

QUEER DEATHBED REQUEST.

A Prominent Japanese of No Religious Belief Leaves Directions for Burial.

Lieut. Yoshitomi Fumigawa, of the L. J. N., left behind a curious request to his family a few days prior to his death, which occurred the other day in his native district of Hizen. He observed to his family that he had never had time to investigate religious questions deeply enough to enable him to determine which faith he should embrace he was neither prejudiced against nor partial toward any form of religion. However, he himself was of opinion that his soul would perish with the cessation of life, while his remains would crumble to dust. Therefore he did not wish to have any religious services performed on his behalf, says the Japan Times.

SHELL GAME GOES TO WAR.

The Smooth and Resourceful Green Goods Man Preys on the Would-Be Recruit.

"Excuse me, young man, but you have quite a military appearance—must have drilled some in your time?" The young man, who had been accosted in State street by a gray-haired man well decorated with patriotic badges, threw back his head and shoulders, inflated his lungs and assumed a decidedly martial air, as almost anyone will do under like circumstances, says the Chicago Chronicle.

SPARROWS SLAY A POLECAT.

The Unique Contest Witnessed by a Hunter on the Banks of the Ohio River.

"You have often heard of the ferocity of birds, no doubt," said William Anderson, a hardy old woodsman who lives on the lower Ohio, reports the Louisville Post, "but I doubt if you ever heard of birds attacking and killing an animal that one would imagine could whip three or four fierce curs. While hunting down in the flats near the mouth of Green river several years ago I saw a large and fierce skunk beat an ignominious retreat after trying in vain to best several English sparrows, and later, when the skunk had screwed his courage up to the sticking point again, I saw these same insignificant-looking little birds tear the animal to shreds. When my attention was first attracted by the sparrows flying from one side of the thicket to the other, twittering like mad. When I went to learn the cause, the skunk, badly frightened, was dodging from one side to the other of a log, trying to escape the savage attacks of the feathered trio. The birds didn't mind me, but kept dashing their little bills into the skunk's well-punctured hide. When the skunk started across an open space to the cover of a near-by driftwood his tormentors pounced upon him and riddled the poor cat's hide."

SHOULD BOMBARD MADRID.

An Original and Enthusiastic Citizen of Chicago Has a Scheme to End the War.

His enthusiasm was unbounded. He was an original American and wanted everybody to know it. But he could see no reason for prolonging the war with Spain. He had a plan for ending the conflict at once with one decisive blow. It all took place in front of the Chicago Chronicle office while he was reading the war bulletins, and especially those which recorded the victory of Commodore Dewey in the Bay of Manila. He swung his arms abroad and voiced his sentiments in this wise: "I tell you they never had a chance. All we got to do is to go over there and wipe them off the earth. Dewey commenced this thing, now let the other fellow get action, that's what I say."

"What would you do?" asked an interested bystander. "Send Sampson—I guess that's his name—over to Europe with orders to bombard Madrid. That's what I'd do. Blow the blamed Spanish capital into the ocean. Then it'd all be over but the reports."

CONGRESS IS PUZZLED

Difference of Opinion Regarding the Disposition of Philippines.

Those Opposed to Hawaiian Annexation Are Also Unfavorable to Keeping Them—Coaling Station Needed.

There is considerable difference in congress on the question of holding the Philippine islands. Everyone concedes that they are a valuable possession, but it is thought by some they would be a source of weakness. The opponents of Hawaiian annexation are almost to a man in favor of disposing of the islands, while on the other hand the friends of annexation believe the United States should hold the islands permanently.

One thing seems certain. If it is concluded that the islands are to be knocked down to the highest bidder, a coaling station will be held by the United States. Senator Stewart, of Nevada, said in an interview that certain death is in store for any political party which attempts to dispose of the islands. This feeling is quite prevalent in congressional circles.

The members of the senate foreign relations committee, excepting Clark and Gray, are understood to be in favor of holding the islands. The house committee is divided on the same line as on the question of Hawaiian annexation—four members, Messrs. Clark, Howard, Williams and Dinsmore being against the plan.

A senator who is in the confidence of the administration said: "The president is in favor of holding the islands temporarily, and looks to their permanent acquisition, although he is not settled in the conviction that this would be advantageous to the United States."

The Monroe doctrine will play a considerable part in the final settlement of the Philippine question. There are those who contend that the holding of the islands would be a departure from the true meaning of the Monroe doctrine. It is generally understood that if the United States are to have permanent jurisdiction over the islands, our navy will have to be materially increased in order to defend them against foreign attack. An argument advanced by those in favor of holding the islands is that the United States would incur the displeasure of other great powers if the islands are sold to some one of them.

England, they say, would oppose their sale to France, France would object to their disposal to England, and Japan would not favor the sale of the Asiatic sea possessions to either Germany, too, might have a hand in the matter, and ask the United States to hold the islands or cede them to Spain in consideration of a money indemnity.

Senator William E. Chandler, of New Hampshire, said: "I would not favor holding the islands permanently. We should get indemnity for them, but it would be a departure from the Monroe doctrine to set up a permanent form of government in the Asiatic sea. It would be well, however, for the United States to hold a coaling station. This we need, not only in the Asiatic, but in all parts of the world. Where could Dewey have rested his feet had he been unable to take the Philippine islands? This is an object lesson."

The steady decrease in the number of cattle since 1892 is effectually putting an end to the dismal predictions of the pessimists of the cattle market, who have been predicting a crash in prices. As a matter of fact, cattle are lower to-day than they have been for 20 years, when the pro rata proportion of the number now in the country is considered. The comparisons not only speak for themselves, but prove that cattle are actually lower than in 1892. In that year there were 37,650,000 head in the country, in 1897 there were 30,500,000 head, while now there are but 29,200,000 head. If cattle had increased during the past six years at the same rate they did in the 20 previous years the number in the country would now be 52,000,000 head, in place of a little over half that number.

The cattle raisers throughout North and West Texas are universally vaccinating their yearlings. Buyers are giving preference to vaccinated stock, and are actually paying more for it than for animals that are still subject to the disease. Not a yearling in the panhandle has died that has been vaccinated.

SWORD GIVEN TO ROOSEVELT.

Government Employees at Washington Present Him with a Handsome Saber.

Mr. Roosevelt said farewell the other day to the officers and clerks of the navy department at Washington. It is safe to say that not one of the employees, from the highest to the lowest, declined the invitation which was sent around to all the bureaus to call at the assistant secretary's office and say good-by to Mr. Roosevelt. There were many expressions of regret at his departure and the whole affair was lacking in that perfunctory character which so often attaches to ceremonies of the kind.

Some of the employees of the department united in presenting to Mr. Roosevelt a very handsome silver-mounted cavalry saber, which he displayed with pride upon his desk to all of his callers.

Postage Stamps. There are 13,000 distinct varieties of postage stamps.

MAY CHANGE ITS NAME.

Merchants on "The Bowersy" in New York City Object to the Ill-Report of the Street.

The historic name of "The Bowersy," now nearly 250 years old, on Manhattan Island, is threatened with extinction. There is a formidable movement on foot among the merchants doing business on that thoroughfare to change its name. Similar movements have been instituted before, but they have always failed.

A petition for the change, signed by over 300 merchants doing business there, has been presented to the local boards of the Tenth and Eleventh districts, and a hearing on this matter was held before President A. W. Peters, of the borough of Manhattan in the city hall. The petition recites that owing to the odium attached to the name of the Bowersy, caused by the various dives and low concert saloons heretofore maintained there, as well as the many robberies committed on that street, the thoroughfare had come into general disrepute, and the values of real estate thereon had shrunk at least 40 per cent.

Rents have depreciated one-half, and reputable business men have removed their stores from the street because their patrons have refused to visit and deal with merchants on the Bowersy. Moreover, the petitioners continue, the street has been advertised from one end of the country to the other by the song, "On the Bowersy," which has led all persons who have never heard it to believe that "they say such things and they do such things" on the Bowersy that no reputable person who has had any experience on the street will ever go there any more.

Blank ballots will be handed around among merchants, shopkeepers, hotel proprietors, and manufacturers from one end of the Bowersy to the other, and each will be asked to vote yes or no on the change.

ALMOST A BURDEN.

More Gold Coin in Circulation Now Than Ever Was Known Before—The Reason Thereof.

More gold coin is in circulation now than ever was known before. This is because of the plethora of gold and the dearth of currency in the banks as well as in the United States treasury. Merchants, and particularly Wall street brokers, when drawing money at the banks, object to the inconvenience of carrying heavy bags of coin instead of the more easily handled currency notes.

At the subtreasury gold has been paid out instead of currency for several days, but it was only the other day that the treasury department in Washington found it necessary to use gold coin for counter payments.

Payments of gold at the subtreasury have aggregated \$1,000,000 daily lately, greatly increasing the work of paying agents. Nothing better illustrates the abundance of gold than its use in settlements of customs duties. Of the total receipts for customs last month 50 per cent. was in gold. In October, 1897, the proportion of gold was only five per cent., and before that month the average did not exceed two per cent. The dearth of currency is due to the recent heavy demands by interior banks for their balances on deposits at New York. This movement began before the war, and money shipped from New York has not begun to return.

WILL NEED ADVOCATES.

Admiral Dewey and His Men May Have Some Difficult in Securing Bounty Money.

A dispatch to the New York Times from Washington says: Admiral Dewey and his men will need advocates of one of these days to secure for them the bounty they have earned by the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Manila. The law of 1864, under which they have acquired title to bounty, has been so long in disuse in the navy department that none of the law officers remembered it until their attention was directed to it. It was passed in order to stimulate the destruction of rebel property during the war of the rebellion, but the law department of the navy has not come across any instance of its application. Just how it is to be enforced does not occur to the department, but it is probable that when the matter is taken up the secretary of the navy will put the facts to congress, and that an appropriation bill will be made to meet the expenditure on account of the bounty fund.

DYNAMITE IN THE COAL.

Startling Discovery Made in Fuel Originally Intended for the Government.

While unloading a car of coal at one of the glass factories in Salem, N. Y., the other day the workmen discovered a large can of dynamite. It was at first supposed that it had been left in the coal by miners by a mistake, but those who are in a position to know say it is not the kind of material used in blasting at the mines.

An investigation has developed the fact that the lot of coal from which this can was taken was purchased by the government, but was not used at once, and the coal companies bought it back for use in filling rush orders. There is a strong suspicion that the placing of the dynamite in the coal was the work of Spanish spies at the mines. This is the second can of dynamite that has been discovered at the factory.

Money in Britain's Race Courses. Maintaining British race courses and training and breeding establishments cost no less than \$1,500,000 a year, which is paid in stakes for winning horses.

Wear of the Body. According to careful estimates, three hours of close study wear out the body more than a whole day of hard physical exertion.

Bulletin Financier.

Mercredi, 25 mai 1898.

COMPTOIR D'EXCHANGES (CLEARING-HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes 'Inventaire des titres', 'Billets de banque', etc.

MONNAIES METALLIQUES. Billets de banque, etc.

MORNAIS. Souverains Victoria, etc.

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Bulletin Commercial.

Mercredi, 25 mai 1898.

Marché de la Nlle-Orléans.

SUR PLACE. Le Marché Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

Le coton Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

Le sucre Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

Le café Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

Le riz Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

Le blé Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

Le maïs Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

Le seigle Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

Le sarrasin Exchange a rapporté un bon rendement de 2.95% sur 300 à arriver.

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L'ABELLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

Est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc un commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement, pour l'année: Edition quotidienne, \$12 00; Edition hebdomadaire, \$3 00