



The effect of territorial expansion upon the merchant marine of the country is already being felt, and the outlook for domestic shipbuilding is considered unusually favorable. The output of the yards next year is expected to exceed 400,000 tons. The greatest annual output since the civil war was during 1874, when 2,147 vessels of 432,725 tons were built. During the last year the additions to our merchant marine from all sources amounted to about 200,000 tons, of which 20,000 tons were foreign vessels purchased by the Government for use during the war and given American registers. The vessels condemned as prizes amounted to nearly 20,000 tons, which, however, will be included in the reports of the next year. The merchant fleet under the Hawaiian flag consists of sixty-two vessels, aggregating 31,543 tons. The Philippine fleet consists of ninety-three vessels of 19,933 tons, but Porto Rico is practically without shipping. The total number of all kinds of merchant ships under the United States flag on the 30th of June, 1898, was 22,705. This was a slight increase from the 22,633 reported for the previous year, and a falling off from the 22,908 reported for 1896. The tonnage of all these vessels amounted in 1896 to 4,763,880 tons; in 1897, 4,769,020 tons, and in 1898 to 4,749,738 tons. The geographical distribution of our merchant marine is as follows:

	Number.	Tonnage.
Atlantic and Gulf coast.....	16,442	2,533,739
Pacific coast.....	1,754	496,757
Great lakes.....	3,236	1,437,590
Rivers.....	1,253	261,720

Hawaii will become a full-fledged territory of the United States on July 4, 1899, if Congress follows the recommendations of the Hawaiian commission. The congressional members of that body, Senators Cullom and Morgan and Representative Hitt, together with Justice Frear of the Hawaiian Supreme Court, who, with President Dole, represented the islands on the commission, have been meeting in a semi-formal manner at the capitol, putting the finishing touches upon their report. Their conclusion will be embodied in a bill establishing a territorial form of government for the islands, with a delegate in Congress, a local Legislature, and other features of territorial organization considerably different from those which have obtained in the old territories of the United States.

With the signing of the treaty of peace the Government will begin to save from \$450,000 to \$500,000 a month in wages alone, paid to enlisted men in the army. The pay of a private soldier in time of war is \$15.00 a month, but in time of peace it is only \$13. The pay of a first sergeant is \$30 in time of war and \$25 in time of peace, and the number of other non-commissioned officers will decrease in about the same proportion as soon as peace is declared. There are in the combined volunteer and regular armies about 160,000 men, whose pay at present amounts to about \$2,600,000 a month.

Illinois continues to be the largest contributor to the internal revenues of the Government, the five highest States being as follows: Illinois, \$29,638,686; New York, \$21,058,569; Kentucky, \$18,226,518; Ohio, \$16,436,908; and Pennsylvania, \$13,846,790. This covers the taxes on whisky, tobacco, beer, oleomargarine and other articles. The banner district of the United States is the Fifth Illinois (Peoria), which paid \$22,837,554 out of a total of \$170,866,819 collected by the Government during the year.

Reports received from officers engaged in recruiting service for the regular army show that some difficulty is being experienced in securing recruits, and that the greater number of the applicants are obviously not fitted for military service. The reluctance of the most desirable class of men to enlist is ascribed to the hardships of the Spanish war, and the reports, sometimes exaggerated, regarding the deadly disease certain to be encountered by troops stationed in tropical climates.

Chief Justice Fuller is to add another son-in-law to his already long list, the engagement being announced of his youngest daughter, Jane, to Mr. Francis of Boston. This latest marriage in the Fuller family is scheduled to take place in the early spring. The chief justice already has six sons-in-law and with seven on his hands in the spring he will still have a chance to gain another, as one daughter still remains unmarried.

There are 239 appointments of presidential postmasters awaiting confirmation by the Senate. This number represents presidential offices filled during the recess. All these appointees assumed their postoffice functions at once, but their continuance in office depends on the action of the Senate. In addition to these four others were appointed, but their commissions were subsequently withheld.

The widow of Captain Charles Gridley, who commanded Admiral Dewey's flagship, the Olympia, at the battle of Manila, is to have a pension. Her formal application has been filed with Pension Commissioner Evans. Captain Gridley died on his way home a few days after the memorable battle. His home was in Erie, Pa.

A bill has been drawn and will be introduced in Congress providing for appropriating \$1,000,000, to be used in perfecting a thorough water and sewerage system for Chickamauga Park.

Secretary of the Navy John D. Long has ordered that the eight-hour law shall be enforced in all navy yards, and that 50 per cent additional be paid for all overtime.

An attempt will be made to have the peace treaty considered in open session of the Senate, which would be entirely proper, as there are no secrets involved in it.

There will be several resolutions introduced in both houses of Congress for an investigation of the recent race riots in North Carolina.

PETS OF THE NAVY.

Many Mascots on Board Ships of the American Navy.

There are enough pets of various kinds serving as "mascots" in American war-ships to stock a good-sized menagerie. According to the sailors' superstition, the crew of a man-of-war would not be complete without such a mascot, and since pets are allowed on board only with the formal consent of the Captain they may be said to be regularly in commission.

Even at the time of the disaster of the Maine, says the New York World, her pets were not forgotten. The Maine carried a dog and three cats, one of them the senior cat in the United States navy. Two of the cats, which had been bought in Cuba, perished with the ship, but old Tom utilized his nine lives and survived, as did the Captain's dog. Tom was born thirteen years ago in the Brooklyn navy yard, and has been in active service ever since. At the time of the disaster he was sleeping peacefully three decks down, or a distance of nearly thirty feet below the upper deck. The force of the explosion was so great that Tom was literally fired through these three decks, and came down unharmed.

In the confusion of that awful night Tom was lost sight of, but the next morning he was discovered crying pitifully, crouched on the part of the wreck which remained above water. He was first discovered by Commander Wainwright, who hastened to take him off in a boat and remove him to the Fern, where the sailors received him as an old friend.

The other survivor of the Maine was Captain Sigsbee's little pug dog, Peggy. Peggy was asleep in the Captain's stateroom when the explosion occurred, and was forgotten by her owner in the confusion which followed.

The ship was in complete darkness, but Peggy managed to find her way to the deck, and when the Captain's boat was finally lowered in the midst of the shrieks of the dying, the roaring of the fire and all the confusion, Peggy was found standing at the place she had been taught to take when that particular boat was to be lowered.

In some ways the most remarkable of all these mascots is the goat, Billy, now on the cruiser New York. Billy has served for more than fifteen years, and takes an active part in the life of the ship. The custom of decorating the uniforms of old sailors with enlistment stripes has been extended to Billy, and he now wears five stripes, each stripe representing three years of honorable service.

He wears these when on dress parade attached to a belt of navy blue cloth, which buttons over his back. In summer, when on dress parade, he wears a white duck belt decorated with gold stripes.

Billy always marches in parade with the same company, and is always at his post throughout the most complicated naval maneuvers. He never makes a mistake in finding his own boat, and no one on board is more prompt in responding to the various orders.

Another celebrated goat is "Billy the Terror," which makes his home on the monitor Terror. This goat seems to be happy on the limited deck space of the monitor, where he frequently lives for weeks at a time without going ashore.

These little mascots have curious ways of making themselves at home. One of the cats which sails with the Minnesota often crawls into the yawning mouth of one of the cannon. She has found from experience that this is a very quiet place for an uninterrupted nap, and when the gun is not wearing its canvas cover she is usually to be found there.

The Pony Express.

W. F. Bailey contributes to the Century an article on "The Pony Express," between St. Joseph, Mo., and San Francisco. Mr. Bailey says: At first the schedule was fixed at ten days, an average of eight miles an hour from start to finish. This was cut down to eight days, requiring an average speed of ten miles. The quickest trip made was in carrying President Lincoln's inaugural address, which was done in seven days and seventeen hours, an average speed of 10.7 miles per hour, the fastest time of any one rider being 120 miles, from Smith's Creek to Fort Churchill, by "Pony Bob," in eight hours and ten minutes, or 14.7 miles per hour. Considering the distance and difficulties encountered, such as hostile Indians, road-agents, floods, and snow-storms, and accidents to horses and riders, the schedule was maintained to an astonishing degree. The service created the greatest enthusiasm not only among the employes, but also in the ranks of stage employes, freighters, and residents along the route. To aid a "pony" in difficulty was a privilege, and was to be the man who would so much as throw a stone in the way.

Decrease of Marble Importation.

The importation of marble to the United States has almost ceased. It is only now and then that a cargo arrives at this port, while a few years ago a fleet of sailing vessels brought many cargoes annually from the famous Carrara quarries in Italy to Philadelphia. Marble buildings seem to be becoming things of the past, and the tombstone-makers find little demand for marble toms, slabs, or monuments. Granite has taken the place of marble everywhere, even in the cemeteries where marble shafts and slabs were formerly the only proper things. Granite, unlike marble, does not require very frequent cleaning, and looks well without being touched up for years. It also admits of a high polish, and does not show the marks of rust by contact with metal, as marble does.

If there is no other way in which a woman can be complimented, tell her that she is a great problem.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY.

Demonetization.

Before 1873 gold and silver were at a substantial parity with each other, remaining for nearly 200 years very close to the ratio of one unit of gold equivalent in purchasing power to 15½ units of silver.

Together the two metals sustained the credits and paper moneys of the world, and their joint mass of volume in circulation was the final measure of the values of other things. As Sir Robert Peel said in a speech in the House of Commons in May, 1844, it made no difference whether a remittance were made in gold or in silver; there being an established equivalence between them, either could be sent.

This perfect interchangeability of use for the same purposes made the two metals, both of which were coined freely, as Cernuschi pointed out, practically one money substance.

But, beginning about 1873, the free coinage of silver began to be restricted and finally suspended by different great mints of the world, and in the legislation of many of the most powerful nations the legal tender function was gradually and in increasing measure taken from silver money.

The effect of this progressive lessening of the demand for silver due to the increasing limitation of its mint privilege and money power, contemporaneously with the vast and growing augmentation of the demand for gold, occasioned by imposing upon it alone the burden that silver had previously helped to bear, was certain to be felt in two directions: First, the par of exchange between the metals must be broken, and, second, general prices must fall.

Statistics exhibiting the ratio between silver bullion and gold bullion from 1687 to 1896 shows that for about 200 years, in spite of the widest fluctuations in the relative production of the precious metals, the least silver at any time necessary to buy as much as an ounce of gold would buy was 14.14 ounces in 1760, and that the most silver at any time necessary to buy as much as an ounce of gold was 16.25 ounces, in 1813; but that after 1873 it began to take more and more ounces of silver to be the equivalent of an ounce of gold in purchasing power, reaching 20.66 in 1896. The ratio went still lower in 1897, and for the first six months of 1898 it fell to about 35 to 1.—Charles A. Towne.

Bimetallic Theory.

The aim and purpose of all industrial activity is an exchange of the products of industry, and money is a means for prosecuting these industries and exchanging their products.

Apart from its employment for these purposes, money has no economic value whatever. It cannot directly gratify a single human want. For monetary use, silver has an equal rank with gold, for in accomplishing the objects for which money was instituted, money made of silver is in every respect as suitable and efficient an agent as money made of gold.

When there is an equal use of both metals, if a person depositing at the mint sixteen pounds of silver receives in return for it the same number of legal tender dollars that he would have received if he had deposited one pound of gold, then sixteen pounds of silver would be of the same value as one pound of gold.

The Government simply gives back to the depositor the coins struck from the metal received from him. It no more buys the metal than does the miller buy the wheat when he gives back to his customer the flour made from it.

Price is the sum of money given in exchange for a commodity, but money has no price, for people do not buy and sell money, and when the mints are open to the free and unrestricted coinage of both metals neither of them has a commodity value except when used in the arts, and in that case they command the same sum of money they will exchange for at the mint.

There is no market price for gold in England, and there was no market price for silver or gold in France when her mints were open to the unrestricted coinage of both metals.

The Government, in establishing bimetallic—that is, in providing for the equal use of both metals in its currency and giving the same power to both—simply prescribes the proportionate weight of the metals from which full legal tender coins shall be struck, and this is the ratio upon which the metals are coined into monetary units.

If the ratio is 1 to 16, it is in effect saying that the same number of units or dollars shall be struck from 16 ounces of silver as from 1 ounce of gold.—Henry G. Miller.

Free Silver Night Schools.

The decline in prices in gold standard countries since 1873, concurrent with a rise of prices in Japan, India, China and other silver countries, leads one to look for an explanation in the varying rate of exchange between gold and silver countries, which has existed since the parity between the two metals was broken. Mere arithmetical calculation will satisfy one that demonetization of silver has caused the low prices.

Instance: A bought a farm in 1873 for \$800. He paid \$400 in cash and gave a mortgage on the farm for the balance, interest at 6 per cent per annum. During the first three years he received an average of \$400 for wheat, \$150 for corn, \$80 for young cattle, and \$100 for hogs, and paid an average of \$300 each year for expenses and improvements on his farm. During the years 1895, 1896 and 1897 he still mar-

keted the same amount of produce at one-half the former price, and had curtailed expenses to \$150 per year. What was his average profit during the first three years? Answer—\$190. What was his average loss during the last three years? Answer—\$25.

Note.—Leaflets for a school of twenty-five pupils, containing problems and tales to be used in free silver night schools, will be supplied on application to M. B. Smith, Addison, Mich. "Wilson's Financial Catechism," a volume indispensable to campaign workers, will be sent to any person sending a correct solution of any two problems of the series.

Can State Make Value?

When the Humphrey bill to extend the franchises of the street railways of Chicago was defeated in the last Illinois Legislature the stocks of the three principal railway companies fell in one day, according to the daily papers of May 12, \$3,838,900. The bill afterward passed (at what cost to the railway companies may be guessed only) and the value of the stocks doubled.

The passage of the Dingley bill advanced the stocks of many of the trusts, notably the sugar trust, millions of dollars.

Every tariff act, in fact, has created value for protected interests.

So well is this understood that the Republican politician makes no secret of trying out of them the fat which law has made for them, and they part with value in no stinted sums, and risk to lose it all, in the hope of another law which will yield more fat or the fear of losing the one they enjoy.

The United States has created national banks and endowed them with the franchise of issuing paper money, by means of which a national bank can make 20 per cent upon an investment in the new war bonds, while an individual can only make 3. (For proof of this see the calculation of the New York Financier, quoted in the Literary Digest of July 2, 1898.)

And if the banks are ever given the power, for which they are bending every energy, to issue paper money against their assets without bonds, their profits will not be limited to 20 per cent, but every dollar issued will be a dollar made out of nothing but the cost of the paper.

That law cannot create value is a very good doctrine to teach the common people, but financiers know better; they know that law can put value in their coffers, and they won't quarrel about what creates it.—S. S. Field.

Franklin's Mother.

In Franklin's autobiography there is only the barest mention of his mother, Abiah, and merely as the daughter of "one of the first settlers of New England." Presumably this silence was due to the eighteenth-century attitude toward women more than to any want of affection, for the two corresponded with regularity, even after the mother was "very weak and short of breath—so that I cannot sit up to write, altho' I sleep well of nights and my cough is better and I have a pretty good stomach to my victuals," and she had to beg her son to "please excuse my bad writing and inditing for all tell me I am too old to write letters." To her Franklin sent gifts of various kinds, including "a moldore * * * which please to accept toward chaise hire, that you may ride warm to meetings this winter." Upon her death, in 1752, he wrote his sister Jane: "I received yours with the affecting news of our dear mother's death. I thank you for your long continued care of her in her old age and sickness. Our distance made it impracticable for us to attend her, but you have supplied all. She has lived a good life, as well as long one, and is happy."—Century.

What Alexander the Great Did.

Prof. Benjamin Ide Wheeler has written for the Century a new life of "Alexander the Great." Prof. Wheeler says: No single personality, excepting the carpenter's son of Nazareth, has done so much to make the world of civilization live in what it is as Alexander of Macedon. He leveled the terrace upon which European history built. Whatever lay within the range of his conquest contributed its part to form that Mediterranean civilization which, under Rome's administration, became the basis of European life. What lay beyond was as if on another planet. Alexander checked his eastward march at the Sattlee, and India and China were left in a world of their own, with their own mechanisms for man and society, their own theories of God and the world. Alexander's world, to which we all belong, went on its own separate way until, in these latter days, a new greed of conquest, begotten of commercial ambition, promises at last to level the barriers which through the centuries have stood as monuments to the outmost stations of the Macedonian phalanx, and have divided the world of men in twain.

Nuns in Men's Attire.

Sir Charles Gordon's "Recollections of Thirty-nine Years in the Army" contains a quaint little anecdote which we have not so far seen quoted. In 1890, at Tientsin, the two Gordons, when seeking for hospital sites, came across a Buddhist nunnery. Despite the warnings of one of the inmates, who appeared in boy's clothes, they entered the building and found that the inmates all wore male clothing. The Buddhist ladies were greatly shocked at the intrusion. "Our regret," says Sir Charles, "was real. Explanations were exchanged; we were informed that the community within adopted male costume as an indication that they not only renounced the world, but with it the emblems of their sex. We were 'received' by the Lady Superior, tea and cakes offered to and partaken of by us. We were then permitted to visit the 'private chapel,' and finally we parted from the religious on the best of terms."—London Chronicle.

ANECDOTE AND INCIDENT.

Two cannie Scots, walking to Auchtermuchty, saw an uncouth figure standing in a distant field. After gazing intently one said: "It's never moving, so it's a tatta (potato) bogle" (scarecrow). "It's no a tatta bogle," replied the other; "it's a man working by the day."

David Hume, the historian, once made an offer of marriage to a lady who refused him, but whose friends shortly afterward conveyed to him the intelligence that she had changed her mind. "So have I," replied David, ironically, "so have I." And he lived and died in single blessedness.

George IV, became convinced, by dint of long imagining and saying so, that he had led the Life Guards at Waterloo. "Did I not, Arthur?" he said, at a court dinner, to the Duke of Wellington. Most men would have been embarrassed. Not so the Iron Duke. He simply answered: "I have often heard your Majesty say so."

Bob Ingersoll was recently talking with an old colored woman in Washington on religious matters. "Do you really believe, aunty," said he, "that people are made of dust?" "Yes, sah; de Bible say dey is, and I believe it." "But what is done in wet weather, when there's nothing but mud?" "Den I s'peets dey make infidels and sich truck."

The distinction between the parish rector and the curate in the old days is illustrated by a story of an old rector. Returning to his parish after his autumn holiday, and noticing a woman at her cottage door with her baby in her arms, he asked: "Has that child been baptized?" "Well, sir," replied the courtesying mother, "I shouldn't like to say as much as that, but your young man came and did what he could."

Two Irish laborers, old-time friends, met on the street in San Francisco recently, and after a cordial hand-shake one of them inquired: "An' where have yees be'n, Moike?" "Workin' on the farrums in Southern California," was the reply, "and O'im mighty glad ter git back." "What happened yees there?" was the next inquiry. "Th' weather. It was too doomed hot. Why, whin Oi was a-workin' near Frisno th' t'ermometer marked wan hundred 'n' sixteen dagrals in th' shade." "Is that so? Will, be heavens, they didn't make yees worruk in th' shade, did they?"

Lady Blessington, who was accorded the name of "the gorgeously," when Prince Louis Napoleon, the last emperor of the French, was an exile in London, was remarkably courteous to him, extending her hospitality in the most lavish way. After his accession to the throne of France she was in Paris for a season, and somewhat naturally looked forward to an invitation to the Tuilleries. Time passed and none came. But at a sumptuous ball given elsewhere the emperor passed in the full splendor of his triumph. Catching sight of his benefactress, he smiled and asked: "Ah, Lady Blessington! You remain in Paris for a time?" "Yes, sire," said she; "and you?"

When Mark Twain was first introduced to Gen. Grant the latter shook hands in a perfunctory manner and immediately relapsed into his customary attitude of reticence, says the Ladies' Home Journal. There was an awkward pause; it grew longer and longer as the humorist tried to think of something bright to say. Finally, as if in sheer desperation, Twain looked up, with an assumed air of great timidity, and said: "Mr. President, I—I feel a little bit embarrassed. Do you?" The President could not help smiling, and Mark took advantage of the chance the incident presented to give place to others. Ten years later, when statesman and humorist met again, Gen. Grant, with a twinkle in his eye, said, before Twain had the chance to utter a word: "Mr. Clemens, I don't feel at all embarrassed. Do you?"

The captain of a vessel which was bringing to America, in the fall of 1796, a mysterious passenger who had come aboard at Hamburg, watched the latter so closely that at last the passenger said one day, "Sir, this is not the first occasion upon which I have observed the attentive scrutiny you bestow upon me. May I inquire the reason?" "Sir," responded the candid captain, "you took passage on my ship as a Dane; I don't believe you're anything of the kind." The passenger smiled; the smile was full of perspicacity and confidence, and was followed with: "Pray tell me, then, what you believe me to be?" At this question Capt. Ewing fidgeted, hesitated, and finally blurted out: "Well, to be honest, I think you are a gambler. You've well-nigh ruined yourself at home, and are now coming to fleece the fools you'll find on shore." The young man's smile broadened; the next minute he turned grave again, lowered his voice, and replied: "Captain Ewing, as you have studied me during this voyage, so I have studied you. I have come to the conclusion that you are a man to be trusted. I am Louis Philippe, Duc d'Orleans, eldest son of that Louis Philippe d'Orleans who was slain by the guillotine on the seventh of November, almost three years ago."

Geese Washing Their Food.

Dr. R. H. Ward remarks a curious habit which he noticed in animals, not famous for intellectual brightness. "When passing the village of West Point, Va., one day, while sailing on the York River, I noticed at the water's edge, on the very muddy shore, a bevy covey of geese eagerly feeding on that delinquency of Southern goose-diet.

British Success in War.

In all the wars of the British they have won the splendid average of 82 per cent of the battles. This is the world's record.

The Discovery of Florida.

Ponce de Leon, the Spanish navigator, made the discovery of the land which he afterwards named Florida, on Easter Sunday, March 27, 1513.

chunks of thrown-away watermelon rind. But the supply from the garbage dumps along the shore was mostly so covered with mud, sand and adherent filth that even a goose knew too much to eat it, or else couldn't swallow it. So each bird that found a piece too dirty to eat picked it up and deliberately carried it down to the water, sometimes a yard or two distant, to wash it. Without any effort to eat it first, he dropped it into the shallow water, and stood watching it until the running stream had carried away the extraneous matter and left the tempting pulp fresh and clean (according to a goose's sanitary ideas), when he quickly stepped into the shallow water beside it and gobbled off the edible pulp with a good will. Had I heard of this from some longshore fisherman, I should have more than suspected some mistake or exaggeration; but I saw and watched it myself, for half an hour or more, and saw the same thing done repeatedly and by several different birds; and, therefore, I know that it was the habit of the flock at that time.

Israel Putnam's Exploit Matched.

A brave deed, in order to be handed down to posterity, must be fortunate in the place, time and circumstances of its occurrence, and also in its history. An Idaho paper records in a few words an exploit which seems to rival an intrepidity quite equal to that shown in the reputed entrance of the wolf's cave at Pomfret by Israel Putnam; but the incident appears so ordinary to the Idaho paper that it does not even put on record the name of the young man who was the hero of the adventure.

However, it records the name of Charles Lockerman, who shot the mountain lion after the man had smoked it out of its cage—which seems to be much the less important part of the achievement.

It seems that near Pearl, in Boise County, Idaho, a mountain lion, shown to be of great size by its trail, was tracked to a cave by Charles Lockerman, who had two or three men with him.

Then the question rose, how was the cougar to be got out of the cave?

"One of the men with Lockerman"—so the hero is designated—volunteered to enter the cave, light a fire, creep out, and leave the animal to be smoked out, so that Lockerman could shoot him.

Now a mountain lion of full size is quite as formidable as a wolf, and to enter the cave with him must be as great an achievement as that which is legendary concerning Israel Putnam. But this anonymous person did not hesitate. At the risk of encountering the wild beast, he took some brush and some matches, crept into the cave, made a fire, and crept out again.

Soon the smoke filled the cave; soon also the mountain lion, snarling, came bounding out. Lockerman was ready, and a ball from his rifle laid the creature low. It was measured, and found to be seven feet in length.

Polliteness in Mexico.

No other nation can equal Mexico in the stately courtesy practiced in everyday life among all classes. Even the poor laborers rarely address one another without some terms of endearment. "Como estas, mi alma?" ("How are you, my soul?") is a common form of address. Every one seems to have a gentle consideration for the feelings of others. "My lady, I am at your feet," is the prescribed form of salutation from a gentleman who meets a lady, whereas if two gentlemen meet they say, "I kiss your hand."

A Mexican will never permit a lady to descend the stairs alone; he takes her by the hand or offers his arm and only takes leave of her at the street door. Often in their rambles through Mexico strangers lose their way and if they have a slight knowledge of Spanish an appeal to a native is certain to bring courteous relief.

The Mexican lover calls his sweetheart "the very eyes of me" and if she rejects him he is likely to say, "Since there is no help I bow before you, kiss your feet and depart."

Mexican politeness always has the appearance of perfect sincerity. An American young lady was once talking with an old Mexican gentleman and she laughingly said something about having some literary work to do. It was good to see the old fellow's impressive manner as he exclaimed: "Work! Miss, such lips as yours should never mention work. You should be a queen and wear pearls as beautiful as those increased in your lovely mouth!"

Quaint Costumes of Holland.

Many people will have seen the charming portrait which has been taken of Wilhelmina in the national dress of the Friesland women. To realize how wise was the decision of the regent mother to encourage her daughter in her fondness for the handsome peasant dress, one must understand what an important place in the lives and affection of the Dutch people of the present day their national dress holds. In all parts of the country the old styles of peasant dresses are still to be seen. On the brows of the women of Zealand wonderful headdresses of silver and gold are worn by the Friesland women. There are no more conservative people in the matter of dress and family customs than the Dutch, and their little queen has become doubly dear to them through her devotion to the quaint national dress and her love for many other of the time-honored customs.

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