.

The signet ring has been an heirloom in the Cavendish family for centuries. It is a broad ring, of gold, and is of beautiful antique design.

NEW CUBAN RAILROAD.

Main Line to Traverse Island and Branch Lines to Be Run to All Seaports.

Gen. A. G. Greenwood, who has just returned to New York from Cuba, has the following to say of Cuban railroads: "Within a very short time the construction of a railroad will probably be begun which will make every point of importance in Cuba easy of access. We have the right of way, we have the concessions and, best of all, we have the money."

"It is our purpose to have a main line through the island, and to do this we must build a road from Santa Clara to Santiago de Cuba, a distance of about 400 miles. Then we will build branches to the main line from every port on the north and south side of the island. This means the building of more than 850 miles of road at a cost of at least \$25,000,000.

London and Boston capitalists have financed the undertaking. The surveys have been made, and all that is necessary to permit of the commencement of the work of construction is the repeal of the Foraker resolution. This, we have every reason to believe, will be repealed in the early days of the coming session. We shall rush the work, and give Cuba a railroad system that will prove of incalculable benefit in the development of her many resources."

TALK OF SMOKELESS ENGINE.

Chicago Railway Men Interested in the Invention of Queen and Crescent Official.

The smokeless locomotive, which the Queen & Crescent road claims to have built, has excited interest among railroad men in Chicago. The locomotive was tested out of Cincinnati recently, and the results seem to have been satisfactory. The invention belongs to Receiver Felton. In the fire box of the locomotive are special hollow fire brick arches and deflecting air tubes in the sides of the fire box that deflect the air admitted through them to a point above the fire, where it mingles with the gasses thrown off by the coal. The gasses thus become a part of the fuel by being consumed, leaving no smoke.

Commenting on the subject, J. F. Wallace, assistant second vice president of the Illinois Central, said it was impossible for an engine to consume its own smoke, but that they were trying to reach a point where there would be such perfect combustion that smoke would not be generated. He thought the smokeless locomotive in question was the same old principle carried a point higher.

"Some of our firemen feed their fires in a way that leaves scarcely any smoke," he continued, "but these men are not firing long; they become railroad presidents in time."

DIES AS HE HAD PREDICTED.

Dr. Luke D. Broughton, President of the Astrological Society of America, Fixes Day of His Death.

Dr. Luke D. Broughton, president of the Astrological Society of America, died at New York the other day. He cast his horoscope many years ago, and predicted that the critical periods of his life were the 15th, 16th and 21st days of September of the present year. His death, he predicted, would occur on September 22. Mr. Broughton was born April 20, 1828, in Leeds, Yorkshire, England. He came from a family of astrologers and early began the study of astrology.

In 1859 he settled in Philadelphia, where he studied medicine. In 1863 he came to New York, where he began the practice of medicine.

Mrs. Broughton also died as predicted. In 1891. He wrote many pamphlets and one book on astrology.

A Pie Trust.

After all that has been said of American fondness for pies, the new pie trust incorporated in New Jersey is capitalized at only \$300,000, though it controls 19 out of 21 pie-baking establishments in New York. The city is said to consume 200,000 bakery pies a day.