

rubber forests of Acre are J. Pierpont Morgan, August Belmont, Frederick P. Olcott, and other prominent lights of the financial world. That the syndicate will get its due share of protection is therefore a foregone conclusion, although it will of course devolve upon Bolivia to show that the rights she granted were hers to grant.

Germany's interest in the matter arises from the fact that that aggressive people controls the trade of all northern Brazil, including the province of Amazonas. The same country is also predominant in Bolivia. More than 27 per cent. of Bolivia's imports are from Germany, and about 8 per cent. from the United States, and about 40 per cent. of her exports are to Germany, against 5 per cent. to the United States. That the Kaiser will zealously resist any action that might tend to reverse these figures is a certainty.

In a way Brazil seems to have the lead on her rivals, from the fact that the natural route to travel from Acre to civilization is down the Amazon to the Atlantic seaboard. However, Peru is busy constructing a railroad designed to penetrate the heart of the district, and if that is done the advantage will be with Peru. Bolivia, however, covets the wealth of Acre, to use it as a weapon with which to induce or compel Chile to restore her a port on the Pacific, and to that end seeks to enlist the aid of the United States.

As exhibiting the possibilities of Acre as a wealth producer, it is related that one of the presidents, dictators, or kings (whichever you choose to call them) left after enjoying a few months' rule with a fortune of more than \$600,000 in gold. He was a Mexican by birth, a baseball player by profession, and a ruler by accident. He "made his pile" in Acre and then "retired" to New York to spend it. He succeeded so well that he is reported to have died in September in poverty and squalor.

CASTRO HARASSED BY INTERNAL FOES



SQUAD OF VENEZUELAN REBELS.

General Matos, leader of the revolutionary forces in Venezuela, declares that he has an army of twelve thousand men ready to depose Castro. The Venezuelan president must therefore turn from danger without to quell insurrectionary strife.

In 1900 the crude rubber production of Acre reached the enormous total of more than 4,500,000 kilograms, valued at \$9,000,000. This is surely a stake worth playing for, and however, the three nations

may settle the controversy there is sure to be unending trouble in subjecting the people of Acre to any of the existing governments. The rubber republic, as it is sometimes called, is so remote from civilization, so difficult of access, and controlled by such reckless spirits that its subjugation will be a contract sufficient to tax the resources of any of the nations concerned. Its revenue can be made unprecedented, in proportion to its size and population, by the simple imposition of an export duty on crude rubber. Its agricultural resources are unlimited, and its forests are filled with valuable cabinet and dye woods, medicinal plants, and food products.

It is significant that the proposed capital city of Acre is to be called Nova York. Its frontier custom-house, Puerto Alonzo, on the Bolivian boundary, is open for business, and its chief city, Puerto Acre, is reported to contain a population of more than 18,000.

Most of the little we know about Acre is derived from the French engineer, Albert de Lautreppe of Paris, who was commissioned by the Peruvian government to survey the route for the proposed railroad. He found the plan to be feasible, so far as natural features of the country were concerned.

Mrs. Speyer—The Newweds cannot have as much money as we thought.

Speyer—How do you know?

Mrs. S.—Why, I see she has tied her holly wreaths with the ribbon she had on that red and white dimity she had last summer.

PRINCESS BEGS FOR DIVORCE



Following the sensational story of the flight of Princess Louise of Saxony, who has given up all right to share the throne because of her love for a French tutor and her hatred of her husband, comes the news that the princess will seek a legal separation from her husband if the pope will give his consent.

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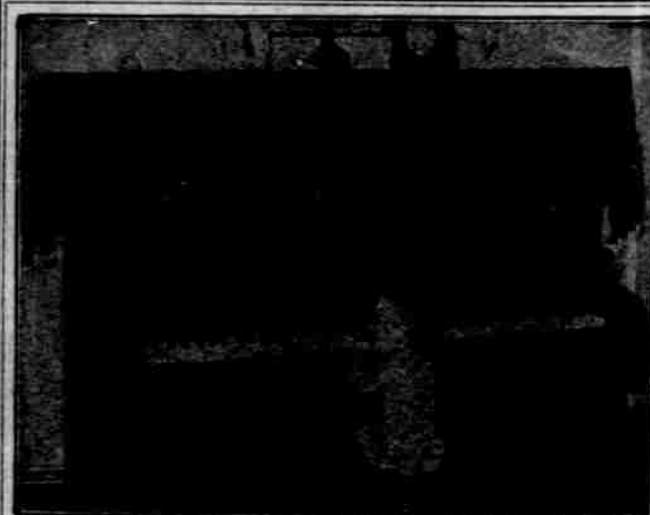
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This Picture

was made from a kodak photo of a Nebraska baby whose parents reside at Fairfield, Nebraska, and own a

Schaff Bros. Piano.

The Schaff Bros. Co. are using this cut for a catch "ad." all over the United States, and call it "Cupid at Play on the Schaff Bros. Piano." By the way, have you seen the new 20th Century High Grade Schaff Bros. Piano? It is one of the finest Pianos made, and can be seen at the warehouses of the

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