

HISTORY OF PANAMA

Little State Which Now Threatens to Secede from Colombia.

It Contains the Oldest City on the American Continent and is Interesting in Many Other Ways—A Port of Great Importance.

Should the Colombian congress fail to ratify the canal treaty, as now seems probable, and this failure result in a revolution in Panama, as also seems probable, there is likely to be established in Central America some new international boundary lines of more than passing interest.

Press dispatches tell us that plans for the revolution are going on apace, and that seemingly nearly every resident of the state is in favor of breaking away from the government at Bogota and declaring the independence of Panama for the purpose of granting a right of way for the canal to the United States. It does not take much of a prophet to imagine the stars stripes flying over the entire isthmus in the near future, and Panama becoming the next addition to our territory in our programme of expansion. So far have the plans for the revolution gone, and so sure of success are the leaders, that even the boundary lines to be demanded of Colombia have been decided upon. They will give the state a total length of 475 miles.

St. Augustine is the oldest city in the United States at the present time, but should we get this slice of Colombia that city would have to take a back seat in favor of Panama, which is the oldest city founded by Europeans in either of the Americas. The foundation of Panama was laid by Pedro Arias Davila in 1518. There was then but one other settlement of Europeans on either continent, that of Santa Maria el Antigua, near the Atrato, which was afterwards abandoned, and of which no trace now remains.

Panama has always been an important point in the history of Central and South America. Through it passed the gold and silver of Chili and Peru on its way to Spain; it was the center of religious activity for that section of the world on the part of the Jesuits, and there are within it to-day several notable buildings erected by the monks. Of its church buildings the most notable is that of Santa Ana, the rallying point for the revolutionists of the past. Much of the original city was destroyed by the buccaneer Morgan on February 24, 1671, when, after three weeks of rapine and murder, he burned the warehouses and many of the public buildings, and with 175 mules laden with spoils and 600 prisoners he recrossed the isthmus to the Caribbean. Two years later the Spanish Villacorta began rebuilding the city, and though it has suffered from



MAP OF PANAMA.

revolutions, earthquakes and other frightful affairs, there is much left to-day that reminds one of the old Spanish reign.

To run a canal through this narrow neck of land from Colon to Panama has been the dream of mankind since 1527, when H. de la Serna explored a route. There are to-day nearly a dozen routes surveyed across the isthmus, but only on the one undertaken by De Lesseps has there been any noticeable amount of work done.

The entire state consists practically of a barrea range of low mountains, and would be of small interest to the world in general were it not for the proposition to connect the two oceans through it, and also for the existence of the Panama railroad which has been in operation since 1855, and was the first railroad which connected the two oceans. This railway is to-day, short though it is, one of the important lines of transportation of the world, and pays to its stockholders probably larger dividends than any other similar enterprise. It has made both Panama and Colon ports of no small importance, and on it and the canal hinge the value of the state.

If the revolution occurs, and the state is successful in its fight for independence, it will hold within its borders practically every practical route, with the exception of the one through Nicaragua, for an interoceanic canal.

MAX OWEN.

Hard to Suit.

Employment Agent—What was the mat or with your last place?
Domestic—The missus was too young. It made me look old.—N. Y. Weekly.

Knowing Ones.

"It seems to me," said the auburn-haired damsel, "that it is only the men who never marry who know all about women."
"Or, in other words," replied the cynical bachelor, "it is only the men who know all about women who never marry."—Chicago Daily News.

All Scraps.

Pete—Dey tell me dat bully was always coming around here looking for scraps. Did yo' accommodate him?
Sam—Should say so. Ah hit him wid a bowl ob hash.—Chicago Daily News.

THE WORLD'S LEPERS

Dread Disease Has Invaded Practically Every Country and Race.

Strict Regulations Against It Are Having a Good Effect in Loosening Its Grasp—Rages Throughout the Orient.

Recent investigations in Norway show that leprosy in that country is loosening its grasp, and that the government has been justified in enforcing its strict isolation regulations.

Though dark races have been more subject to the scourge of leprosy than the white, in every country and race there have been many victims of the dread disease.

Leprosy has existed since the records of history, and perhaps in prehistoric days it worked its ravages in both Asia and Africa. Until the Crusades, it was practically unknown in Europe, but beginning with that period it spread at a dangerous rate. During the Middle Ages, almost every village in Great Britain and France had its leper hospital. Men presently demanded to be segregated from



A LEPER VILLAGE IN CHINA.

the lepers, and by the sixteenth century the disease had begun to disappear from Europe, save in Portugal, Greece, Norway and Sweden, in which countries, as a writer tells us, "it has mysteriously survived from the Middle Ages." To-day the fearful disease occurs epidemically in northern and eastern Africa, Egypt, Arabia, Persia, China, Japan and India; Russia, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Greece, France and Spain, and the islands of the Pacific and Indian oceans; it is prevalent in Central and South America, Mexico, the West Indies, Australia, the Hawaiian Islands, and New Zealand, and is found in New Brunswick and other parts of Canada.

India, which country contains over 100,000 lepers, is one of the principal places where leprosy exists. No province in India is free from it. Segregation is not at all strict; the man who brings you bread may be a leper, or the woman that passes you freely in the street may be afflicted.

It is estimated that there are 30,000 lepers in the Philippines. Leprosy was introduced into the Philippines in 1633, when the emperor of Japan sent to these islands a ship with 150 lepers on board, the exiles to be consigned to the care of the Catholic priests. The government is now engaged in searching for the present day lepers and providing for their isolation. In the Hawaiian Islands strict segregation has been the rule for many years, though a considerable number of lepers are aided by their friends in eluding the vigilance of the officers and the exile to the leper colony on Molokai. The leper settlement on Molokai is shut in by mountain and sea, and escape from it is almost impossible. Catholic sisters are the nurses there, the immediate caretakers and the territorial government makes liberal provision for the support of the victims.

Though it is not generally known, leprosy exists in many parts of the United States, Louisiana, Florida, California and Minnesota being the chief centers. Leprosy has been known in Louisiana since 1785, and has increased there of late years, becoming epidemic about 1866. A report sent to the senate commission of medical officers of the marine hospital service, shows that leprosy is distributed in the United States as follows: Alabama, one case; California, 24; Florida, 24; Georgia, 1; Illinois, 5; Iowa, 1; Louisiana, 155; Maryland, 1; Massachusetts, 2; Minnesota, 20; Mississippi, 5; Missouri, 5; Montana, 1; Nevada, 1; New York, 7; North Dakota, 16; Oregon, 1; Pennsylvania, 1; South Dakota, 1; Texas, 3; Wisconsin, 3, making a total of 278 cases.

The disease is now generally regarded as both contagious and infectious, and scientists urge strict segregation. International conferences on the subject are held from time to time, and the reports given at these meetings show that as yet no progress has been made in the cure of the disease. The bacillus of leprosy was discovered in 1873 by Dr. Hansen, of Norway, but scientists confess themselves ignorant of the conditions under which the bacillus grows and develops, as well as the way of its invasion into the human system.

KATHERINE POPE.

Just So.

Little Elmer (who has an inquiring mind)—Papa, which bone was it that was taken from Adam to make a woman of?
Prof. Broadhead—The bone of contention, my son.—Town Topics.

A Practical Errandist.

Friend—Why do you kill off so many people in every act?
Dramatist—The company is small, and that is the only way I can work in all the characters.—N. Y. Weekly.

Accounted For.

Mammon—Did you attend the wedding?
Cupid—Yes, I was among the "also present."—Brooklyn Life.

Has Long Jawbone.

The average length of a whale's jawbone is seven feet.

RISE OF VILLAVERDE

New Prime Minister of Spain a Child of the People.

Made His Way to the Front by Watching Trend of Public Opinion and True Devotion to His Fatherland.

Don Raimundo Villaverde, Spain's new premier, is one of the luckiest of middle-class mortals. His parents were modest, well-to-do country folk, but there was no reason to suppose that their boy was going to climb up to the highest post within the gift of the Spanish people. He started out as a lawyer, endowed with brains and an eloquent tongue, perseverance and lots of ambition. Thereafter the steps of fame were interestingly marked. He had crowds of clients and was elected to parliament. Afterward he attracted attention by hard work, participation in every possible debate and mastering all sorts of dry subjects. He was too busy to concern himself with the brilliant aristocracy of Madrid, which had shown some inclination to take to its bosom such a good-looking and promising young man.

He made a sudden dash into society under the wings of the duchess de Denia, at whose palace a guest could meet everybody—the greatest politicians, artists and men of science to be found in Madrid. The smart young member from Galicia soon made himself popular in this set and for the first time seems to have been deflected from his path to glory. So many Spanish beauties of high degree lavished their affections on him that he became for a while a veritable butterfly of fashion.

A rich and attractive woman, the marchioness of Pozo Rubio, offered to marry the handsome young gallant and was forthwith accepted. Senor Villaverde then put a definite stop to all frivolity and once more devoted himself to fruitful labor for the welfare of his country, being no longer required to sacrifice all



DON RAIMONDO VILLAVERDE (New Premier of Spain Who Was Born Under Lucky Star.)

his time and talent to his profession, Senor Villaverde studied assiduously social and economical sciences, for which he had always felt a predilection, and through his great intelligence soon rose to prominence. He was successively named minister of justice and of finance to the general satisfaction.

The most interesting period of Villaverde's political career began in 1899 after the disastrous war with the United States. When the treaty of peace had been signed and a new cabinet, presided over by the leader of the conservative party, Senor Silvea, was formed, political men as well as the majority of a people recognized the urgent necessity of introducing ample and radical reforms into all branches of public administration and adopting a sound and liberal policy apt to raise the credit of the land. Senor Villaverde, who occupied in Silvea's cabinet the post of minister of finance, brought a bill of taxation before parliament, with which he intended to increase the income of the treasury from 850,000,000 to 1,000,000,000 pesetas and with his peculiar energy and firmness he succeeded in having his project approved.

But this heavy taxation raised such a storm of protest throughout the whole of Spain and so numerous and bloody were the riots which it caused in various provinces that Senor Villaverde was obliged to send in his resignation and two or three months afterward, partly owing to this and partly to the unpopular marriage of the princess of the Asturias with Don Carlos of Bourbon, the whole cabinet was also forced to resign. The queen then decided to trust Villaverde with the formation of a new ministry, but in consequence of the unpopularity of his taxes, he found nobody disposed to second him in the work and therefore he had to renounce the charge.

Later the announcement that the government, through Senor Sanchez Toca, intended to bring a bill into parliament for the construction of the fleet, was sufficient to call forth demonstrations of hostility in the chamber of deputies, as well as all over Spain. Then King Alfonso, interpreting the desires of his country, called on Senor Villaverde to form a new cabinet. The elevation of this distinguished statesman to the highest office signifies the triumph of a firm and saving financial policy of Spain.

A Tax Extraordinary.

A tax on marriage is still imposed by the proprietor of a leading Bombay hotel. In a revised tariff of prices the daily charge for a single lady or gentleman is set down as five rupees, but if the lady or gentleman be married the charge will be seven rupees each. No explanation of this singular regulation is given.

Engagements in Turkestan.

A wedding engagement in Turkestan begins with the payment of a substantial consideration to the girl's parents. If the girl jilts her lover, the engagement gift has to be returned unless the parents have another daughter to give as a substitute.

A GOOD FISH STORY

New York Man Finds a Gold Coin in Stomach of a Cod, Publishes the Fact, and a Kansas Man Claims the Money.

Some weeks ago A. E. Levy, of New York city, went fishing down at the fishing banks. His luck was not exceptionally good, but when he reached home and the catch had been cleaned he found that he had broken the record. In the stomach of a cod was found a \$10 gold piece, with two diamonds set on one side and the initials "P. C. E." on the other. Mr. Levy was so amazed that he sent the story to the papers and it was copied throughout the country. This he thought would be the end of it, and the matter slipped his mind and was forgotten. But recently he received a letter from Patrick C. Evans, residing in Kansas, who claims the \$10 piece as his own, and Mr. Levy will surrender it to him. Mr. Evans in his letter tells the following story:

"I saw some days ago in a St. Louis paper an item about your catching a codfish which when you opened it gave up a \$10 gold piece, on one side of which were a couple of diamonds and on the other the letters 'P. C. E.' The coin is my property, Mr. Levy. The coin is valuable to me, for the following reason: I was fool enough about five years ago to go into a 'wildcat' gold mining scheme in Colorado. I paid the piper to the tune of about \$4,000 before I found out what I was up against. The only thing I got out of the enterprise was this same \$10 gold piece, which I borrowed from the president of the company, a man named Harris Colby, at Leadville, Col., having only a check in my pocket at the time and being shy of ready money. As it happened I did not change it, and the next day the mine busted. So I said I would keep the coin as a warning to me not to be played as a sucker by any man or men who owned gold mines. Frank H. Wells, a jeweler of Denver, Col., put two diamonds in the piece, charging me \$30 for the job, and I guess the transaction is still on his book if you wish to verify my statement.

"I wore the coin some years, and it made good whenever I was tempted to go into some scheme that promised a bunch of money for next to nothing invested. I was in New York in May and remained over for some time with friends. We went blackfishing in the lower bay, and I was hauling in a fish when somehow or other the chain to which the coin was fastened got caught in the rigging of our sloop, which just then rolled, the chain snapped, and away went the coin. You can prove the truth of this if you will write me, when I will write you and send the addresses of witnesses of the accident. I will also give you references of good men here and in New York, who will vouch for my business and moral character. I am interested in the salt industry of this town, and have also mining and ranch interests."

Kills Bear with a Knife.
Andy Hickson, camping near Three Sisters, Oregon, had a hand-to-hand combat with a cinnamon bear recently. Hickson fired his only two shots which failed to wound the bear. There was nothing left but to make a fight for it, and Hickson whipped out his hunting knife and with a quick lunge planted it to the hilt in pipe and bringing him to the ground. In his fall the bear's claws tore the shirt off the valiant hunter. In his fall the bear's claws tore the shirt of the valiant hunter.

Has a Church on His Hands.
Michael Glitta, a mill employe of Passaic, N. J., has a church on his hands, which he won recently at a raffle. It is an old building now used by the St. Michael Greek Rite congregation, which is erecting a new edifice, and Father Molsanyczy decided to raffle off the building and Glitta won. He will tear the building down when the new church is occupied and will put up a home for his family with the lumber.

Occupation is the scythe of time.—Napoleon.
The hand that is guided by intellect is sure to achieve something.—Chicago Daily News.
"All Bostonians are types." "Yes, agate types that consider themselves nonpareils."—Life.
Bulky Butters—"Is dey swell folks up at dat house?" Weoful Walters—"Is dey swell? Say, dey didn't hit me wit' nuttin' but golf clubs."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Constance—"I wonder how Nancy came to marry Harry Riddle?" Imogene—"Why, haven't you heard? He is immoderately fond of auto riding, and he carries a large accident policy."—Boston Transcript.
Harlow—"I noticed you called Fred 'brother.' Does he belong to some secret society that you do?" Shallop—"I don't belong to any secret society. I call him brother because my wife once promised to be a sister to him."—Boston Transcript.

"What do you think of this lady?" asked one of the germs that had been swept up by the woman's skirt. "I am greatly attached to her," answered the other. "In fact, I am one of the most ardent followers in her train."—Indianapolis Sun.

"I put in the French phrases here and there," said the fire in the stove for Mr. Weary Willie—"All right, lady." "Hm!" remarked the critic, "it would have helped a bit if you had put in a little good English in spots."—Philadelphia Ledger.

The relations of a lady who had died, leaving a legacy to a favorite donkey in order to secure its comfort, recently came into court and asked for a decision as to who was to enjoy the legacy after the donkey's decease. "The next of kin," was the judge's verdict.—Punch.

Housekeeper—"I'll give you a good meal if you'll lend the fire in the stove for me." Weary Willie—"All right, lady." "Hm!" remarked the critic, "it would have helped a bit if you had put in a little good English in spots."—Philadelphia Ledger.

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FEARED A SEPARATION.

The Dear Little Lamb Was Afraid Her Father Might Be Put with the Goats.

Her father had read her the parable of the sheep and the goats at the day of judgment. She made no comment, but that night a sound of weeping came from her room. Her mother went as consoler, relates Brooklyn Life.
"Why are you crying, dear?"
"About the goats! Oh, I'm so afraid I'm a goat!"
"Why, no, dearie, you are a sweet little lamb, and if you should die to-night you would go straight to Heaven." With this and like assurances she was finally pacified.

The next night the same performance was repeated, and again her mother inquired the reason.
"About the goats! I'm afraid about the goats!"
"Didn't I tell you, dear, that you were a little lamb?"
"Oh, she sobbed, 'I'm not crying about myself, but I'm afraid you may be a goat!'"

THE SELF-MADE MAN.

Not Always a Finished Product, But There Are Some Afflictions He Escapes.

Now and then we encounter a natural-born ice-man, says Puck. Some men always seem so very new, and others so very parvenu. The self-made man is often a very good sort—when he is finished. He rarely has the gout, but he sometimes suffers from over exertion of the egotism. Somehow, the ears of the self-made man often have the look of having been stolen from a grab-bag.

The self-made man escaped one great affliction. He didn't have a baccalaureate sermon preached at him. And, oh! if he could only remember that there are always others just as insignificant as himself. We occasionally see an architect of his own fortune who seems to have mislaid the blue-print when he was about halfway through.

A Boy's Victory.
Crossroads, Tenn., Sept. 14.—Orbra Young, the ten-year-old son of Lester Young, of this place, is a bright boy, and one who is very well liked by all who know him. For some years Orbra has suffered a great deal with a form of Kidney Trouble which was very annoying, and which made him miserable all the time. He had to get up three or four times every night, almost all his life.

His father heard of a remedy called Dodd's Kidney Pills, and bought some for the little fellow with the result that he is now completely cured of the old trouble. He says: "Dodd's Kidney Pills soon gave me great relief, and now I can sleep all night without having to get up. We will always praise Dodd's Kidney Pills."

There are many children suffering from Kidney and Urinary troubles. These disorders should be promptly corrected. Dodd's Kidney Pills is a safe and sure remedy for all such derangements. Master Orbra Young conquered his troubles and made a well boy of himself by using Dodd's Kidney Pills, and any one may do the same by the same means. Parents should see to it that their children are given a fair chance in life, and there is nothing that can undermine the health of a growing child as much as Kidney and Urinary derangements.

What She Could Do.

"I am glad," said the wealthy merchant, "that the baby is a girl."
"Wouldn't you rather have a boy that you could train to succeed you in business?"
"No, indeed," replied the wealthy merchant. "A boy would go to college, learn to play bridge and probably become a member of one of the professional leagues. He would be of no business advantage to me whatever. But a girl—"
"What can a girl do?"
"Why, she can marry the confidential clerk who is gradually stealing everything I've got and so keep the money in the family."—Chicago Post.

\$1.00 Big 500-Pound Steel Range Offer.
If you can use the best big 500-pound steel range made in the world, and are willing to have it placed in your own home on three months' free trial, just cut this notice out and send to Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago, and you will receive free of charge a mail big picture of the steel range and many other cooking and heating stoves, you will also receive the most wonderful \$1.00 steel range offer, an offer that places the best steel range or heating stove in the home of any family, an offer that no family in the land, no matter what their circumstances may be, or how small their income, need be without the best cooking or heating stove made.

Very Mean of Her.
Edna—Mr. Case just complimented me. He said I reminded him of a swan.
May—Really. He told me once that swans all died after they sang and he knew many people who ought to do the same thing.—Chelsea Gazette.

FALL KIDNEY CHILLS.
With the chilling air of fall comes an extra tax on weak kidneys.—It's the time Doan's Kidney Pills are needed—now recognized the world over as the chief Kidney and Bladder remedy. Aching backs are eased. Hip, back, and loin pains overcome. Swelling of the

limbs and dropsy signs vanish. They correct urine with brick dust sediment, high colored, pain in passing, dribbling, frequency, bed wetting. Doan's Kidney Pills remove calculi and gravel. Relieve heart palpitation, sleeplessness, headache, nervousness, dizziness.

DEERFIELD, IND.—"It was called rheumatism. I could get no relief from the doctors. I began to improve on and am willing to take Doan's Kidney Pills. I got two boxes at our drug store, and although 68 years of age, I am almost a new man. I was troubled a good deal with my water—had to get up four or five times a night. That trouble is over with and once more I can rest the night through. My backache is all gone, and I thank you ever so much for the wonderful medicine, Doan's Kidney Pills."
J. H. HUNTER, President, Ridgeville, Indiana, (State Bank.)

Doan's Kidney Pills.
PRICE 50 CENTS. SPECIFIC FOR KIDNEY COLIC AND PAIN.
NAME _____
P. O. _____
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For free trial box, mail this coupon to: Doan's Kidney Pills, Buffalo, N. Y. If you prefer a local druggist, write address on separate slip.

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PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best cure for Spitting Blood, Cough, and Phlegm. In time. Sold by druggists.

A. N. K. C. 1987 LORING'S PERMANENT UNION and LORING'S SOFT CORN CURE will cure your corns, blisters, and all other troubles. N. J. LORING, Webster City, Iowa.

The raw recruit is apt to be roasted by the drill sergeant.—Puck.
The Chicago & North-Western is the only double track railway between Chicago and the Missouri River.
When you learn how difficult it is to collect a bill from some of our best people, you begin to understand that polite society is not altogether a vanity.—Puck.

I am sure Piso's Cure for Consumption saved my life three years ago.—Mrs. Tlios. Robbins, Norwich, N. Y. Feb. 17, 1900.
Before accepting the inevitable we should be certain of its identity.—Puck.
Dyeing is as easy as washing when Putnam Fadeless Dyes are used.

Usually the right side of the market is the outside.—Chicago Daily News.
To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

While there is love there's hope.—Ram's Horn.
The Overland Limited, solid train Chicago to the Coast daily, Chicago, Union Pacific & North-Western Line.
They who turn their backs on the false face the true.—Ram's Horn.



AT BED TIME I TAKE A PLEASANT HERB DRINK
THE NEXT MORNING I FEEL BRIGHT AND NEW AND MY COMPLEXION IS BETTER.
My doctor says it acts gently on the stomach, liver and kidneys and is a pleasant laxative. This drink is made from herbs and is pure and as healthy as any tea. It is called "Laxative Herb Drink."

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All druggists or by mail 12c. and 50c. Buy it today. Lane's Family Medicine cures all the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Address, Box 295, La. Bay, N. Y.

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A NEW SPECIALLY FOR WOMEN.

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PUTNAM FADELESS DYES are as far ahead of the old fashioned Dyes as electricity is of a Rush light candle. Putnam Fadeless Dyes are cleanly, as they neither stain the hands nor spot the kettle. One 10c package colors either silk, wool or cotton equally well, and is guaranteed to give a perfect result. Putnam Fadeless Dyes are for sale by all good druggists every where, or mailed direct at 10c a package. MONROE DRUG CO., Unionville, Mo.