

FITH AND POINT.

AN AMERICAN SULTAN.

New Uncle Sam Took a Barbarian
Mourner Under His Flag and
Protection.

The sultan of Sulu is a young man, but he gives the impression of knowing what he is about and just what he wants, writes Oscar King Davis in Ainslee's. His head is rather large and well shaped. His skin is the color of old copper that has been polished. His eyes are well apart, but he has a trick of drooping the lids that makes him look sleepy and indifferent. He has a good firm jaw and chin, with a medium-sized straight nose. He wore on his head a feather which started red, but after awhile he took off an outer covering and it was white. As far as waistcoat and trousers were concerned, he was in a correct evening dress. His coat was a gorgeous creation in corn-yellow all that came clear to his heels and had long flowing sleeves. His feet were shod with patent leather. Two of the three Datus were in regulation Môro dress, the other wore trousers as big as a woman's, and a blue and white checked flannel blazer. All the Datus carried large knives and sheathed belt nut.

"Business began immediately with the reading of the draft of the agreement proposed by the Americans. It was modeled on the old Spanish treaty—as it was called—and guaranteed the Moros all the usual rights and religious freedom, except that Gen. Bates made it very distinct that juramentacion would not be tolerated. It provided also that our flag must be flown, that we should occupy such places as we saw fit for military purposes, that we would continue the sultan's pay for ruling his people, and that we would not sell or dispose of the islands without the knowledge and consent of the sultan. The agreement had been done into their language by Mr. Schuck, the interpreter, and the secretary read it while the sultan turned his back on his followers and looked bored to death.

"Objection arose at once, when discussion began, to the provision that our flag should be flown. In 1898, when the Spanish were too busy with

us to pay attention to the sultan, he went to Mecca flying his own flag, contrary to his agreement with the Spanish, and nothing derogatory happened to him. Therefore, he could not see why he should not fly his own flag whenever he went abroad. The fact that that was a practical denial of our sovereignty and forfeited our protection did not appeal to him. In view of his experience. The argument went around in a ring for a few minutes, and then the general suggested that as they were not reaching a conclusion they should go on to something else. The Moros objected to the occupation for military purposes without specific permission of the sultan. It developed that that was because they thought the land was to be taken without payment. When he found out that he would get money for it he yielded so readily as to create the impression that he wished we would occupy his whole dominion at once.

"There was provision about slavery which had given the general some anxiety. He was afraid that the

Moros would object to his plan for

the purchase of freedom on the ground that it would terminate slavery, which was exactly what he was aiming to do. They did object to the clause, but not on that ground. He had fixed an upset price which they thought was too high. With great show of deliberation, the general con-

ceded that it should be reduced. It

is now in great demand for racing purposes.

WE MADE THE TROTTER.

From Him, It Is Said, We Shall
Finally Evolve the Ameri-
can Hackney.

The trotting horse may be said to be the perfection of the American type, but there are modifications of this type all in a measure due to the making of that type resulting in heavy harness horses, high steppers, and the best kind of saddle horses, while the general utility horses of this country are so superior that they are being purchased for use in the European armies to such an extent that the exportation of horses is becoming a great business, says Almee's Magazine. To be sure, we are importing horses all the while, also, but these are brought either to add new strains to our thoroughbred stock or to keep up the supply of heavy draft animals. Hackneys have also been brought in within 15 years in great numbers, and it is likely that within a decade or so there will be an American hackney type. The hackney, as originally developed in England, as the name implies, was a general utility horse, and used under the saddle and in harness as a hack. The accentuation of the high knee action of this kind of horse has given to it a vogue in England, and they have been used for coach and light driving, as well, the showy movement being considered very graceful and effective.

There is a question, indeed, whether this exaggerated knee action has not impaired the usefulness of the hackney for general purposes, for, to use an old-fashioned schoolboy expression, "what goes up must come down." Now, this unnecessary lifting of the feet is accompanied by a heavy striking of the ground, and the jar cannot possibly do the horse any good or conduce to the longevity of service.

At any rate, the horse trainers in America very easily teach an American trotter to do the high-stepping trick. And the trotter does it more daintily while easily achieving a much greater speed. In heavy harness, however, that is where considerable loads are drawn, there is much doubt as to whether the English hackney is not now superior in lasting qualities to the American trotter. This is not due to more stamina or to greater blood, for your hackney is a cold-blooded horse compared with the trotter, but to the fact that the hackney keeps its hind feet better underneath the body than the trotter, and so more easily pulls the load in a direct line. The trotter, as anyone will see who will stand in front or behind such a horse in action, spreads the hind feet pretty wide. This undoubtedly contributes to the speed, but it just as undoubtedly interferes with the capacity for heavy draught.

My idea is, and I believe I am not alone in this, that by a skillful blending of the blood some of the speed and some of the delicacy of action of the trotter will be combined with the weight and the directness of the hackney. If this anticipation is realized, we will have an American hackney much better suited to our own needs, and one that will be sought in Europe, where the American trotter

is now in great demand for racing purposes.

DECLINE OF BUCKWHEAT.

A Crop That Was Once Large in This Country, But Is Now Steadily Decreasing.

What is the matter with buckwheat? Cakes made of it and eaten warm are regarded as very nutritious and are still a favorite article of food with many thousands, but for all that the cultivation of the grain is steadily declining. It must be that a great many have stopped eating buckwheat cakes, for there is certainly a great deal less buckwheat to be eaten than in former days.

Thirty-five years ago the farmers of our country sowed, every year, over 1,000,000 acres in buckwheat. Since then the crop has sometimes been larger, sometimes smaller, but, on the whole, the acreage and yield have been almost steadily decreasing. In 1898, the average was 675,322, only a little more than half that of 35 years ago, and the yield was only 11,700,000 bushels, which was just about one-half the yield at the close of the civil war.

The followers of the Datus got tired of all the talk after awhile, and strolled out into the yard to look at the guards and talk it all over. Kalvi's men went, too, and finally Kaly went. Soon afterward there was a commotion in the yard. The instant thought of every American there was the same—the bad blood between Kalvi and the sultan had found expression in a fight of their men. The three Datus with the sultan jumped out of their chairs and rushed out of the room, clutching at their big knives as they went. It was a nervous minute, and we wished that we had not given such a remarkable evidence of our confidence in the Moros as to bring the four ladies with us. But whatever he thought, no American gave any sign that he was in the least disturbed. Gen. Bates gave one sharp look down the line of his little party, and saw everybody at least outwardly calm. The ladies were as cool as the men. The general's eyes snapped, and that was all. In another minute word came from below that the guard had arrested a man.

That was the end of it. Kalvi came back and sat down. His men trooped in again. Sweet peace brooded over us once more."

No explanation of this great decline in buckwheat raising has been made.

It is probable, however, that the unreliability of the crop, which is sometimes large and sometimes small with out any apparent reason for the variation, has discouraged a great many farmers. Another reason for the decline may be the largest use within the past few years of cereal preparations, especially wheat, all of which come under the general designation of hygienic foods. These preparations have probably won many persons from their allegiance to buckwheat cakes.

If buckwheat raising continues to decline, perhaps the bees most of all will miss the fields, for they are very partial to the flowers of this plant which secret a great deal of honey that is not, however, of the first quality, as everybody knows who has eaten it.

Buckwheat is not raised widely over the world, and this fact makes its decline in America, where it is most largely grown, all the more interesting. Russia and France are about the only countries in Europe that produce it, and Great Britain has never taken kindly to buckwheat cakes and imports very little of the grain.

Rice Flannel-Cakes.

Half a pint of soft-boiled rice, a teaspoonful of cream, a teaspoonful of sugar, three eggs, yeast, and flour to make batter. Let rise, and bake in a griddle.

—Farm and Fireside.

Any Language.

Gazam—What! You are going to the Paris exposition alone? Why, you can't speak a word of French!

Spirglette—No; but I can spend money.—N. Y. World.

Recognized His Opportunity.

Ada (pensively)—I hope you'll be with me to the wedding when you get married.

Jack (boldly)—I'll invite you before I ask anyone else, and if you don't accept there won't be any wedding—Detroit Free Press.

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VENTES A L'ENCAN.

Macon&Kernaghan

ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE.

VENTE DE PARTAGE.

Placement Sûr dans le Cottage

Double.

Nos 1187 et 1189 RUE GIROD

PAR MACON & KERNAGHAN W. A. Kernaghan, encanleur—Bureau 138 rue Carondelet, JEU 11 à 12 1900. à la vente des biens de l'ancien Comte de la Motte, décédé à Paris le 17 Mai 1900 et signé le 23 Juillet 1900, à midi, à la Bourse de la Propriété Foncière.

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