

Hawaii.

With the settlement of the Hawaiian question renewed attention is fixed on the advantages which this beautiful group of islands, one of the world's paradises, will give us. Its value as a half way house between America and the east invests the new possession with a commanding interest. The stimulus injected into the desire for annexation by war conditions greatly quickened the result. It became the easier to see how big a factor it would become, whether in the service of peace or war, to strengthen our hands in kneading the future. But putting aside consideration of the Hawaiian Islands as a fulcrum for other ends it seems eminently worth while to have acquired them for themselves alone.

The bureau of statistics, in a recent publication, has given full information about our latest territory. According to these figures, Hawaii imports nearly everything she uses with the exception of sugar, rice, coffee and fruits, and the United States now supplies her with 76 per cent of these needs. Hereafter we shall probably furnish the islands with at least 95 per cent of their imports. On the other hand, we have taken from them practically all the output of their labor, except such as is consumed at home. It is a little interesting to note that the productions of the islands are articles for which the United States has sent money away from its own limits, things of primary and constant demand. The acquisition of Hawaii still further strengthens our independence of the rest of the world as a home producer of the things we need and feeds our sources of export to supply the demands of the rest of the world. The salubrity of the climate and the boundless fertility of the soil make it indisputable that ten years of American management and energy will quintuple its productive power, other things being equal. The yearly jumps for the last half decade have been quite wonderful, but in the future we may look for them to be exploited in "seven league boots." Many other things will no doubt be introduced to diversify the agriculture, such as tea, indigo, cacao and vanilla (the last named indeed are indigenous). There is scarcely anything grown in the Philippines which may not be successfully raised in Hawaii. The most perplexing question will be the labor problem. This can be most easily solved by using the Chinese and Japanese. But that means a further entanglement of the question, which has already so greatly perplexed the Pacific coast.

Practical Points of Amity.

The friendship of Great Britain, which has shown its warmth so unmistakably in sentiment during the last three months, is also evident in more practical stages. In no direction have clashing interests sounded their discord more frequently than in our rela-

tions with the Canadian Dominion. Scarcely a year has passed without more or less wrangling to annoy if not to alarm the authorities at Washington, Westminster and Ottawa. Full provision has now been made for the final settlement of the questions at issue between the United States and her northern neighbor in the form of a joint commission. All matters of dispute which have arisen during the last 30 years down to date, including the Alaska boundary, the sealing problem, the Atlantic fisheries, reciprocity and hostile tariffs, general trade interests and Klondike regulations, will be treated with a view to permanent arrangement. The commission, with earlier sittings at Quebec, will probably finish their work at Washington.

Still more interesting, however, is the organization of an Anglo-American committee of 500 members to work for and cement Anglo-Saxon friendship. Made up entirely of British membership, it includes the most eminent and influential men of the land, representing all parties, all ranks of social life, all professions, all religions. Its roll is blazoned with the names of the most illustrious as well as the less known personalities, and it constitutes the most powerful corporate agent of public opinion ever created in the country. The classes and the masses are behind it. This amazing outburst betokens not only the belief that old irritating sores are forever healed, but it points to a profound sympathy and unity of feeling, making future sores, if not impossible, at the worst only childish trifles, which need only to be kissed to be cured.

The claim of Theodore R. Timby to have been the true inventor of the armored turret for naval or land use has been revived again in a New York newspaper. There is no doubt that Mr. Timby first conceived and devised the plan, which the Ericsson construction in the Monitor made so famous. But the Swedish inventor made it a practical fact. Similarly it has been claimed, and probably with justice, that all the essential principles of the magnetic telegraph were worked out before Morse took hold of the problem by appropriating the preliminary stages of success and add-

ing to them the final triumph over mechanical obstacles. Unfortunately for many gifted toilers, they are forgotten in the sweep of the fact that "the end crowns the work."

The examination of the hulls of the battle wrecks in Cuba throws some light on the fate of the unlucky Maine. In the case of the Vizcaya, for example, which received one fatal wound from the explosion of one of its own torpedoes, the effect on the thick steel shell in the curves and direction of fracture were totally different from those in the Maine exhibit. It is claimed that the evidence is almost conclusive.

Major De Granpey, the French military attache, on returning to Washington from the front, spoke of the American soldiers "as a superb body individually and as an army, and I suppose not throughout the world is there such a splendid lot of fighting men." This merely echoes the genuine enthusiasm with which all capable foreign observers have summed up their opinions of the American war personnel.

...STATEMENT...

— OF THE —

Merchants National Bank

OF NEBRASKA CITY, NEBRASKA.

JULY 1, 1898.

RESOURCES.

Loans.....	193,242.13
U. S. Bonds.....	13,000.00
Other Stocks and Bonds.....	8,924.34
Banking House and Fixtures.....	7,400.00
Cash and Due From U. S. Treasurer.....	228,701.41
Total.....	\$451,267.88

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock.....	50,000.00
Surplus and Profits.....	30,481.07
Circulation.....	11,250.00
Deposits.....	359,536.21
Total.....	\$451,267.88

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