

# THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

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#### Bismarck's Latest Scheme.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—The reports in one of the New York papers that our Government has asked the assistance of foreign nations to compose the difficult ties in the island of Cuba is without any warrant. The only grain of wheat in the bushel of chaff is the fact that the documents relating to Cuban affairs, including the President's message, have been sent to foreign Governments, as is usual in cases of international disputes. But there is no intention on the part of the Administration to abandon the Monroe doctrine or to tolerate any European intervention in American affairs.

There is, however, a very startling rumor which may involve the very gravest consequences, and which explains, better than any difficulty with Spain, the activity in naval affairs and the declared impossibility of cutting down the army and navy estimates. The real difficulty seems to be here. Bismarck is anxious to obtain colonies and create a great German marine. He has had his eye upon Porto Rico, and negotiations have been in progress between the German and Spanish Governments with a view to the intervention of the former in Cuban affairs, the price to be the cession to Germany of the Island of Porto Rico. This is the real cause of the mysterious flurry which has recently taken place in our army and navy affairs, and I have reason to believe that our diplomatists have been at work for some time past to meet this very formidable state of affairs.

Strictly speaking, the surrender of Porto Rico would not be a contravention of the Monroe doctrine, as it was understood when enunciated; but it would be the cause of a great deal of embarrassment to our government if so strong a military and naval power as Germany should gain a foothold in the West Indies so very near to our coast. The damage inflicted upon our commerce through Great Britain holding possessions in proximity to our coast during the late war will be smartly remembered, and, in case of another national trouble occurring, to have Germany within sight of our shores would be a serious disadvantage.

With Spain alone no trouble is to be apprehended. Indeed everything is in process of adjustment with that Government in a satisfactory manner. The real complications is in this intrigue of Bismarck's to obtain possession of a naval station and form a German colony in the West Indies.—*New York Graphic.*

#### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Madame Borgheze, the wife of the Brazilian Minister at Washington, has introduced Sunday evening receptions. The school children of America annually pay \$50,000,000 for school books, of which it is said the publishers pocket \$33,000,000.

A species of red granite has lately been discovered in Minnesota, said by competent judges to be superior to the famous Scotch granite of Aberdeen.

#### A Tale of Two Continents.

It is true that what is one man's meat is another man's poison, it's equally true, of course, that what is one man's poison is another man's meat. The axiom, as amended, is fully verified in this good city of Brooklyn, where men are deriving handsome incomes from that most disgusting and abhorrent of all diseases, small pox. A new business of vital importance to the community has been started, and hundreds of thousands of men, women and children are walking about with its badge on their arms.

Having got an inkling of the fact, an Eagle reporter was dispatched to the headquarters of the business, at No. 11 Tillary street, and found himself on arriving there confronted by Dr. N. A. Robbins, the presiding manager or head of the firm. The doctor handed the reporter a card, which set forth the fact that No. 11 Tillary street was the "Depot for Supply of Vaccine Virus, both Animal and Humanized." A long conversation followed, and the reporter herein notes down the result of it for the enlightenment and benefit of the readers of the Eagle.

It is very desirable in a city so large as Brooklyn, and especially when an epidemic of small pox threatens, that there should be at hand a supply of reliable virus in large quantities. Up to within the last five or six years, nothing but humanized virus has been used in this country. In Europe and more especially in France, physicians have been experimenting with animal virus for a number of years. The reader doubtless desires to know the difference between humanized and animal virus. Humanized virus is that which has been passed from one child's arm to another for an indefinite number of years. It may have acquired in that time considerable impurity, which is capable of being transmitted by even so small a means as vaccination. That disease has thus resulted there can be no question. A gentleman resident in the Eastern district told the writer that his brother and five other children were vaccinated at the same time with the same humanized virus. Out of the six children five grew up with the hip disease, the gentleman's brother among them.

Animal virus is that obtained from cows or calves. Cow pox, as it is termed, is a spontaneous disease among cattle, and the virus collected from the vesicles is capable of being transmitted from one animal to another by inoculation. European physicians, especially the Faench, have demonstrated the fact that when a human being is inoculated with cow pox he is protected against small pox just as effectually as when vaccinated with humanized virus, with this advantage—he possesses freedom from the possibility of acquiring through the inoculation other injurious maladies. Thus there is furnished a variety of virus which is certainly free from all impurity, for it has never been in the human stock at all.

The stock of animal virus which is so justly celebrated in this country is known as the Beaugency stock. It was discovered in Beaugency, in France, in 1806, and has been transmitted from calf to calf ever since. It was imported by Dr. Martin, of Boston, and is to day the only stock of animal virus in the country. At this juncture, when small pox is prevalent, and when every one is thinking of being vaccinated himself and having his family similarly protected against the dreadful disease, it is of the very first importance that there should be regular depots for the supply of fresh, reliable virus in large quantities. It is almost impossible to furnish humanized virus thus, but with bovine the task is comparatively easy.

There are but few large dealers; however, in the animal virus in the United States. The best known are Dr. Martin, of Boston; Dr. Foster, of New York; Dr. Griffin, of Fond du Lac, Wis.; and Dr. Robbins, of this city. The latter has been for many years Surgeon to the Brooklyn City Dispensary, and has for a long period furnished virus to the local physicians. The demands upon him from the latter and from the Board of Health have of late been very large. In addition, he supplies other Health Boards, and has correspondents in most of the cities east of the Mississippi.

The reader will be ready to ask, whence comes his supply of animal vaccine? He has a farm where he raises calves on purpose, and at this time he has an army of those interesting young benefactors growing up. Without describing the method of vaccinating the calves, it may be stated that the virus is passed from one to another very rapidly, and that the original virus is from the famous Beaugency stock already referred to. The virus is put into quills which are made air tight, so as to hold the liquid active for many days. The calves are not affected by the operation. They lose neither appetite nor flesh, and when done with are transported to the doctor's farm to grow into demure cowhood, and furnish in due time a fresh supply of calves to undergo the inoculating process.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

#### The Thermometer Man in Detroit.

He was a way worn man from the East, and he had thirty-seven thermometers in a basket on his arm. After standing on the street corners for two or three hours without making a sale, he started for the eastern part of the city, hoping to do better among the private houses.

He seemed to gain confidence from the cheerful look of the dwellings, and he bore himself like a banker as he ascended the steps and pulled a door bell. "Nothing for the poor," said the lady, as she opened the door.

"I am not soliciting for the poor—I am selling thermometers," he replied in a balmy voice.

"Don't want any—bought our stock in the Fall," she said, drawing in her head.

"I said thermometers, Madam," he called in a despairing voice.

"I know it; but we've got all the vegetables we can use," she called back, and the door struck his toes.

Going into the saloon on the corner the man addressed the proprietor with a sweet smile, asking:

"Would you like a thermometer today?"

#### Entolled.

Where, my sweet enemy, lies your power? To move men's wills? You are a deadly perfumed flower.

Let me see you, my love, my heart is trembling, To find you there.

So strangely self-made, undecomposing, So fair, so fair!

Calmer than death, a white-faced statue, How can I move you?

I love you, darling, wondering at you, Hate you and love you.

Let go your soul and let us hasten Far from your spell!

Those bonds you bind me with unfasten, While all is well!

Why do you glisten with such beauty So strange and awful, When walking coldly down the paths of duty You seem so hateful!

#### Farm, Garden and Household.

Deep Plowing. Deep plowing is good practice when you have a deep soil. It is better for some crops than for others.

Change of Seeds. Seeds that grow on limestone land should be changed every few years for those which grow on barren or gravel land, and vice versa.

Smut in Wheat. Mr. J. Copley, of Massac county, Ill., writes that he believes smut is caused by a "bug," and that threshers carry it from one farm to another.

Hungarian Grass for Cows. The following is the testimony of Dr. Loring respecting Hungarian grass: I believe I can make more milk with this grass, cut and mixed with cornmeal and shorts, than I can with the best timothy hay, cut and mixed in the same manner.

Treatment of Old Horses. What shall we do with old horses, is a question of some importance to the owners of that valuable animal. After years of faithful service under the saddle and in the harness, this old friend of man becomes superannated, and no longer able to do effective work.

The Holstein Cow. The Holstein bred cows are now attracting much attention in various parts of this continent for their wonderful milking qualities.

Comfort in the Stable. How many farmers who have really good stables, give the attention that even strict economy demands to the comfort of the horses kept therein?

An Old Doll. The Newport News has this account of a venerable and quite notable doll: "Among the relics contributed by Newport to the Centennial Fair which the ladies of Providence are carrying on, is a doll believed to be the oldest in the country."

milking qualities. They are natives of the north of Germany—large, heavy cattle, of compact form, making, when fattened, excellent beef, and being also good workers. They have been grown in Holland for generations with special regard to their milking qualities.

Several instances are on record and are well authenticated, where cows of this breed have given large quantities of milk. One cow is certified to have yielded an average of eighteen quarts a day for nine months.

Onions. It is admitted that the majority of people like onions as food, and, only for the perfume, many would eat them who now do not.

Deep Plowing. Deep plowing is good practice when you have a deep soil. It is better for some crops than for others. Plow deeper for roots than for grain, and especially for corn, since in one short summer corn will mature quicker if the roots are not obliged to go down into a cold subsoil for nutriment.

Change of Seeds. Seeds that grow on limestone land should be changed every few years for those which grow on barren or gravel land, and vice versa. Such an exchange in his experience, always proved satisfactory. By continuing to sow one kind of seed all the time, the crop, through time, will become inferior in quality.

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and, when they over, the animals have not been out of the stable. Very true! Let them look at the condition of the stable, and remember at the same time, that an ordinary cold is but the stepping stone to influenza, and those other diseases which in the ordinary vocabulary are termed influenza. All inflammatory diseases, as pneumonias, usually have their origin in colds, so do rheumatism and various other kindred diseases.

Comfort in the Stable. How many farmers who have really good stables, give the attention that even strict economy demands to the comfort of the horses kept therein? Liberal amount of bedding, and even blankets to their working horses, pay as strict attention to cleaning the animals that their health demands!

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