

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

Not Yet Acclimated.

Aguinaldo, having heard of its virtue, was going to try a habeas corpus, but the government decided that a writ of that kind had not yet been acclimated in the Philippines.

Overworking Good Nature.

The treasurer of a benevolent order who turned the funds of the society into his private business and then lost everything is to be helped out of his trouble by a popular subscription. We're a wonderfully forgiving and good-natured people.

Tammany's Salary List.

Greater New York's Tammany has worked up municipal salaries to a total of \$44,000,000 a year, including 446 men with a salary of \$4,000 or more and 68 with \$10,000 or more. The Tammany salary list calls for nearly three times the amount paid last year to the United States army, composed of 68,000 men.

Imitating Our Pension System.

England is imitating the pension system of the United States. There is a bill in parliament providing a scheme for pensioning the widows and orphans of soldiers who have died in the South African war. This measure is being hastened by the officials of the war office in order to stimulate enlistments in the army, which are now very slow.

Universalist Church.

The Universalist churches now number about 1,000 in 40 of the states. Two thousand names have been added to their membership in the last two years. Growth seems to be especially vigorous at the south, where 25 churches have been built and four are building, with many more demands that cannot be supplied at present for lack of ministers.

The Only Woman Cobbler.

Mrs. Nellie Harmer, of Grand Rapids, Mich., would almost as soon peg new soles on a worn-out pair of shoes or patch the uppers as play the piano, and she can do both and do it well in either case. Mrs. Harmer is the only woman cobbler in Michigan. Indeed she has never heard of another woman who can do the work she does in that or any other part of the country.

Might Try His Hand Here.

Commander Tilley reports to the navy department that he has induced the natives of Tutuila to abandon the custom of going visiting until they have eaten their hosts out of house and home and also of giving excessive wedding presents. Having succeeded so well in the islands of the Pacific he might be ordered home to work out a similar reform in his own country.

Uncle Sam's "Splendid Isolation."

The latest French budget showed a deficit of \$10,000,000. The latest German budget showed a deficit of \$35,000,000. The latest British budget showed a deficit of \$266,000,000. The next United States budget will, it is expected, show a surplus of \$130,000,000. Alone among the great nations the United States is paying its way as it goes and steadily reducing its funded debt at the same time.

Muzzling the Barkers.

The Omaha council is considering an ordinance imposing a fine of \$20 on any person who after being notified permits his dog to bark to the annoyance of the neighbors. Offenders must either send their dogs to the country, kill them or shut them up. The sick, the nervous, the sleepless and such comparatively useless portions of the population appear to have a champion to assert their claims against the owners of dogs.

Practical Side of Forestry.

The forestry department of the St. Louis fair intends to have an exhibition that will be an object lesson to all who see it of the practical side of wood working in all its phases and branches. It will show the woods of the country and the uses to which they are adapted; it will endeavor to show where they grow, at what price the standing timber can be bought, the size of the tract, accessibility, and everything that a prospective purchaser would want to know.

Some Don'ts for Young People.

A New York minister says marriage is not a failure, and that more than 2,500 of the 3,012 couples he has united are happy. His advice to those who would wed and be happy is largely summed up in the following half-dozen don'ts: Don't marry when too young. Don't marry until you can support a wife. Don't marry a girl who can't cook and sew. Don't live in six rooms when three are enough. Don't marry unless you suit each other. Don't come to me for a divorce.

WHAT HE IS DOING.

Secretary Wilson Tells of the Work of Agricultural Department.

Tuberculosis Test of Imported Cattle—Great Activity Has Marked the Introduction of Seeds and Plants from Abroad.

Washington, Nov. 26.—In the annual report of the secretary of agriculture, made public yesterday, considerable space is given in it to the inspections of imported and exported meats by the bureau of animal industry. The secretary states: "Out of a total of 459,000 cattle exported, there were inspected, marked with numbers for identification and certified 385,000. The remainder were shipped in small lots from ports where no inspection is maintained and to countries which do not require inspection."

"The number of sheep exported reached about 298,000 head, and of these 228,000 were inspected before shipment. The horses and mules constituted the second largest item in the exports of live animals, the number being 116,500, and the value about \$8,900,000. Of these nearly 48,000 were inspected and certified."

"The reported increase of bovine tuberculosis in most countries and the losses already sustained from the disease in the United States led me to make an order requiring a tuberculin test of cattle imported for breeding or dairy purposes. The application of this test has detected a sufficient number of diseased animals to fully justify its adoption."

The secretary says that great activity has characterized the introduction of valuable seeds and plants from abroad. In regard to the congressional seed distribution it has been arranged to send out cotton seed, tobacco seed, sorghum seed, sugar-beet seed, grasses and forage plants.

COMMON LAW MARRIAGES.

The United States Court of Appeals Holds That They Are Legal in a Breach of Promise Suit.

St. Louis, Nov. 26.—The United States court of appeals, in reversing the decisions of the United States district court of the Indian territory and the Indian territory court of appeals, which were in favor of Rose Pryor, who sued Samuel T. Davis, a wealthy merchant of the Cherokee nation, for alleged breach of promise, decided yesterday that common law marriages are legal.

In delivering the opinion of the appellate court Judge Adams said: "Marriage is a civil contract and may be made by any persons of different sexes competent to make such contracts. While commonly entered into with some ceremony, either civil or religious, it may be consummated without any ceremony. If a man and woman, in good faith, agree to become husband and wife, and this agreement is followed by a consistent and notorious cohabitation, the relation of husband and wife is lawfully established."

KANSAS LAW INVALID.

United States Supreme Court Knocks Out the Statute Regulating Charges at the Stock Yards.

Washington, Nov. 26.—In the United States supreme court Monday an opinion was handed down in the case of Cotting and Higginson against A. A. Godard, attorney general of Kansas and the Kansas City Stock Yards company, involving the validity of the state law of Kansas empowering the state authorities to fix rates of charges on stock in all stock yards in that state. The decree of the circuit court which upheld the law was reversed. The opinion was written by Justice Brewer.

The Kansas law was passed in February, 1897. It was during the Leedy administration in Kansas and at the time the populists controlled both houses of the legislature. It was their theory that the stock yards company, although existing without a franchise granted by the state or any other authority, was in reality a public service corporation, subject to regulation of rates, the same as a railroad or other company requiring a franchise.

A Dowdette Found Guilty.

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 26.—Eugene Brooks, elder of Dowdie's Christian Catholic church in Zion, was yesterday found guilty and sentenced to three months without hard labor for aiding and abetting John Rogers, who was recently found guilty of manslaughter for not providing his infant children with medical attendance when they were suffering from diphtheria, from which they died. Brooks will appeal.

Fifteen Hours Under Water.

New York, Nov. 26.—The submarine boat, Fulton, emerged from under the water with all well. The test of the Fulton's staying powers was highly satisfactory, the boat being submerged over 15 hours.

PERRY LANDED MARINES.

Commander of the Battleship Iowa Will Keep the Isthmus of Panama Open at All Hazards.

Washington, Nov. 26.—The United government has taken charge of the isthmian transit. A dispatch received at the navy department from Capt. Perry, of the battleship Iowa, at Panama, reports that fact. Capt. Perry says that Gen. Alban with 600 men is fighting the liberals on the line near Empire. Transit is in danger of interruption. Capt. Perry has landed with a detachment of men from the Iowa and has started with a train to clear transit and also establish detachments of men to keep it so.

Battle at Colon Imminent.

Colon, Colombia, Nov. 26.—No evening train left Panama yesterday. The government troops are attacking the liberals at Culebra. The result so far is not known. The government gunboat Pinzon left her anchorage last night and is now reported to be landing troops on the north end of Colon. The commotion on the streets as this dispatch is sent is ended and calm now reigns. There is no jubilation which is evidence that the liberal army is not advancing toward Panama. It is reported to have been defeated at Matachin by Gen. Alban's command. The latter is said to be pushing on Colon.

Reported Defeat of the Rebels.

Washington, Nov. 26.—The state department has received confirmation of the reported defeat of the liberal troops by the Colombian government troops.

HE STICKS TO EVANS.

Secretary of the Interior Lavishes Praise Upon the Pension Commissioner—Reclamation of Arid Lands.

Washington, Nov. 26.—The report of E. A. Hitchcock, secretary of the interior, indorses the work and recommendation of Commissioner of Pensions Evans and says that the veterans have no more sincere friend than their comrade, their commissioner, "who has served as an enlisted man in the armies of the United States and he but maintains and defends the honor of their patriotic service when, refusing to ignore both the letter and spirit of the law, he declines to permit the impostor, whether claimant or agent, to share in the bounty provided for the veterans and those dependent upon him."

On the question of reclamation of the arid region, the secretary says: "The investigations which have been carried on demonstrate that there is no one question now before the people of the United States of greater importance than the conservation of the water supply and the reclamation of the arid lands of the west and their settlement by men who will actually build homes and create communities."

A MEDAL DUE HIM.

Lieut. Van Schaek, of the Fourth Infantry, Exhibits Remarkable Bravery in Battle with Insurgents.

Manila, Nov. 26.—Second Lieut. Louis J. Van Schaek, of the Fourth infantry, while scouting with a few men of that regiment, met 150 insurgents who had attacked and sacked the hamlet of Siarua, near Cavite. Upon seeing the Filipinos Van Schaek ordered his men to charge them. The command was obeyed and Van Schaek, being mounted, reached the insurgents 60 yards in advance of his men. He killed three of them with his revolver. An insurgent fired his rifle point blank at Van Schaek at four paces, but missed. Lieut. Van Schaek was then knocked from his horse. He jumped to his feet and engaged in a hand-to-hand conflict with the enemy, using the butt of his revolver. He sustained two severe wounds, one of which nearly severed his wrist. At this point the lieutenant's men arrived, rescued him and put the insurgents to flight. Van Schaek is in the military hospital at Manila and is doing well. He has already been recommended for a medal of honor for bravery in a previous engagement.

SWINDLED THE CREDULOUS.

Man at Lincoln, Neb., Who Professed Healing Powers Greater Than Christ Indicted by Grand Jury.

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 26.—The United States grand jury has indicted "Prof." R. E. Dutton, of this city, for using the mails for purposes of fraud. "Prof." Dutton claims to possess power unequalled by that of Jesus Christ, in his circulars making a comparison broad and sweeping between himself and the founder of the Christian religion, much to the disadvantage of the latter. In his circular he claims to possess the power to cure all disease, to work miracles more wonderful than those recorded in the Bible, and to give to his patrons the power to separate their spirit from the body and wander in worlds unknown to mankind.

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