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GENERAL MILITARY NOTES.

THE king of Italy has decided to hold no great army maneuvers this year in order to spare the heavy expense.

A FRENCH army doctor explains that in the French army a non-commissioned officer loses all chance of influence or authority over his men if his ugliness inspires either disgust or ridicule.

LIEUT. JOHN B. FINLEY, the well-known tornado expert, and lately in charge of the signal service work at San Francisco, has been assigned to regular army duty in an infantry regiment at Fort Wayne, Ind.

THE royal standard of Persia is an apron. Stout old Gao, the Persian blacksmith, raised a revolt which proved successful, and his leathern apron covered with jewels is still borne at the van of Persian armies.

THE latest addition to the Italian navy, the Francesca Morosini, a twin-screw battle-ship of eleven thousand tons and sixteen and a half knots, carries four 105-ton Armstrong guns mounted in pairs on barbettes, besides other smaller arms.

IT is said that the torpedo-boat Bathurst, that recently made a mean speed of 24.45 knots per hour, represents the last refinement of mechanical engineering, and that it hardly seems possible to improve upon her as long as steel remains the chief material of construction.

ELEVEN battle-ships, with an aggregate displacement of seventy thousand tons, are now being built for the German government—three at Bremen, two at Gaarden, near Kiel, one at Wilhelmshafen, three at Dantzig and two at Bredow, near Stettin. At Arberg no fewer than seventy torpedo boats are being built for the government.

THE youngest lieutenant in the Prussian army is Count William von Rothenburg, who was recently assigned to the first regiment of dragoons. As the count was born in 1881, he is at present scarcely ten years old. As a matter of course, the young man does no active duty as yet. He owes his appointment to the ancient privileges of his family.

PICKED UP IN THE WEST.

THEODORE CALF and family have petitioned the Kansas legislature to have their name changed.

THE soda lakes of Natrona county, Wyo., have been sold to English capitalists for $2,000,000.

THE largest county in the United States is Custer county, in Montana, which has 36,000 square miles.

THE people of Tombstone, A. T., have become convinced that their name is a "hoodoo" and are agitating for a change to that of Richmond.

ONE reason why New Mexico is settled so slowly is that the great majority of land grants are held by native Mexicans, one Don sometimes owning an entire county.

SPOKANE FALLS has grown rapidly since the fire of a year ago. The population then was 18,000, and the recent census gives the town 32,000. Seattle has about 50,000 people.

WILD horses are numerous in the mountains near Antelope valley, Nevada. It is difficult to keep tame horses in that section, as they soon become discontented and wander off to join the mustangs.

THE secretary of the manufacturers' bureau of Denver says that in Gunnison county, Col., there are three hills of solid iron and manganese ores 800, 1,000 and 1,100 feet high, their bases covering more than 1,000 acres.

THERE is a tract of forest trees in southern Oregon, embracing about 18,000 square miles, which, if cut and sold at stumpage 1,000 feet, would pay our national debt twice over. It is estimated that the amount of merchantable timber standing amounts to 400,000,000,000 feet. —Portland Oregonian.

LEFT THEIR WEALTH.

THE sister-in-law of a pauper in the poorhouse at Glasgow, Scotland, has bequeathed $70,000 for church purposes.

THE will of Lady Rosebery leaves over a million dollars of her personalty to her husband, no end of realty, and, despite remembering some of her Rothschild relatives, provided for her servants.

A MRS. ZOOK of Kansas City, who died recently, left $100,000 to distant relatives and cut off her husband with a $5 legacy and a request that he wouldn't make a fool of himself by spending it recklessly.

A RICH lady of Atchison, Kan., made her will recently, and in it she says that all her fortune is to be given to her husband at the end of five years if he can prove that he has visited her grave ten times during that period.

THE will of the late Vice President McCullough, of the Pennsylvania railroad, bequeaths the bulk of his estate, valued at $10,000,000, to his two grandchildren, the son and daughter of his daughter, Mrs. Harry Darlington, of Allegheny.

THE late Mrs. Mary C. Shaw, of Pittsburgh, Pa., has left the income of her property, amounting to about fifteen hundred dollars, to Miss Alice B. Fletcher, for her life-time, to aid in her researches in ethnology and archæology among the Indians.

QUEER CURRENCY.

NORWAY even now uses corn for coin.

IN India cakes of tea pass as currency, and in China pieces of silk.

OXEN form the circulating medium among the Zulus and Kaffirs.

IN the retired districts of New Guinea female slaves form the standard of value.

TIN to-day forms the standard of value at the great fairs of Nishni-Novgorod, Russia.

AMONG some of the native Australians green-stone (jade) and red ochre form the currency.

IRON spikes, six being a drachm or handful, are employed in certain parts of Central Africa.

CHOCOLATE is used in the interior of South America for currency, as are cocoanuts and eggs.

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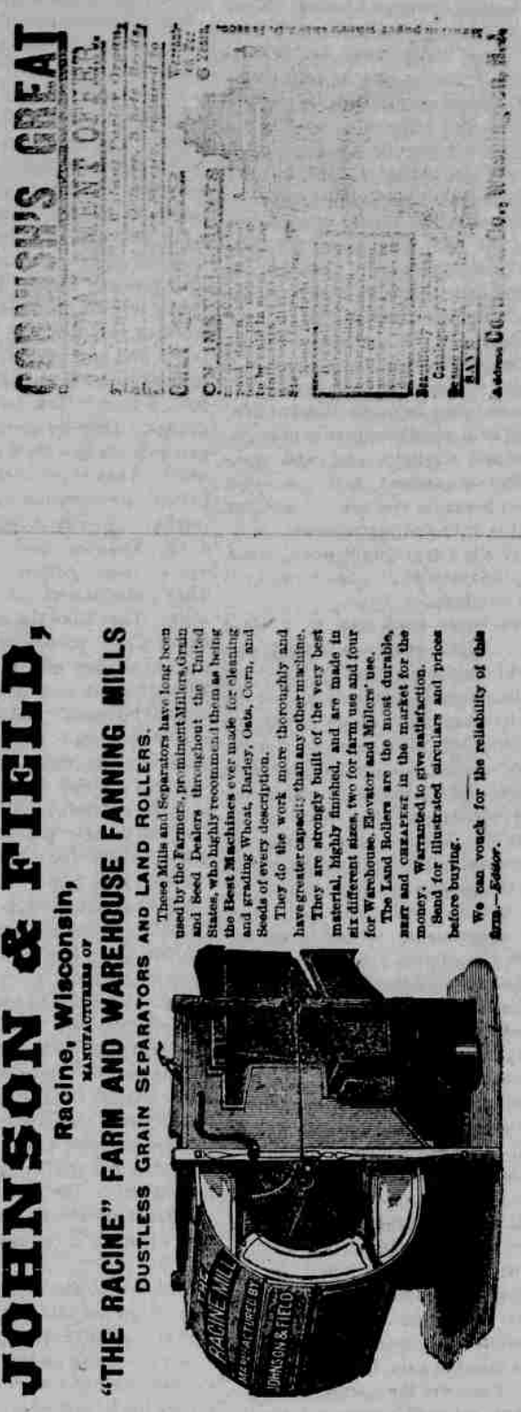

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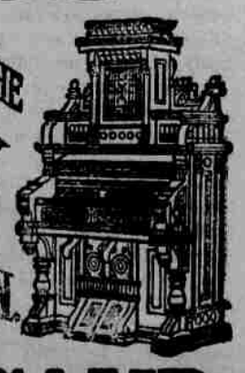

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