

HISTORY OF PANAMA

Little State Which Now Threatens to Secede from Colombia.

It Contains the Oldest City on the American Continents and is Interesting in Many Other Ways—A Port of Great Importance.

Should the Colombian congress fail to ratify the canal treaty, as now seems probable, and this failure result in a revolution in Panama, as also seems probable, there is likely to be established in Central America some new international boundary lines of more than passing interest.

Press dispatches tell us that plans for the revolution are going on apace, and that seemingly nearly every resident of the state is in favor of breaking away from the government at Bogota and declaring the independence of Panama for the purpose of granting a right of way for the canal to the United States. It does not take much of a prophet to imagine the stars stripes flying over the entire isthmus in the near future, and Panama becoming the next addition to our territory in our programme of expansion. So far have the plans for the revolution gone, and so sure of success are the leaders, that even the boundary lines to be demanded of Colombia have been decided upon. They will give the state a total length of 475 miles.

St. Augustine is the oldest city in the United States at the present time, but should we get this slice of Colombia that city would have to take a back seat in favor of Panama, which is the oldest city founded by Europeans in either of the Americas. The foundation of Panama was laid by Pedro Arias Davila in 1518. There was then but one other settlement of Europeans on either continent, that of Santa Maria el Antigua, near the Atrato, which was afterwards abandoned, and of which no trace now remains.

Panama has always been an important point in the history of Central and South America. Through it passed the gold and silver of Chili and Peru on its way to Spain; it was the center of religious activity for that section of the world on the part of the Jesuits, and there are within it to-day several notable buildings erected by the monks. Of its church buildings the most notable is that of Santa Ana, the rallying point for the revolutionists of the past. Much of the original city was destroyed by the buccaneer Morgan on February 24, 1671, when, after three weeks of rapine and murder, he burned the warehouses and many of the public buildings, and with 175 mules laden with spoils and 600 prisoners he recrossed the isthmus to the Caribbean. Two years later the Spanish Villacorta began rebuilding the city, and though it has suffered from



MAP OF PANAMA.

revolutions, earthquakes and other frightful affairs, there is much left to-day that reminds one of the old Spanish reign.

To run a canal through this narrow neck of land from Colon to Panama has been the dream of mankind since 1527, when H. de la Serna explored a route. There are to-day nearly a dozen routes surveyed across the isthmus, but only on the one undertaken by De Lesseps has there been any noticeable amount of work done.

The entire state consists practically of a barren range of low mountains, and would be of small interest to the world in general were it not for the proposition to connect the two oceans through it, and also for the existence of the Panama railroad which has been in operation since 1855, and was the first railroad which connected the two oceans. This railway is to-day, short though it is, one of the important lines of transportation of the world, and pays to its stockholders probably larger dividends than any other similar enterprise. It has made both Panama and Colon ports of no small importance, and on it and the canal hinge the value of the state.

If the revolution occurs, and the state is successful in its fight for independence, it will hold within its borders practically every practical route, with the exception of the one through Nicaragua, for an interoceanic canal.

MAX OWEN.

Hard to Suit.

Employment Agent—What was the matter with your last place? Domestic—The missus was too young. It made me look old.—N. Y. Weekly.

THE WORLD'S LEPERS

Dread Disease Has Invaded Practically Every Country and Race.

Strict Regulations Against It Are Having a Good Effect in Loosening Its Grasp—Rages Throughout the Orient.

Recent investigations in Norway show that leprosy in that country is loosening its grasp, and that the government has been justified in enforcing its strict isolation regulations.

Though dark races have been more subject to the scourge of leprosy than the white, in every country and race there have been many victims of the dread disease.

Leprosy has existed since the records of history, and perhaps in prehistoric days it worked its ravages in both Asia and Africa. Until the Crusades, it was practically unknown in Europe, but beginning with that period it spread at a dangerous rate. During the Middle Ages, almost every village in Great Britain and France had its leper hospital. Men presently demanded to be segregated from



A LEPER VILLAGE IN CHINA.

the lepers, and by the sixteenth century the disease had begun to disappear from Europe, save in Portugal, Greece, Norway and Sweden, in which countries, as a writer tells us, "it has mysteriously survived from the Middle Ages." To-day the fearful disease occurs epidemically in northern and eastern Africa, Egypt, Arabia, Persia, China, Japan and India; Russia, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Greece, France and Spain, and the islands of the Pacific and Indian oceans; it is prevalent in Central and South American, Mexico, the West Indies, Australia, the Hawaiian islands, and New Zealand, and is found in New Brunswick and other parts of Canada.

India, which country contains over 100,000 lepers, is one of the principal places where leprosy exists. No province in India is free from it. Segregation is not at all strict; the man who brings you bread may be a leper, or the woman that passes you freely in the street may be afflicted.

It is estimated that there are 30,000 lepers in the Philippines. Leprosy was introduced into the Philippines in 1633, when the emperor of Japan sent to these islands a ship with 150 lepers on board, the exiles to be consigned to the care of the Catholic priests. The government is now engaged in searching for the present day lepers and providing for their isolation. In the Hawaiian Islands strict segregation has been the rule for many years, though a considerable number of lepers are aided by their friends in eluding the vigilance of the officers and the exile to the leper colony on Molokai. The leper settlement on Molokai is shut in by mountain and sea, and escape from it is almost impossible. Catholic sisters are the nurses there, the immediate caretakers and the territorial government makes liberal provision for the support of the victims.

Though it is not generally known, leprosy exists in many parts of the United States, Louisiana, Florida, California and Minnesota being the chief centers. Leprosy has been known in Louisiana since 1785, and has increased there of late years, becoming epidemic about 1866. A report sent to the senate commission of medical officers of the marine hospital service, shows that leprosy is distributed in the United States as follows: Alabama, one case; California, 24; Florida, 24; Georgia, 1; Illinois, 5; Iowa, 1; Louisiana, 155; Maryland, 1; Massachusetts, 2; Minnesota, 20; Mississippi, 5; Missouri, 5; Montana, 1; Nevada, 1; New York, 7; North Dakota, 16; Oregon, 1; Pennsylvania, 1; South Dakota, 1; Texas, 3; Wisconsin, 3; making a total of 278 cases.

The disease is now generally regarded as both contagious and infectious and scientists urge strict segregation. International conferences on the subject are held from time to time, and the reports given at these meetings show that as yet no progress has been made in the cure of the disease. The bacillus of leprosy was discovered in 1873 by Dr. Hansen, of Norway, but scientists confess themselves ignorant of the conditions under which the bacillus grows and develops, as well as the way of its invasion into the human system.

KATHERINE POPE.

Just So.

Little Elmer (who has an inquiring mind)—Papa, which bone was it that was taken from Adam to make a woman of?

Prof. Broadhead—The bone of contention, my son.—Town Topics.

HAMBLETONIAN HISTORY.

Curious Incident of Long Accepted Falsity of Pedigree and Name—A Bit of Turf Record.

Hambletonian was a bull-like horse that was trained by Hiram Woodruff, but could never develop a speed equal to a mile in three minutes—3:18, to be exact, says John Gilmer Speed, in Century, being the best mile he ever did. As to his pedigree, Mambrino, the grand-sire, was by Messenger; but he was worthless, and also vicious. He could neither run nor trot. He was bred by Louis Morris, of Westchester county, New York, and sold to Maj. William Jones, of Cold Springs Harbor, Long Island. As he was worthless and a serious disappointment, Maj. Jones virtually gave him away, and he was used as a traveling stallion at a small fee. John Treadwell, a Quaker farmer near Jamaica, Long Island, had two Conestoga, or Pennsylvania Dutch draft mares. Out of one of these mares by Mambrino, was born Abdallah. This horse was so bad-tempered that he could never be broken to harness, but was ridden under the saddle. He had no speed either as a runner or trotter, not being able to do a mile in four minutes at any gait. He had a mule-like head and ears, a badly cowed neck, and a rat tail. But he was a Messenger, despite the Conestoga crossing, and he was sold to Kentuckians for \$4,500. In less than six months the Kentuckians repented of their bargain, and sold him back to New Yorkers for \$500—Messrs. Simmons and Smith, Bull's Head dealers, buying him as a speculation. This was in 1849. No purchaser could the speculators find at any price, and the stallion was virtually given away to stop expenses of keeping him. About this time Charles Kent wanted a new horse for his butcher wagon, and traded, through Alexander Campbell, of Bull's Head, his worn-out mare to Edmund Seelye, a farmer in Orange county, N. Y., for a steer for butchering. This butcher's mare had originally been sold to him by Campbell, who had obtained her in a drove of western horses, paying \$40 for her. Her pedigree was quite unknown. This mare is known in American horse history as the Charles Kent mare, and is said to be by imported Bellfounder. She was in foal to Abdallah when Seelye got her, and the colt became the property of Bill Rysdyk, a hired man on Seelye's farm. Rysdyk looked around for a name for his colt—a name which should indicate the Messenger blood in him. There had been in the early years of the country a famous son of Messenger named Alexander Hamilton. This horse finally became known as Bishop's Hambletonian. In his effort to borrow the name Rysdyk, being weak in orthography, called his horse Rysdyk's Hambletonian. And so he lives in history—false in his pedigree as in his name.

INCIDENTALLY AN EXPERT.

Successful Minister Whose Floricultural Work on the Side Has Made Him Famous.

In the year 1884 a Massachusetts clergyman who had broken down physically resolved to find amusement for spare hours and strength for his nerves in the culture of flowers. The sight of a hedge of sweet peas decided him to make the sweet pea his specialty.

At the time there were only a dozen varieties of this flower. It was easy to make a collection, and by attention and experiment the kinds increased and the collection grew until the minister had 19 varieties. Thrifty, odorous, beautiful—missionary flowers, too, for one year he sold a hundred dollars' worth of seeds for the benefit of the home mission fund of his church.

The next important development was a little book about sweet peas, which had a circulation of 50,000 copies. Then the clergyman took a vacation trip abroad, and exchanged ideas with English florists. They had already heard of him, and in his own country he was becoming known as an authority. In 1894 he performed the important task of naming varieties—there were 50, by that time—for the California seed-growers. In 1900 he represented America in London, at the two hundredth anniversary of the introduction of sweet peas into Great Britain.

Let it be noted that this clergyman did not neglect the demands of his profession, the main business of his life. That he is authority in another field, and therein could command an expert's remuneration, is due to the determination with which he began, "to know all that was to be known about this one flower."

Busy people ought to have a "fad," a spare-hour diversion employing another set of faculties than that which they use in the daily struggle for bread; but the wise plan is not to attempt to cover too much ground. It is much better to succeed with sweet peas than to fail at a flower-garden. Specialization means mastery, which involves the sacrifice of pleasure, and leads to large increase of profit.

The Sex of the Train.

Three friends were expecting the train. The first said: "Here she comes!" The second said: "Here he comes!" The last said: "Here it comes!" The second was right—it was the mail train.—Singapore Straits Budget.

THE TROUBLES OF LO

Land Sharks Are Defrauding Him of Valuable Property.

Methods by Which They Operate in the Indian Territory—Rule of the Squaw-Man Was Bad—Minors Defrauded.

In the Indian Territory land sharks, both red and white, have been at work for a long enough season to have brought affairs to a climax and measures have lately been taken to restrict their dealings. A recent decision of Judge C. W. Raymond in the United States court for the western district of the Indian Territory prohibits parents of Indian minors from leasing land belonging to such minors without the advice and direction of the court. This decision will be of far-reaching influence, affecting something like 1,000,000 acres of land. And as a result of recent investigations set on foot by the Indian Rights association and the interior department, ruin may overtake several of the land companies organized to rob the Indian through the lease system.

When the tribes were given this reservation to have and to hold, some optimists may have thought the Indian problem solved. But it was not, though for a time affairs ran smoothly enough that the outside world heard little of the life going on in that far-off western territory. But gradually there came to the knowledge of the country at large stories that woke up the public to the realization that our Indian charges needed help in governing themselves. Investigations were ordered; and the report was made that the territory was most lawless, a harboring place of outlaws and criminals of all sorts. We learned that the full-blood Indians had very little to say in their own territory, that the "squaw men" ruled and mis-ruled as they saw fit.

These squaw men, white men that had married Indian women, ruled tribal affairs, controlled broad acres, and pushed the full-bloods to the wall, or rather, to the woods. Together with half-breeds of some little schooling, the squaw men appealed to the tribal traditions of the full-bloods, and, by occasionally allowing the latter to hold office, were able to



AN INDIAN POLICEMAN.

prolong their own control in the territory. When congress detected these frauds, she determined to do what she could for the Indian, even if it meant the abolishment of tribal identity, the breaking up of the communal lands into small allotments, even the breaking of the treaty in which the Indians were promised the territory for their reservation, and which they thought was to remain theirs as long "as grass grew and waters ran."

Our government has the Indian on her conscience, and since she has found the old plan for him not a success, has been moved to the present bold attempt. She is now offering him citizenship instead of obsolete tribal rights, and it remains to be seen what he will make of his new opportunities. The white man has squirmed into the Indian Territory anyway, and now she makes it possible for him to enter it frankly. But at every step the United States must protect the aborigine from this same white man, and only with difficulty is she able to procure the right kind of paleface to help safeguard the interests of the Indian.

One of the changes already noticeable in the Indian Territory since the breaking up of communal holdings, is the rapid rise of a class of Indian landlords. The 84,000 persons (68,500 Indian citizens and 15,500 colored citizens affiliated with the Indians) who are eligible for allotments, will hold homesteads aggregating over 9,000,000 acres in extent. These homesteads cannot be sold or taken for debt for a period of 21 years, but it is feared the majority of Indians will not be made farmers thereby; it is prophesied that they will sit back shiftless landlords, making use of present income from rents rather than laboring for future gain. To protect the children, to insure that they shall receive some of the benefits accruing from their allotments, has been the aim of the recent decision providing the advice and direction of the court when Indian parents of minors desire to lease out the lands of these minors.

LOUIS LONG.

Enjoyed the Making Up.

The Husband—We must break this habit of constantly quarreling with each other, even if we have to separate.

The Wife—But I can't live without you.—Town Topics.

SPORTS AND ATHLETICS

When Lou Dillon, the sensational trotting mare, stepped a mile in 2:00 at



C. K. G. Billings.

Readville, Mass., the other day, she not only established a world's record but turned a trick which has been the ambition of the trotting horse world to reach since Maud S. brought the mark within hailing distance. The race will doubtless go down as the

most remarkable sporting event of the year 1903. The mare, owned by C. K. G. Billings, of Chicago, trotted the first quarter in :30 1/2, the second in :30 1/2, the third in :30 1/2, and the final quarter in :29, reaching the goal which breeders of trotting horses have dreamed of, books have been written about, and the horse world has talked about for almost a quarter of a century. Away back in 1806 Yankee set the mark at 2:59, and the three minute trotter became a back number. It has required 96 years of careful breeding and training and the introduction of hosts of new paraphernalia for producing speed and reducing weight and friction of the sulky to reduce the world's trotting record to the even two minute mark, although the less popular sidewheel gaited pacer reached the goal a little earlier. The pacer is now an even second faster than the trotter, but the ease with which Lou Dillon reeled off her famous mile leads her driver, Millard Sanders, and many of her admirers to believe she can make the pacer go faster than 1:59 to hold his place, and perhaps the Billings mare will regain for her gait and sex the throne which was occupied for so many years by Goldsmith Maid and Maud S. For the first quarter of the nineteenth century the trotter was supreme in the harness world, and it was not until the year 1839 that the pacer came to the front with the fastest time in harness. For eighteen years the sidewheelers held their place until in 1867 Dexter won back the laurels for the trotters, only to surrender them in two years to a pacer, Yankee Sam. In 1874 Goldsmith Maid became queen of all and for nine years the pacer was in the background. Then there was a struggle which lasted for years, with honors about even between the two gaits, until in 1894 Robert J. regained the laurels for the pacers, and it has not yet been surrendered.

Millard F. Sanders, who drove Lou Dillon in her record-breaking race, is a pupil of the old-time reinsman, R. S. Carr, who in the '60s enjoyed the distinction of owning two of the greatest trotters of the day—Dixie, 2:30, and Tackey, 2:26. At that time Mr. Sanders was just branching out as a successful driver. The black horse, Guy, which won a free for all, beating Rosaline Wilkes and White Stockings, among others, was the first horse he drove. His success with harness horses during the last few years has been nothing short of phenomenal, notable among his achievements being his campaign with the great mare Anzella, 2:06 1/2, during the 1902 season. Mr. Sanders went to Cleveland, O., soon after he began driving and secured employment with W. J. Gordon. Mr. Gordon owned a large stock farm and Mr. Sanders was commissioned to do the purchasing. He was told to "buy the horse of the century." Clingstone, 2:14, was Mr. Sanders' purchase, and that horse, driven to a high wheel sulky, was one of the stars of his time. Clemma L., 2:15; Mambrino-Sparkle, 2:17; Nobby, 2:17; and William H., 2:18, were among Clingstone's associates at the Gordon farm the years Mr. Sanders was in charge. Mr. Sanders left Gordon's employ after having worked for the Ohioan for 16 years. He then started a public training stable in New York. He gave it up in two years' time and was signed by Count Valensin to go to California and take charge of his stable. In one year Mr. Sanders developed two world's champions. They were Frou Frou, 2:25 1/4, a time made as a yearling, driven to a high wheel sulky, and Fosto, 2:22 1/4, a pacer, also a yearling. The veteran reinsman has to his credit five yearlings with records better than 2:30 and one with a mark of 2:22. Sydney was the start of Count Valensin's stable. Mr. John Turner, of Philadelphia, offered \$100,000 for Sydney after the death of the count. Mr. Sanders then went to work for the management of the Oakwood stock farm. He again had great luck, winning many races and giving the colt J. P. B. a record of 2:25 as a yearling. In 1901 he came east again and had two good money winners in Dollie Dillon, 2:07, and Janice, 2:08 1/4.



Millard F. Sanders.