## THE NICARAGUA CANAL TREATY. | Meats for Thanksgiving

Enterprising Newspaper Men Appear to Have Obtained the Text of the

## NEW TREATY WITH ENGLAND

And the Great Trans-Isthmian Cana

American ownership of the canal to be cut through the Isthmus of Darien. Lord Pauncefote and Secretary Hay have agreed upon a new treaty which shall abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer contention and make gua canal under American auspices. It is

GREAT INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY and proper guarantees that it shall not be closed to international commerce in the event of war are not unreasonable. The present administration is committed to this important undertaking. The trans-continental railway systems can be ex-pected to oppose the enterprise. It will not be surprising therefore to read paid editorials in some of the leading newspapers, apparently favoring the canal, but really devoted to an effort at its defeat.

THE PEOPLE ARE DETERMINED. however, that this attempt to connect the two great oceans by a maritime highway open to the world of commerce shall not Therefore, the newspapers which lend themselves to any movement for delay are seriously risking the good will of the people. It is observed that when once Americans set their hearts upon any purpose, subservient politicians and subsidized journalists are unequal to the task of turn-ing aside public sentiment. It is this fact which makes institutions like Nebraska's successful insurance company, the

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strong with the people of Nebraska. They are rapidly becoming educated to the doc-trines for which this aggressive institu-tion stands. They have rallied most manfully to its support, and \$275,000 was writ ten in October. Half a million more will be added to the total risks of this home company for November and December, and the increase for the year will approximate \$2,000,000. The period of doubt and dis-trust caused by alien enemies of home companies is passed.

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(Continued from Fourth Page.)

rieties which are still in such common de-mand come in for liberal notice and comment in the Thanksgiving stories of previous centuries. What those old New Englanders, who used the long letter "S" when they wrote ac-counts of their holiday feasts would say and think if they were by some miracle-siven the privilege of resuming an earthly given the privilege of resuming an earthly Will Undoubtedly Be Built

in a Few
Years.

Wost Americans are firm believers in

Will Undoubtedly Be Built

existence today and were asked to pay 25
cents for a dozen of their favorite SeekNo-Furthers, Baldwins or Greenings can
only be imagined. And if they were told
that a great packing firm was responsible
for it all they would probably be none the

Probably two more of the chief festal food components are also more expensive than last year. They are squashes, which are high at 3 cents a pound, and pumpkins. practicable the construction of the Nicara- This last vegetable is very scarce this fall and is costing from 15 to 20 cents apiece. Mushrooms are also somewhat more of a luxury than is usual, costing 60 cents a pound, an advance of 10 cents.

But the great majority of Thanksgiving dainties are as cheap as ever and with them the staples as well. For instance, despite the alleged corner on fowls which another packing company has manipulated, turkeys are still 10 cents a pound here and chickens 8 and 10 cents. Then in the grocery line cranberries are just the same, though probably somewhat different in price from what they were when, in 1705, the people of New Jersey first picked them from the marshes for use all through the east on Thanksgiving day.

Then layer raisins, being imported from Spain, are still stationary in price and so are Malaga grapes, from the same place. This despite the fact that there is said to be a strong "holdup" of all fruit by a powerful combination till the Christmas season

Celery, although it is now being brought altogether from California—the Michigan and Nebraska stock being exhausted—is no more costly than usual, while the same is true of nuts, head lettuce, cucumbers and cider. At any baker's, moreover, doughnuts may still be purchased for 16 cents a dozen. notwithstanding the fact that the eggs in them are bringing large prices a dozen.

That Thanksgiving edibles play an impor-tant part in the history of that festival is undisputed, but perhaps the most interest-ing feature of this is the evidence they give in denial of the oft-repeated charge that the inauguration of this custom by the Puritans was a mere imitation on their part of the Christmas holiday festival which they had left behind them in England. The various dishes chosen by the colonists on Thanksgiving day, so far from being similar to what they had known at the Christmas tide, were radically different.

In the first place, all the old "superstitious meats" of Great Britain were entirely avoided. The traditional "baron of beef" and boar's head found no place in the Puritan menu, being replaced by turkey. Of course this was through compulsion at first, as the English meats were not available, but they soon were at hand and the colonists continued to cling to their new viands. Thus the Indian pudding and pumpkin ple also replaced plum pudding as a dessert, though it was bred into the blood of the Puritans through centuries gone by that the great English dish was to be honored and maintained.

From that time there has been a con-stant diversity in the yearly itemizing of the Thanksgiving bill of fare, but this has never leaned toward the Christmas dietetic. One of the principal diffusions in the requisite components of the feast has ocrequisite components of the feast has oc-curred in its most vital part, the piece de-resistance itself. Turkey is no longer ex-clusively used. Geese, ducis, chickens and even such game meats as venison are now purchased to a considerable extent. The change has been entirely the growth of the last few years, but it seems certain that no combination of feet fish and few that no combination of flesh, fish and fowl will ever depose the gobbler from his pedestal till the species is extinct.

A peculiar feature of Thanksgiving menus a peculiar feature of Thanksgiving menus since their beginning has been the absence of cibarious foods. Not one of these is an essential item, even in the modern dinner, and the only channel, in fact, through which the grains secure any recognition at all are the turkey dressing, the piecrust and the body of the pudding.

An interesting but erroneous tradition conservers the beginnings of Thanksgiving

an interesting but errogeous tradition concerning the beginnings of Thanksgiving day is that the old New Englanders formerly made it obligatory. Such an astounding idea must have had a foundation somewhere, but it is rather difficult to discover it. It may be that a brief phrase in a cer-tain Thanksgiving proclamation made by Queen Anne in 1713 is responsible for the thought. At that time the great peace had just been consummated and the royal lady ordered a Thanksgiving in honor of it, detailing that it was by all "to be strictly observed, on pain of suffering such punishment as we can justly inflict on such as shall contemn or neglect the performance of so religious a duty."

The national character and the national mood have been no more respecters of Thanksgiving festivals than of any other institution, hereditary or acquired. The yearly custom had yet to pass its first half century of existence when the American tendency to hasten cut down its period of annual duration some six-fold. It took only that length of time for the slow-going bur-gomasters from Holland and the deliberate Puritans from England to evolve a new na-tional trait, that of rushing things.



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