

AIDED THE BRITISH.

Incident of 41 Years Ago Recalled by Taking of Taku Forts.

American Captain Helps British Admiral Out of Perilous Position—Captained Phrases "Blood Is Thicker Than Water."

The Taku forts, recently occupied by the international force, just 41 years ago were the scene of an episode which has become famous through the phrase "Blood is thicker than water."

Tatnall's action was regarded by the authorities at Washington as tantamount to disobedience of orders, as he had been strongly cautioned by his government to preserve neutrality and limit his activity solely to the protection of Americans.

WILLIONS TO NEWPORT BABY.

An Infant of Four Months Falls Heir to an Estate of Two Million Dollars.

The richest baby in Newport, R. I., or perhaps anywhere else, for that matter, is preparing for the ordeal of being christened.

John Nicholas Brown, aged nearly four months, worth \$10,000,000 now and scheduled to have \$30,000,000 when he reaches his majority, is the baby to be named with so much ceremony.

This church received \$45,000 from the father and uncle of the baby. The child, through the death of his father, John Nicholas Brown, on May 1 became heir to \$40,000,000.

WEEK ON ELEPHANTS' FEET.

The Big Animals at the Central Park Zoo Are Annoyed by a Hungry Lot of Rodents.

Visitors to the Central Park zoo the other day noticed that the feet of the elephants—Tom and Jewel—were badly torn.

For years Central Park has been badly overrun with rats, but it is only recently that the rodents have developed an appetite for elephants' feet.

"During the last five years," said Keeper Snyder, "fully 800,000 rats have been caught in this park. They have gnawed about the menagerie and devoured the food intended for the animals.

INCREASE RAPIDLY.

Trade Unions in New York Show Net Gain of 68 Unions and 4,152 Members in Three Months.

The quarterly bulletin of the bureau of labor statistics just issued shows that between December 31, 1899, and March 31, 1900, a net gain of 62 unions and 8,152 members was made by the labor organizations of the state.

The proportion of trade unionists not at work at the end of March was 20 per cent., as compared with 18.3, 21.0 and 20.6 per cent. at the end of March, 1898, 1899 and 1897, respectively.

A Question of Color. Don't forget, says the Chicago Times-Herald, when the census man asks you what color you are that he is not supposed to believe the evidence of his own eyes.

German "Drummers." The German commercial traveler always speaks the language of the country in which he attempts to sell goods.

A VALUABLE WORK.

Is Entitled "Field Operations of the Division of Soils, 1899."

Issued by the Agricultural Department in the Interests of the Farming Industry—Can Be Obtained Through Congressmen.

The agricultural department about to issue a report, entitled "Field Operations of the Division of Soils, 1899," with maps on a scale of one inch to the mile. The series includes a soil map of a portion of the Connecticut valley covering about 256,000 acres; soil, alkali and underground water maps of about 180,000 acres in Salt Lake county, Utah; soil, alkali and underground water maps of about 35,000 acres around Carlsbad, in the Pecos valley, New Mexico, and a similar set of maps for about 30,000 acres around Rosewell, in another portion of the same valley.

WILL BRING RUSKIN FUND.

Delegates Coming from England with a Donation to the St. Louis Hall.

Right Rev. Mandell Creighton, bishop of London, and others interested in sociology and admirers of the late John Ruskin, bade farewell the other day to the delegates representing organized labor in England, who sailed for New York for the purpose of presenting to the labor associations of America \$4,000, to be used toward the erection of a Ruskin hall in St. Louis.

The movement is the result of a desire on the part of the English followers of Ruskin to show their appreciation of the action of Americans 13 months ago in founding a Ruskin hall at Oxford. The delegates are accredited in resolutions expressing the hope that a better understanding and a warmer friendship will exist between the "two English-speaking democracies."

MAKES FUN OF FACULTY.

College Paper at Rutgers College Caricatures the Head and Dignified Professors of the School.

All Rutgers college and hall New Brunswick are laughing over the way in which the editors of the Scarlet Letter, the annual college publication, compiled by the members of the junior class, have poked fun at the members of the faculty, and especially Dr. Scott, its president. A full-page illustration shows "The Faculty Football Team, the Intercollegiate Champions," made up of the gravest and most dignified members of the faculty.

WONDERS OF RAY OF LIGHT.

Inventors of Rapid Telegraphy System Do Away with Necessity of Transcribing.

Messrs. Pollak and Virag, of Budapest, whose invention of quick telegraphy has been successfully tested in America, have completed another invention in connection with it, by which the ray of light directed by the tiny telephone mirror writes in ordinary characters at a distance of hundreds of miles. In the original invention it wrote only the Morse alphabet. The addition now removes the necessity of transcribing.

An Old German Printer. A Leipzig compositor named Kraeger, who has just celebrated his fiftieth year of service, has been occupied with one book for nearly all that time. He has set with his own hand almost all of Grimm's great German dictionary that has appeared since Jakob Grimm turned in the first batch of manuscript in December, 1851.

The Spoils in Glasgow. There is no recognition of political affiliations in the appointment or dismissal of employees in Glasgow. The cases are quite numerous where the applicant will present a letter from an alderman, a councilman or a member of another department. Such an application goes through exactly the same process as any other, and the applicant has no advantages which every other does not possess.

Purple Hair. From Paris comes the news that purple hair will be the vogue this year.

PITH AND POINT.

The truly great is the one who acts and lets other people do the talking.—Chicago Daily News.

Let no man think the public takes a certain interest in him. The public's interest is always uncertain.—Chicago Democrat.

Grew on him—"Knavel" said the autocrat, "how earnest thou to be a fool?" "Sire," responded the jester, "I began life among the wise men."—Philadelphia North American.

When a girl gives her picture to some young man, it means that it will keep company with the pictures of a good many whose originals she would feel ashamed to speak to.—Atchison Globe.

"Biddelcomb is getting horribly stuck up. He told me yesterday that he never rides in a street car." "O, that's Biddelcomb's joke. He always rides out on the platform."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"What would you do if you were in a street car on a crossing and saw a train coming?" asked one woman of another. "See the railroad at once," was her reply, and she didn't seem to think that she was anticipating, either.—Indianapolis News.

"Dear little girl, she is so careful about my health," said the new-husband boaster. "It is almost an annoyance." "Why don't you carry more life insurance?" asked the Savage Bachelor, and the Sweet Young Thing made a face at him.—Indianapolis Press.

Waggles—"There's no question that D'Abber is a great artist. I wonder if his children will inherit his talent?" Waggles—"I should say that his four-year-old boy had inherited it. He can't eat bread and molasses without smearing his face with the most artistic designs."—Louisville Journal.

PRESIDENT PLAYED POKER.

Game in Which the Chief Executive of the United States Took a Hand.

The marriage of Chester Alan Arthur, son of the late President Arthur, to Mrs. Andrews, at Vevey, recalls an interesting affair in which his father participated while officiating at an exposition in this country, and which has hitherto escaped publication, says the New York Herald.

August 1, 1883, witnessed the opening of the exposition at Louisville, and the central figure was President Arthur. Upon his arrival on the soil of Kentucky the president was met by the then governor of the state, Lukh B. Blackburn, and in response to a speech of welcome by him the president made a gracious reply. The train then sped onward through the state until Louisville was reached. Here the president was met by a delegation of prominent men of the city, headed by the mayor, Charles D. Jacob. At night a banquet was tendered to the distinguished guest at the Galt house, at which he was called upon to respond to a toast.

About 11 p. m. the president, accompanied by the committee appointed to look after his comfort while in Louisville, started for the suite of rooms which had been set aside for him at the Galt house, and, after a chat of about half an hour with the members of the committee which composed some of the prominent men in Louisville's affairs, excused himself and retired.

After the president had withdrawn one of the committee suggested that the party while away a couple of hours with a game of poker. No dissenting voice being raised, the cards and chips were brought forth and the game was on. For a solid hour or more nothing could be heard but the clinking of the chips and the subdued voices of the players as the bets were made. When the game was at its height, and the eyes and ears of the players were so intently fixed upon the cards and the betting as to be totally oblivious to their surroundings, a tall figure—clad in a white night robe appeared from behind the partition of a communicating room, and, coming up behind one of the players, gently tapped him on the shoulder.

To the astonishment of this player, upon looking up he beheld by his side the president of the United States. The president said he had been lying in bed since the game began listening to the rattling of the chips and the betting which was going on in the adjoining room, and, though tired, he could not persuade himself to go to sleep until he had taken a hand in the game. With one voice the committee extended an invitation to the president to take a seat at the table and join in the game, which he did. Louisville today has the distinction of having once had a president of the United States while its guests played a game of poker with some of its leading citizens in its night robe.

Taxation in France.

Taxation in France is most thorough and complete. Almost everything of any value or of money-producing power is taxed in France. If a saloon keeper or restaurateur places tables, chairs, plants, flowers or statuary in front of his establishment, or an awning over his front door or windows; if a merchant, a second-hand furniture dealer, grocer, greengrocer or flower vender displays goods in front of his establishment—he pays the city a tax or a rent for the use of the sidewalk or the space in the air occupied by the awning. Everything that comes into the city in the shape of wine, fruit, poultry, fish, any kind of food or drink, is taxed at the city gates. All banks, stocks and credits are taxed. Money unproductive is not taxed, and no special effort is made to get at it. The principle pervading the tax system is to make everything pay that is productive.—N. Y. Press.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

On the 110 square miles of London's area, it is said, 1,000 tons of soot settle yearly.

The South African winter begins toward the end of April and lasts until September.

Medical men in Italy derive so much of their income from foreigners that most of the students now learn to speak English and German.

Passports are not required in Europe. That is to say, a passport is not needed to secure admission to any of the countries except Russia and Turkey.

Half a century ago Belgium was scarcely known. To-day its products and manufactures are in the markets of every known corner of the globe, and it ranks as the seventh industrial country of the globe.

The Chinese have not yet learned to appreciate a well-finished tool of any kind. The only tools that they require seem to be those that they cannot actually do without—such as razors, cheap knives, scissors, needles, saws, chisels, etc.

Recently in the Alps some of the natives were greatly worried at a fall of apparently black snow. Had it not been that a scientist was on hand to explain that the blackness of the snow was caused by insects the Alps might have furnished a miracle story for future grandfathers to talk about by the winter fire.

A flight of Australian fancy is given in an English paper. The readers were asked to believe that mice swarmed in such quantities that 1,000 were killed in one hotel in three nights. A man had to be employed to drive them away while the horses were fed. They ate the whole carcass of a sheep in one night, destroyed acres of corn and have attempted to eat people in bed.

FORMING A CORPORATION.

Large Fees to Officials Have Created a Rivalry in Some Eastern States.

Dazzled with the revenue New Jersey was enjoying by creating corporations to do business in this and other states, rarely the state that created them, Delaware concluded to enter into competition for the profits of selling charters, says the New York Journal of Commerce. It required no capital; it involved no risk, and the possibilities were immense.

Therefore, Delaware enacted a law cutting under New Jersey in its scale of charges, and offering increased facilities for the introduction of wind or water or any other cheap substitute for money into the capital of corporations. In order to attract promoters the law allowed stock to be issued in return for personal services at any valuation the directors might put upon them. The customary provisions regarding the residence of a majority of the directors, the location of the head office, the keeping of the books and records and the holding of annual meetings within the state were relaxed or removed in order to make it as convenient as possible for a corporation to pretend to be a Delaware corporation, though its directors and officers and offices and business were entirely outside the state.

To make things still easier, a company was created to get charters in Delaware for concerns outside of the state and to represent them in the state for the very few and unimportant functions they were still expected to perform there, in order to give color to the claim of being Delaware corporations. The cheapness of the elasticity of Delaware charters was advertised like ready-made clothing or patent medicines, and the state expected to be a veritable Gretna Green for corporations that were bashful about effecting their union in the place of their residence.

The results have been disappointing. The capital of the March corporations exceeding \$1,000,000 each, that have been tabulated in our columns exceeded \$300,000,000, of which New Jersey got nearly \$300,000,000 and Delaware only \$21,500,000. The capital of the April corporations was \$228,000,000, of which New Jersey got \$228,000,000 and Delaware only \$7,000,000. If we omit two abnormally large corporations from the New Jersey list the capital incorporated in New Jersey would still be about 15 times as great as the capital incorporated in Delaware. Not even out rates and special terms to promoters have been effective in transferring this business from New Jersey to Delaware.

But there is still greater cause for mortification in Delaware. The capital incorporated in West Virginia was about a third greater than that incorporated in Delaware in March, and nearly three times as great as that incorporated in Delaware in April. West Virginia has been for years in the business of creating corporations on extremely easy terms and no questions asked. In fact, West Virginia charters at one time became something of a drug on the market, and the boom in New Jersey charters, which began a few years ago, was due to the feeling in the financial world that the name of some other state sounded a little better than the name of West Virginia, at the head of a certificate of incorporation. But West Virginia is forging far ahead of Delaware, in spite of the latter's tempting offers to promoters.

Virginia has made no special effort to get the business of creating corporations for the fees, but even this state incorporated 84 times as much capital in April as Delaware did. One company organized in Virginia has a capital of \$15,000,000, but, omitting this, Virginia incorporated four with \$9,000,000. The Delaware statesmen ought to look into the matter and find out why their charters do not sell better.

RUNS DOWN A SWINDLER.

Society Woman Succeeds in Doing What the Police and a Private Detective Failed to Do.

Prominent Brooklynites have been swindled by a handsome young woman, who, on the plea of poverty and hardship and by means of the use of the name of Mrs. Louise D. Ruxton, has obtained in the last six weeks nearly \$2,000, it is said.

The police believe that they have the perpetrator of this swindling scheme in the person of a young woman who was arrested the other day as the result of detective work done by Mrs. Ruxton. The woman gives her name as Jennie Roberts.

Among those who have been victimized are Mrs. "Deacon" Stephen V. White, John E. Searles, Mrs. R. Ross Appleton and others.

Mrs. Ruxton, who is the wife of a wealthy ink manufacturer, says that last November the young woman came to her house and told a pitiful tale. She was dressed in mourning. Her husband, she said between sobs, had been employed in Mr. Ruxton's factory, but had died, leaving her to support a family of five brothers and sisters.

Mrs. Ruxton believed the woman and gave her \$25. At various times after that, at social affairs on the Heights, Mrs. Ruxton was approached by friends who said that the woman had been to them, using Mrs. Ruxton's name, and that they had been glad to help her. They soon came to the conclusion that they had all been victimized.

Mrs. Ruxton complained to the police. They did nothing. She then hired a private detective. He failed to find the woman. Then Mrs. Ruxton decided to run down the woman herself, and for some time has been on the lookout. While driving in her carriage in Fulton street she espied Jennie Roberts in the street. Mrs. Ruxton alighted and followed the woman until she could turn her over to a policeman.

In her possession was a book containing the names and addresses of about 100 prominent Brooklyn men and women. After some of them was a note describing their characteristics and against many names were the amounts that had been received from them.

A PATHETIC PARTING.

Leave-Taking Between the Blind Chaplain of House and the Members of Congress.

One of the most pathetic scenes ever witnessed at the capitol was the parting of the blind chaplain and the members of congress the day of adjournment. There is scarcely a man in the house but who has formed an attachment for Chaplain Couden, and yet not many frequenters of the capitol know the cause of his affliction. While a private during the civil war a shell burst near him, and the flying fragments deprived him of his sight. A story related of the incident is that while Chaplain Couden was being carried from the field of battle some one said: "Poor fellow, he will never see again; he might better be dead." He replied: "Don't be too sure of that, boys, you may hear from me, yet." Since then, and as chaplain of the house, more than one of the boys who sat round the camp fire with him has listened to his touching prayers from his stand at the speaker's desk, to some reference to the days when he "soldiered with the boys." Dr. Couden is not less a poet than an able scholar, and one of his greatest delights is to compose and read verses of his own at a reunion of his comrades. He is by far the most popular chaplain the house has ever had.

MARIETTA COLLEGE ENRICHED.

The Trustees Receive 19,000 Volumes, the Gift of R. M. Stimson.

Marietta (O.) college has been enriched by the largest single donation in the country. At the annual meeting the other day the trustees announced their acceptance of the R. M. Stimson library, containing 19,000 volumes, the life collection of the donor.

Prof. A. T. Perry, of Hartford Theological seminary, was elected president of Marietta. He has arrived, accepted the office and will enter upon his new duties with the new year. The assignment of Capt. J. L. Barbour, of the United States army, to Marietta college for military training of the students was announced. Capt. Barbour is a graduate of Marietta.

Senator Pettus. United States Senator Pettus' big slouch hat is his traveling desk. When he starts out in the morning he fills his hat with letters and papers. He distributes them in sections as he visits the white house and the departments, but the old slouch hat is still bulging with documents when he reaches the senate. Laying it upon his desk, he carefully extracts his budget from its generous lining. When he has searched the hat and is satisfied that its valuable contents have been extracted, he sends it to the cloakroom by a page.

The Probable Cause. A New York man with an income of \$20,000 a year has committed suicide. He was probably depondent, says the Chicago Times-Herald, because of the poor prospect of making it \$75,000 and thus getting into a position where the strain of living would be eased somewhat.

No Signs on Telephone Poles. By orders of the street committee of the Paynesville (O.) council tin and cardboard signs advertising plug tobacco, yeast, soap, etc., are being torn down from telephone poles about town.

CURIOS FROM PHILIPPINES.

Several Tons Arrive at the National Museum and Contain Many Valuable and Interesting Articles.

Several tons of the Philippine curios brought by the government from Andrew Gies, Inspector of streets in Manila, have arrived at the national museum and are being handled preparatory to repacking for the buffalo exposition. The collection is a notable one historically, containing among other effects of Aguinaldo his clock and candlesticks. It also represents the customs and arts of the various islands. There are some beautiful costumes of pina cloth; head dresses, pictures, maps, and specimens of pottery.

One of the most interesting features at the present time is a collection of arms—also trophies of warfare—consisting of cowhide shields, swords and knives with curious-shaped blades and highly ornamental handles. Many of these were used by the fiery little Igorrotes, who were so fierce to the Spaniards, and who have lavished such loving kindness upon our men as the front, carrying them off the battlefields, dressing their wounds and feeding them.

Many of the church decorations are unique in the extreme, and are more suggestive of a ten-cent store at Christmas time than a religious ceremony. In the collection is a model of a, beautifully-carved bamboo house set high upon richly ornamental piles of the same wood. When the Buffalo exposition is over the collection will be arranged in the national museum.

GRADUATED IN ODD GARB.

Cosmet Covers and Underskirt Principal Items in Cincinnati Girl's Costume.

A sensation was created in connection with the commencement of Mount Notre Dame academy at Cincinnati the other day, caused by the long-observed rule in Catholic institutions that girls should appear at graduation and other exercises clad in simple garments. Miss Loretta Gott, the pretty 18-year-old daughter of Dr. Hubert H. Gott, has been attending the academy for five years, winning the gold medal and graduating with the highest honors in her class.

Her mother, ignorant of the rule, bought for her a beautiful dress, fashioned after the latest modes, and with all the accessories that cause the modern maiden's heart to beat fast. The garment was delivered at the academy, but the sisters would not allow Miss Gott to transgress the rule, despite the tears of the young graduate and the entreaties of the family. There was no time in which a plainer costume could be made to order, and at the last moment, by putting sleeves in her cosmet cover and using her underskirt, Miss Gott was enabled to appear on the stage, deliver her essay before the large audience and receive her diploma.

She was much chagrined at the time, but told her parents that she had achieved a unique distinction, being probably the only girl in the United States who ever graduated in such a costume.

EIGHT MONTHS OF TRADE.

Statement by the War Department Showing the Exports and Imports of Porto Rico.

The division of customs and insular affairs of the war department has made public its monthly bulletin treating of the trade of Porto Rico for the period of eight months ended February 23, 1900.

During the period named merchandise to the value of \$6,762,575 was imported into the island. Goods to the value of \$1,974,901 were admitted free of duty. The total exportation of merchandise amounted to \$3,198,396, products of agriculture predominating to the amount of \$2,748,568, or 86 per cent. of the total exports.

The trade by countries, including gold and silver, was as follows: Imports from the United States, \$2,971,233; Spain, \$1,396,246; United Kingdom, \$1,154,913; Germany, \$596,232; Canada, \$304,119.

Exports to Cuba, \$369,242; United States, \$651,496; France, \$312,402; Spain, \$335,184; Italy, \$288,178. The total trade with all countries combined, including gold and silver, amounts to: Imports, \$6,801,934.34; exports, \$3,382,540.

FORGETS HIS LATIN.

President Seth Low's Quick Wit Saves Him from an Embarrassing and Awkward Situation.

President Seth Low, of Columbia university, the other afternoon in the commencement exercises forgot his Latin when conferring the honorary degree upon a Harvard professor of Latin, Minton Warren. Prof. Low stopped suddenly, looked puzzled, and said: "Latin may come from the head, but English comes from the heart, so, Prof. Warren, if you have no objections, I will confer your honorary degree from my heart." He then continued in English.

Proposed Great Italian Aqueduct. A plan is before the Italian parliament for providing the three southern provinces—Foggia, Bari and Lecce—with water from Caposele, in the Apennines, by building an aqueduct 163 miles long, with branches that will bring up the total length to 267 miles. The land is very productive, but suffers in summer from malaria and drought, as its present water supply is drawn largely from swamps. The projected aqueduct will cost \$32,000,000, and will supply 238 towns and villages with a population of 1,800,000.