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RACE FOR PHILIPPINE TRADE

Thrilling Story of American Occupation of the Manila Custom House.

LIKED TO A RUSH OF LAND BOOMERS

What It Cost Spaniards to Catch on to Uncle Sam's Ways of Doing Business—Fierce Rivalry for the Trade.

The financial returns of the Manila custom house covering the period from August 22, the date of the American occupation of the custom house, to December 31, 1898, tell a story of an importation race similar to the one which is being waged in Manila on a newly opened reservation.

The total revenue, in excess of expenses and refunds, amounted to \$1,886,558.76. These figures are of Mexican currency or pesos instead of dollars, and can so be considered through the report.

There were seventy-seven foreign and 260 coast vessels entered Manila during this period. Eighty foreign and 251 coast vessels cleared for ports various in and beyond the Philippines.

Spain, Italy and Germany were the principal competitors in the trade. The American flag flew proudly above Old Spain itself, which is a very good example of the fickleness of Spain's sons in this taking up so quickly with the new love.

Spain exported 1,800 liters (a liter is equal to 1.0567 quarts, liquid measure) and Germany 2,100 liters of Cognac.

Spain exported for the Philippines 17,365 liters of gin, against Germany's (its only competitor, practically) 10,183 liters.

England, who had probably not figured on the marketable value of lucifers in an atmosphere almost cloudy from tobacco smoke.

Triumph in Machinery and Oil.

That the United States are going to impress upon the natives some of their own mechanical genius is evident from the fact that the imports were wonderfully increased.

The fact that 1,542,749 kilos of illuminating oil came into Manila during the period we are talking about may be the reason that Mr. Rockefeller's name is almost as well known here as it is at home.

Points, oils and varnishes were imported in the amount of 182,873 kilos; 31,167 kilos came from the United States.

The fact that the Philippines do not come anywhere near raising a necessary amount of rice for their own consumption is due to the fact that the United States and Germany supplying the greater part of the rice.

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demand for some enterprising Yankee to enter.

Umbrellas are in great and growing demand, and Spain succeeded in getting rid of 6,780.

We have reached the end of the present available list of Filipino imports. It can plainly be seen that Uncle Sam has come nowhere near holding up his end for enterprise.

The clock will run for a year without attention is the interesting invention of Peter M. Renshield of Cahoon, Ill.

Strange as it may seem, tobacco, cigars and cigarettes were imported to the extent of 512,305 kilos.

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HISTORY OF THE KLONDIKE

Omaha Man Narrates the Story of the Discovery of Gold.

PROSPECTORS HAD LONG SEARCHED FOR IT

Yukon District Opened in 1858 and Miners Led Precarious Existence—Mining Klondike Location Made by Skookum Jim.

Through a residence in Alaska prior to and during the stirring days which followed in the wake of the discovery of gold in the Klondike region, George Voss of the Yukon district has acquired a great deal of accurate information regarding the history and conditions of that remarkable region.

The Alaskan Treadwell mine, in fact, has had a great deal to do, in an indirect way, with the first discovery and the ultimate working of the gold in these bars.

Two Californians have designed a justifiable hanger for electric lights, comprising a reel suspended in a bracket, to which the main cord is attached by a grip.

In a new Indian club a frame is formed of spring wire, with a covering of leather or other material, the handle consisting of a coiled spring, which imparts flexibility to the grip and allows the club to be swung with greater ease.

Churns can be operated by the feet by the use of a new mechanism, in which an upright frame carries a sliding head, to be attached to the ceiling, with a spring to raise the head, a pair of blades being attached to the base to depress the dasher in the cream.

A Washington man has designed a combination cane and umbrella which comprises a hollow tube with internal screw threads at each end, with the central rod of the umbrella carrying screw-threaded sleeves which can be fitted in the ends of the tube to hold the latter over the umbrella.

been living at the mouth of Sixty Mile creek, concluded to drift down to the mouth of the Klondike river, where he could catch salmon and after drying them sell them to the trading posts for dog meat.

McCormack, who was known as "Swag George," was a typical squaw-man, with all the peculiarities of that class, but he was compelled to do as he saw fit, and he was not a man who would be deterred by any obstacle.

McCormack's find to be genuine and this caused a general stampede to the new fields. Everyone endeavored to get locations either on Adams creek or those near the mouth of the Klondike.

The winter of 1898-7 promised to be fraught with considerable want and suffering through lack of sufficient provisions, but late in the fall a quantity of beef was driven in and averted starvation, though many of the Klondikers were still in the winter with but one sack of flour and fresh beef minus the grease, and with but little baking powder.

The people of the Yukon district were unprepared for such a rich strike as has been made, and few would believe that the Klondike was rich in gold.

Such an influx of men, arriving short in their supply of provisions, threatened another period of suffering from want of food. A quantity of beef came in, however, and relieved the situation materially, and many of the men who had arrived during the summer and fall either became disheartened or afraid of starvation, sold what provisions they had, and went out. Prices were astonishing. Nothing in the way of provisions could be purchased for less than \$1 a pound, and many things were much higher.

It was a great mistake for so many men to have had absolutely no experience in mining to go to the Klondike and none should go there now in hopes of gaining a fortune.

This has to be thawed out by a slow-burning fire. In some places this gravel for three feet above the bed rock carries gold; in others, it is necessary to dig clear to the bed-rock before encountering any pay gravel.

Bankrupt King of the Klondike.

"Did I know Alexander McDonald? Why, certainly. Everyone in Alaska knew him—the king of the Klondike. I became acquainted with Aleck when he first struck Alaska gold. At that time he went to work for wages and he said that he had been coming to the Klondike to get enough money to go to the States and buy a farm in Iowa, and raise the mortgage off a team of burros, with which he expected to go into the market-gardening business.

"Pinafore" was raging. Telephone wires were a novelty. "Baby Mine" was prevalent. Sittling Kearney was rampant. Sitting Bull was the great terror. Campellan was the great terror. Adelaide Nelson was playing Juliet. Six-day walking matches were a craze. Prince Louis Napoleon was slain by Zulus. England was fighting Afghans and Zulus. Kaiser William celebrated his golden wedding.

The United States army was fighting with the Indians. Leadville was two years old and had 20,000 inhabitants. Zola's "L'Assommoir" had just shocked the Millionaires. T. Stewart's book was stolen for ransom. Grevy succeeded Marshal McMahon as president of France.

The "exodus" of negroes from Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas to Kansas was in progress. "She's a daisy, she's a darling, she's a dumpling, she's a lamb," was sung in all circles of society.

Presbyterians from all over the world are to hold their seventh general assembly at Washington September 27 to October 6. Rev. Dr. DeWitt of Princeton is to preach the opening sermon.

It is stated that in Belgium the people seem to live in the presence of God. At 6 o'clock in the evening the bells of some every cottage the voices of fathers, mothers and children and servants saying their prayers, and it is much the same at noon.

AN ATTRACTIVE INDUSTRY

The Palm of the Ancients is Likely to Become Plentiful in the Southwest.

DATE GROWING IN THE UNITED STATES

Progress of Experiments in the Introduction of Useful Foreign Plants—Overcoming the Effect of Alkali.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—(Correspondence of The Bee.)—The United States mails are sometimes used for rather curious purposes. A number of years ago several wagons drove up to the postoffice at Washington, D. C., and deposited a number of large tubs containing handsome palms. Having delivered themselves of the freight the wagon drivers off. The postoffice people went out to see what the performance meant and found to their surprise that these palms were to be sent through the mails. The local superintendent at first said that the office would not be allowed to mail such things, but he was prevailed upon to do so.

Of these trees, about forty are now living and thriving, fifteen of them having blossomed. Only seven of these, however, are pistillate or fruit-bearing trees. Since this first attempt at American date culture the Agricultural Department has followed up the question and Secretary Wilson, during the last year, has had an expert in Algeria, Mr. Swingle, making a thorough study of this subject and sending home plants. The secretary proposes to spend perhaps \$10,000 during the next two years of the money already appropriated for the introduction of useful foreign plants.

Where They Thrive. The regions in which the date palm reaches perfection are characterized by deficiency of rain and a wide variation of temperature. The summer months in Algeria, 115 degrees or more, though in winter the thermometer falls as low as 16 degrees above zero.

The water used may advantageously be quite warm and contain considerable alkali. Dates may, however, be planted along streams, or by springs or flood basins, in such situations will grow well, adding much to the landscape by their graceful plant-like foliage.

It is frequently assumed that where soil shows surface incrustations of alkali salts, it is valueless for agricultural purposes. This is not necessarily so. The color, or some experiments made by the Wyoming Government Experiment station. There are, however, few plants so alkali-proof as to flourish under these conditions.

Equivalent Symptom. Detroit Free Press: Jack—So you spent last evening with the colonel. How did you enjoy yourself? Bob—Oh, I had written most of them myself. Jack—Well, I see! No wonder you were bored!