

CURRENT TOPICS.

The proposal by the government of Hawaii to arbitrate the difference with Japan, which proposition has been accepted by the latter, is likely to terminate that controversy before the annexation treaty with the United States will be taken up by the senate. It has been supposed that all the differences between the two countries related to the landing of Japanese immigrants, but this is by no means the chief complaint made by Japan against the republic. It seems that the Japanese on the islands use large quantities of sake, a liquor that is imported from their native country. The former duty on this article, collected by the Hawaiian government, was 15 cents a gallon, but a law was recently passed that increased this duty to \$1. The bill was vetoed by President Dole upon the ground that it was in violation of the existing treaty with Japan, but parliament passed it over his veto. Against the enforcement of this law Japan protests.

The prime minister of the empire admits the right of Hawaii to pass and enforce all proper regulations in regard to the question of foreign immigration, and also that such a right is inherent in the police powers of any country, but his contention is that the tax on sake does not come within such rights and that it is purely arbitrary and capricious. He does not believe that under any treaty such legislation is warranted or that it will be sustained by any fair court of arbitration.

This is a question in which the United States has a direct interest, for we have always claimed and exercised the right to levy customs duties for revenue or for the purpose of encouraging the domestic manufacture of any foreign made product independent of any treaty. Whether the Hawaiian parliament imposed its duties on sake for purposes of revenue, to encourage its manufacture at home, or as a sort of punishment to the Japanese who have migrated to that country does not yet appear, but it is likely to be brought out in the evidence that will be presented to the court which will adjudicate the matter.

The abrogation by Great Britain of her trade treaties with Germany has been referred to as an evidence of the unfriendly feeling between the two countries, but this is very far from being true. These treaties were a part of Great Britain's free trade policy and under them she was compelled to put both the Germans and the Belgians upon the same trade footing, in her domestic markets, as the people of her own colonies. In this way it became impossible for Great Britain to give any preference to her own colonies, some of which have commodities that England needs and in all of which there is a growing trade that the mother country now finds it for her interest to cultivate and encourage. Some of the Colonies, like Canada and the Australian, would like to see an imperial Zollverein, but so long as these treaties stood in the way such a movement was impossible.

It is noticeable that within the last five years there has been a very decided change of sentiment in England regarding the colonies and commercial relations with them. In many of the dependencies of the British crown there has long been a hope for what was called imperial federation, and this feeling has been strong in Australia, yet the government, under Mr. Gladstone, would not give the subject even a respectful consideration. But so great has been the change of opinion that Mr. Chamberlain, the present colonial secretary of the British cabinet, is warmly in favor of a closer union between the crown and the colonies. The significance of this is that it indicates a willingness on the part of Great Britain to abandon her world wide policy of free trade and limit it to her own possessions. While this would make the empire more nearly self-supporting than it is at present, it would disastrously affect many other nations.

The United States furnishes England with 40 per cent of her food supply, while the British colonies contribute only 15 per cent, the balance being provided mainly by Russia and Argentina. If the colonies were to furnish the 40 per cent of the food of England now drawn from the United States it would result in a more serious disturbance to our foreign trade than we have ever yet experienced. There is no doubt that the colonial policy of the empire is soon to undergo a radical change, which has been encouraged by the visit of the various colonial premiers to London to attend the June jubilee, and the abrogation of the German treaties is the first positive evidence that Great Britain intends to draw her supplies from her colonies more largely than she has ever done before, which will mean a restricted market for our own agricultural products.

**Tar Heel's Tough Luck.**  
A North Carolina newspaper has this local item: "As Col. Williams was driving home yesterday lightning struck his wagon and completely demolished a four gallon demijohn of very fine whiskey. The colonel has the sympathy of the community."—Atlanta Constitution.

Four-year-old Robbie ran breathlessly into the house, just as the sound of bagpipes was heard coming up the street. "Oh, mamma!" he said, "there's a man out here with a dead pig that sings; come quick!"

A NEW SCHEME FOR BOYS.

**How to Devour the New Cake Without Detection.**  
"Oh, those boys of mine!" sighed a handsome matron on Cass avenue, says the Detroit Free Press. "I don't believe that a detachment of police could keep them within bounds. Their papa says they are little terrors, and I guess he should know." "Yes," suggested an outspoken neighbor, "and he might be able, by a little introspection, to discover the original source of their mischievousness. Frank used to keep things pretty thoroughly stirred up himself."

"But these boys of mine are right from one thing into another as fast as they can go. It sets me wild. Why, we had company for dinner this evening, and when I went to look for the beautiful layer cake I had baked with my own hands so as to have it nice, there wasn't a crumb of it to be found. Nothing could be more annoying."

"That recalls an experience of Frank and mine. We had been raiding the larders in both of our houses till final notice was issued that we must either reform or take the consequences. One evening there was to be some fine company at Frank's and he managed to get me an invitation. During the afternoon we discovered the cake and it was a daisy, all sugared over with white and surrounded by a piece of statutory work of the same material. We simply couldn't resist, but we sought to cast suspicion on the baker, by carefully digging out the interior through a small hole we made in the bottom. It took slow, careful work, but we had our reward as we went along."

"On the table that shell looked like a magnificent cake. We boys looked as solemn as owls through grass and all the courses, till it came to desert. Then we edged as his father took the long, thin knife, complimented his wife on her taste and then made a cut. The steel went through and struck the plate with a sharp sound, the hollow cake collapsed, Frank still looked solemn, and I took to my heels. The settlement was with a rawhide."

"Frank will have to raise the boys," mused the wife. "I'll be responsible for the girls only."

RELATING TO HEALTH.

If dyspeptics would take the precaution of resting before meals it would materially aid their digestive powers. Daily naps are good for persons who are troubled by the American disease, dyspepsia. Sleep is food for the nerves; early hours should be observed and the whole system invigorated if recovery is wished.

Fewer limbs are amputated nowadays than ten years ago. Such is the verdict of one of London's largest hospitals. While surgical operations have increased 50 per cent they have become more conservative and science now devotes itself to the saving of limbs which ten years ago there would have been no option but to cut off. At the same time mortality has decreased owing to improved methods of nursing and better sanitation. Only 2 per cent of the operations today are amputations.

In view of the many changes which have been rung in the early-to-bed, early-to-rise idea the following opinion from an eminent medical authority ought to be of interest. He takes up the old statement that an hour before midnight is worth two hours after, and gives his opinion as follows: "I had an opportunity to make some study of this subject in my naval service during the late war. On shipboard the ship's company—officers and men alike—stand four-hour watches day and night, and to get the required amount of rest are obliged to get their sleep irregularly; to so arrange it that the same man shall not be obliged to take early or late watches continually, the 'cox-watch' of two hours is interpolated, thus adding to the irregularity. In watching the results for over two years I could never discover that the watch, officers and men, were not as fully refreshed by their sleep as were the medical and pay officers, who stand no watch and have hours as regular as those of any household." It seems to make but little difference to those who have given careful attention to this subject whether people sleep at one time or another, so that they get a sufficient amount of sleep.

Not Much Influence.

As Senator Stewart, the patriarchal silver orator and bicycle rider, was one day passing through one of the small parks of Washington he met a lady who is engaged in performing heroic work for the independence of Cuba. In the course of a brief conversation the lady asked the senator if he did not think President McKinley would soon do something toward terminating the rebellion. Receiving a negative reply, she expressed considerable surprise and said:

"Why, it looks to me as if this administration should take some action! Everybody has expected great things from Mr. McKinley in the direction of freeing Cuba. You do not mean to tell me that he has lost all interest in the matter?"

"No," said the senator, "it is not that. But, mortifying as the confession is, the truth must be told. As a matter of plain fact Mr. McKinley has but very little influence with the present administration, and hence there is no likelihood of anything definite and beneficial being done for Cuba."

Broad chins signify nobleness and large dignity, unless vertically thin, when if thin, bloodless lips go with them you will find cruelty.

WHAT THE LAW DECIDES.

An apportionment between life tenants and remaindermen is allowed in Greene vs. Greene (R. L.), 35 L. R. A. 790, where a portion of a trust fund is recovered after the loss of a part of it, so as to make an allowance to the life tenants for the loss of income during the time the estate was in course of settlement. The amount apportionable to the life tenants for such loss of income is held to be the interest on the sum which at interest will produce the amount recovered.

The time when a municipal debt comes into existence, and not the time when it is due, is held, in Laporte vs. Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph company (Ind.), 35 L. R. A. 686, to be the time which must be considered in applying the rule of limitation of indebtedness. If the city has already reached the limit a contract payable in installments must be one in which the current revenues will pay as fast as the indebtedness comes into existence, together with other expenses to which the city is liable.

The duty of furnishing a separate passenger train for passengers only, and not for freight and passengers together, is held, in people ex rel. Cantrell vs. St. Louis, A. & T. H. R. Co. (Ill.), 35 L. R. A. 656, to be implied in the duty of a railroad company to furnish necessary rolling stock and equipment for the suitable operation of the road. The sufficiency of earnings to justify the expense of such a train is held to depend on the earnings of the entire system, and not of the mere branch over which the train is to run.

In determining the taxable value of a railroad, it is held, in state vs. Virginia & T. R. Co. (Nev.), 35 L. R. A. 759, that the earning capacity is the main consideration, though perhaps not the only one, where the road could be replaced for less than its original cost. It is also held that prospective improvements to affect the value must be more than possibilities and so certain that a business man purchasing the road would take them into consideration. Also that the cost of replacing a worn-out wooden bridge is properly charged to expense account in determining the income as an element of a tax assessment and that if a steel bridge is made instead only the difference between the two should be charged to construction account.

A photograph of the scene of an accident is held, in Dederichs vs. Salt Lake City R. Co. (Utah), 35 L. R. A. 802, to be admissible in evidence to aid the understanding of the facts. But in Hampton vs. Norfolk & W. R. Co. (N. C.), 35 L. R. A. 808, a photograph of a place is held inadmissible on the question of the existence or non-existence of a path at a certain time if the picture was taken two years later, after the situation had changed, and a map made near the time was already in evidence. With these cases are reviewed the other authorities on the use of photographs in evidence.

ENGLAND'S GARDEN.

The little Isle of Wight, which is called the garden of England, has one of the highest ladies of the land as its governor, inasmuch as Princess Beatrice, daughter of the Queen of England, is the resident governor and takes as much interest in the affairs of the tiny domain as any man ever has who occupied the same position.

Women rule in the land. The station is kept by a woman—Whippingham station—and it is the boast of the capable elderly stationmistress that no man helps her sell tickets or care for the tiny and picturesque station. From the station a charming country road winds along a mile to the royal village of Whippingham which is rustic but well-kept and within the Osborne domain. The postoffice is very quaint with its thatched Gothic roof and whatever letters are waiting to be called for are shown in the window like merchandise. A woman presides over this and to another woman is intrusted the care of the village church.

The chapel contains a royal pew, for when the queen is at Osborne she always attends church. Opposite her pew is the marble memorial to Princess Beatrice's husband, Whippingham enjoys the distinction of being the only parish church at which the marriage of a child of the reigning monarch has taken place.

Very interesting are the queen's almshouses, a long row of cottages, connected into a rambling building covered with ivy, picturesque and pretty. Here live the widows of the Osborne estate and several old couples whose days of toil are ended. One particularly bright couple are Mr. and Mrs. Jackman—he having driven a plow before the estate was purchased by the queen and having passed into her service along with the property.

Words in the English Language.

It is quite unnecessary for any writer to interlard his work with foreign words or phrases. There are now over 250,000 words in the English language acknowledged by the best authorities, or about 70,000 more than in the German, French, Spanish and Italian languages combined. One can easily understand foreigners borrowing from English, but it seems inexcusable for English writers to burden their works with words taken from languages with a much smaller number of words than are to be found in our dictionaries.

A cannon that was used on board the Kearsarge in her naval duel with the Alabama is part of the new soldiers' monument at Stamford, Conn.

EXAGGERATION.

Gift of Munchausen Rivalled by Roman-Lady Middleton.

The nobility easily take rank among story tellers. Baron Munchausen, of course, stands first, with Sir John Falstaff a good second, and now comes my Lady Middleton, a very good third. The noble lady has written for an English periodical publication an account of some remarkable recoveries of lost property. In one case a valuable ring was lost. Years afterwards, when a floor was removed, the jewel was found wedged tightly around the neck of the skeleton of a mouse. The ring had fallen through a crack in the floor; the mouse, half-grown at the time, had thrust its head into it; had thus been caught, and had grown until it was strangled. Another case: A gentleman shot and wounded a sand-piper, which, fluttering across a pond, was seized and devoured by a pike. That afternoon the sportsman's brother, while fishing in the pond, caught a pike in whose stomach was found the identical sand-piper. Another case: A lady who was visiting a relative lost a ring. Six years after, while visiting the same person, then living in a far distant locality, she slipped her hand thoughtlessly into a recess of the chair she was sitting in and found the missing ring. Another case: A lady sued at a royal ball, and one of the golden spoons lodged, unknown to her, in one of the pockets formed by the plaits on the front of her dress. The following year, in presentation to the queen, she wore the same gown. As she bent in courtesying the plait opened, and out fell the missing spoon at her sovereign's feet.

INTERESTING TO WOMEN.

A dainty bodice is of pink and white silk gauze, with insertions of yellow lace. A little French blouse is of blue and red muslin, with a vest and pointed collar of tomato red velvet.

A handsome traveling bag shown in England was of crocodile leather in green, with cut glass bottles having silver gilt tops and lined with corded silk. The fittings were all suitable for removal to the dressing table. Ladies' traveling cases are now more popular than the bags, as they will hold a gown. They contain everything that the heart of woman could wish. Besides the regulation cut glass bottles, they have a manicure set, silver bottles for the powders, hand mirror, smelling salts, card case, purse, flask, clock, jewel case and pin boxes.

A delightful little frock is of black velvet, trimmed with black silk braid, many rows being placed on the skirt. The zouave jacket is trimmed the same way and has fronts and a Medici collar trimmed with broad satin—colored flowers on a ground of white. The effect is of quiet simplicity and richness.

A new gown has a bolero of white cloth covered with V's of gray braid. An Indian red canvas gown lately seen was trimmed with V-shape folds of itself, the same arrangement being carried out on bodice and skirt, with a multitude of lace and chiffon frills to trim the front, neck and wrists of the corsage.

A tailor-made gown of terra-cotta is made lovely by revers and straps of white cloth with white and gold buttons.

A handsome blouse of white satin has the sleeves entirely covered with steel hand embroidery. Over the waist is worn a zouave of jet-embroidered black net, with a blue satin waist belt. The front is of white tulle spangled with steel sequins.

Another blouse of magenta silk is picturesque with silver loops and buttons opening on a front of white chiffon, but is less original than one of red ponce, with a black design, worked in buttonhole stitch and trimmed with a collar of tucked batistes and insertion.

Foulard dresses are well represented by a lovely pinky-blue blue tulle trimmed with gauzings of itself. The bodice is crossed at the back under a sash of faded and deep corn-flower blue. It has a coquettish jabot of cream lace fastened with steel clasps.

Early Training of Children.

To learn to respect the perfection of things is of infinite value to a child. If it is a flower, to shelter and try to keep it alive, never wantonly to pluck an ailing away a blossom; if it is a book, not to deface or mar it; if it is a wall, not to mark or deface it; if it is a smooth-rolled lawn, not to litter it with rubbish nor to deface it with wheel marks. To learn to wait patiently, all their life long they will give thanks for having been taught how to do this. How many a pleasant talk has been interrupted, how many an otherwise helpful visit has been lost by a teasing, pulling child, tormenting its mother either to listen to its demands or to go somewhere.

The whole of its life lies in what the child learns of these things, and it must either grow into selfish manhood or womanhood, or have the evil beaten out by the hard and bitter teaching of the world in which it was meant to be happy and useful, rather than to begin thus late to learn that we cannot live unto ourselves.

Four Aces.

Marian—"Brother George broke an iron bar with his two hands yesterday." Bob—"And I broke four men with one hand last night."—Up-to-Date.

AN EASY MARK.

The Gentleman from the Country Was Systematically Visited by Collectors.

"I weigh 200 pounds," said the man who had lived in the city a year, declares the Detroit Free Press. "My mustache grows long and straggling. I'm active, know how to make a living and have always had an idea that I knew how to take care of myself, but I guess I must have borne a striking resemblance to an easy mark when I came here.

"Of course some allowance must be made for the fact that I was very busy in getting my family settled. There were trunks, carpet layers and scrub women to look after, and I was the general supervisor of the whole business. While I was straining every nerve and sweating at every pore to make a 12x14 carpet cover a 12x16 room, a big man with a tin badge on his chest walked in as one of authority and politely said: 'I see that you have three bicycles. Being a stranger in town you are probably unaware that you must pay an additional license of \$5 on each wheel. It is my duty to collect. I was just mad enough to welcome anything that appeared like an additional hardship, for I was bestowing a good deal of pity on myself at the time, and promptly settled.'

"While I was holding up one end of a refrigerator that is warranted to weigh 800 pounds, along came another man with a badge who asked how many cows I kept. I told him one, and he said I must pay the city \$2 for the privilege. That made me feel all the more like a martyr, and I reached for the money so willingly that he interrupted to ask what kind of a cow she was. When I said with some pride that she was a Jersey, he taxed me \$3. Then followed a man who tied a brass check to my lawn mower, and charged me \$1, and another that wanted \$10 because I had both electric light and gas. By that time my mind was working again, and so was my boot toe, but I was out \$19 and felt like a cross-road 'Rube.'"

HEROIC COWS.

Almost any female bird or animal will attack another animal, or even a man, in defense of its young. A mother-partridge has been known to fly in a man's face in order to blind his eyes long enough for her young to hide themselves. As for the cow she is capable of facing a whole pack of wolves in defense of her calf—if the calf is young enough. If it has approached the weaning period, she will very likely abandon it to an enemy and take to her own heels.

The editor of the Condon (Oregon) Globe saw a deed of cow-vallor lately that was worth recording as well as seeing. A herd of cattle, and among them two cows accompanied by their calves, were grazing in tall dead grass when the calves became separated a little from the rest of the herd. Just then two huge, hungry coyotes crept up through the grass, cut off the calves from the rest of the cattle and started in pursuit of them. After running about two hundred yards, the calves came to a high, five-wired barbed-wire fence, and being small, managed to get through it. On the other side of the fence was an open pasture.

The wolves quickly followed the calves through the fence, and were rapidly running them down on the other side, when the two cow-mothers discovered what was going on. Each uttered a loud bellow, hoisted her tail and started for the rescue. It appeared to be a hopeless chase, for the wire fence intervened, and the cows were certainly much too large to get through it. They knew well enough that it was there, and could, besides, see it plainly, but both cows plunged together straight into it.

The watching editor, horrified, looked to see them hurled back, frightfully wounded; but instead one of the posts gave way under the onslaught; the wires sank down, and in another moment the mothers were on the pasture side of the fence, badly cut and bleeding, but still able to charge the wolves successfully and put them to flight.

Soon the cows were licking the rescued calves affectionately, and the coyotes were howling a disappointed duet from the summit of a knoll near by.

A Marvelous Needle.

Among the many treasures owned by the queen is a wonderful needle made for her in Buckinghamshire. The needle is a miniature of the Roman column of Trajan, but instead of the exploits of Roman emperors, scenes in the life of Her Majesty are depicted. One shows the queen when a young girl at Tunbridge Wells, another scene is the coronation at Westminster, while a third shows the royal marriage with the prince consort. The figures in all these scenes can only be made out plainly by the aid of a magnifying glass. The needle can also be opened, and it contains several others, all of the same form, and all are adorned with miniature figures in relief.

Would Have One Soon.

A freak museum manager wrote a party in Kentucky naming an offer for a rope with which any man had been lynched. The party replied: "We have none on hand now, but have placed your order on file, and you are likely to hear from us soon."

Lucky Thirteen.

In the class of '83 at Harvard university there were thirteen men who clubbed together during most of their stay at college. That was fourteen years ago, and not one of the thirteen has died.

BULLET PROOF.

A Remarkable Cloth Tested That Comes Very Close to It.

This week there is to be a further test in Chicago of the power of Ziegler's bullet-proof cloth to resist the steel-jacketed missiles of the Krag-Jorgensen rifle. The test will be made in the presence of the German and Austrian consuls by their request. Last week the first test was made by two soldiers from Fort Sheridan, Col. Hall, the commandant of the post; Lieut.-Col. Carpenter and a number of other officers were present. It was the first time that the army's new rifle had been tried against any of the so-called bullet-proof cloths, and the officers were quite confident that the gun would win. Lieut. Sarnecki attached the cloth, which measured twenty-four by sixteen inches, to the wooden figure of a man which is used by the soldiers of the fort as a target. The first shot fired was at 400 yards distance, and the bullet fell to the ground twisted after tearing a hole half an inch deep in the cloth. At 250 yards the bullet penetrated the cloth a quarter of an inch and stuck. At 300 yards the bullet went in deeper, and at 250 yards it went half way through. At 200 yards the bullet passed through, its head projecting a sixteenth of an inch. The army officers were much impressed by the tests, but say that the cloth cannot be made into uniforms on account of its weight. The piece used in the tests weighed fourteen pounds. Besides, the shock of impact would be sufficient to kill a man, even though the ball did not break the skin. The Krag-Jorgensen is the most powerful of modern rifles and will kill a man two miles away. It is thought that Ziegler's cloth may be utilized to make shields for Gatling and other machine guns.

Babies in Summer.

The second summer of a baby's life is always a critical period. It is then that the canine teeth, which are the most troublesome of all teeth to cut, usually make their appearance. If the child is healthy and has been properly and carefully fed, there is very little to fear from teething. If, on the contrary, it is feeble and is liable to disorders of the stomach and bowels, teething is to be dreaded. One of the greatest dangers of teething arises from the highly nervous condition of the little one at this trying time. For this reason the baby should be kept as quiet as possible and free from excitement of any kind. It should also be kept out of doors as much as possible, under the shade of green trees, but where no harsh noise will startle or frighten it. The foolish practice of trying to arouse the dormant intellect of the baby, by tossing it up and playing with it in various ways, cannot be too strongly condemned.

The following directions in regard to the diet of little babies are from Dr. Jacobi, the eminent specialist in children's diseases.

"For nursing babies," he says, "over-feeding does more harm than anything else. Nurse a baby of a month or two every two or three hours. Nurse a baby of six months and over five times in twenty-four hours, and no more. When a baby gets thirsty in the meantime, give it a drink of water or barley water. Put no sugar with it." For teething babies, he says: "Boil a teaspoonful of powdered barley (grind it in a coffee-grinder) and a gill of water with a little salt for fifteen minutes, strain it and mix it with half as much boiled milk and a lump of white sugar. Give it lukewarm through a nursing bottle. Keep bottle and mouthpiece in a bowl of water when not in use. Babies of five or six months should have half barley water and half boiled milk, with salt and white sugar. Older babies, more milk in proportion. When babies are very costive, use oatmeal instead of barley; cook and strain. When the breast's milk is half enough, change off between breast milk and food."

It is a great mistake to change the food of a child in summer. Unless its health demands it, the change of food should be postponed until autumn."

Negroes Not Born Black.

Dr. Collignon, an eminent French physiologist, after helping to usher in to the world several infants of undoubted African parentage, declares the new-born babes to be of a delicate fawn and pink complexion. Though the pigment cells begin to change in hue very speedily, the skin does not assume the color of powdered cocoa for ten days, and some weeks elapse before it turns to a decided chocolate tinge. Exposure to sunlight hastens this change, and in some cases a couple of hours will suffice to convert the white-brown bantling into an unimpeachable "darkey." The hair, however, of the new born pikaninny is soft and silky, without any of the crisp curliness that characterizes the race. By rearing negroes in the dark it is just possible that after several generations we might make them as fair as the lily.

New Remedy for Burns.

Dr. Thierry, of the Paris Charity Hospital, has by happy chance made a discovery which may prove of immense benefit in the treatment of burns. Having been in the habit of using peric acid in solution, as an antiseptic, he found one day, when some sealing wax fell on his hand at a time when it was impregnated with this acid, that he scarcely felt any pain, and the same immobility showed itself when he let a burning match fall on his hand. He has since found that all pains from burning cease soon after bathing the part affected in a solution of this acid.

Trouble in the Aquarium.

"You look thin," said the surgeon. "And bony." "Possibly," returned the shad. "But I don't wear my backbone on the outside."—Chicago Tribune.