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Spain holds Cuba up, bandit fashion, and demands a tariff preferential, receiving in reply a clout in the face. England gives Canada her own way and Canada in gratitude voluntarily accords to England preferential duties.

Shall Hawaii Be Annexed?

Two arguments against the annexation of Hawaii appear in the December Forum. The first, presented by ex-Chief Justice Daniel Agnew, concerns itself largely with the contention that the annexation of Hawaii would be in violation of the Constitution.

In the opinion of most far-sighted American statesmen, past and present, however, "an overriding necessity for the national safety" does call in this particular case for the exercise of a power by our government if not expressly authorized in the Constitution.

The other objection is presented by Professor Bryce, who announces by way of introduction that his comment is prompted by disappointed friendship.

Necessary Postal Reform. Congressman Loud, the chairman of the house committee on post offices and post roads, who championed in the Fifty-fourth congress a bill for postal reform which passed the house but fell into obscurity in the senate, announces that just as soon as congress reconvenes he will renew the fight.

The book-keeper on a legitimate work of eight cents a page postage to send it through the mails. Spaulding's "Home Library" goes through the mails at one cent a pound.

This is the most effective argument yet presented: the one that makes the strongest appeal to conservative American sentiment. But it would be yet more powerful if it were only pertinent in fact, no earth-hunger is present as an motive anywhere in the Hawaiian problem.

tion were to mark the beginning of an extensive scheme of American colonization, will Professor Bryce affirm that Americans would be likely to prove themselves less able to colonize successfully than their English cousins across the sea?

It is as good as admitted officially at Washington that the reciprocity deal with Canada is off. Canada wanted the whole hog.

Shirking Responsibility.

For the brutal and unprovoked murder of Dr. Ruiz while a prisoner in a Cuban jail the Spanish government, it is announced, has expressed its willingness to pay to the widow and her orphaned children an indemnity of \$25,000 in lieu of the \$75,000 to which she is justly laid claim.

The need of a radical readjustment of the whole matter of census-taking is emphasized by the fact that the third volume of the Compendium of the Eleventh census, which under proper regulations should have been issued not later than 1892 or 1893, has only just appeared, seven years behind the times.

Some New Books And Magazines

FOR a number of years the Frederick A. Stokes company have made it an annual custom to produce a limited number of artistic calendars exemplifying the choicest achievements in pen-and-ink and water-color effects.

During the past few weeks a newcomer in the ranks of New York pictorial weeklies has made its appearance on the newsstands.—The Criterion, rehabilitated from an obscure print and energized by the labors of one of the brightest group of writers to be found in the metropolis.

An interesting feature of the December Godley's consists of half-tone reproductions of seven famous paintings representing as many different conceptions of the Madonna and Child.

"The Way of the Transgressor," in which Howard Piddling humorously demonstrates the dangers besetting the philanthropist who indulges in criminality, and Christmas stories by Frank R. Stockton, Harriet Prescott Spofford, and Max Pemberton give pleasure to the Yuletide make especially attractive the December number of the Woman's Home Companion, which at a nickel a copy is truly a bargain.

"Money," the non-partisan monthly magazine devoted to an elucidation of knotty points in finance, continues to present well-digested information. The November issue has an interesting account of Secretary Gage's plan for currency reform.

A new series of tales for the young under the "Just So" stories, is begun in the December St. Nicholas by Rudyard Kipling. The first one explains why the whale came by his little throat and is a bit of artistic feeling that no child can withstand. The entire number, indeed, is packed full as a Xmas box of good things.

The compact expired in 1877, was renewed, expired again in 1887, was renewed, and will have to be broken or renewed yet this year. In the meantime, Hungary as compared with Austria has waxed rich, but she refuses steadily to permit an increase in her percentage. A son of Louis Kossuth, talking in the parliament at Budapest, openly advocates a declaration of absolute independence, and stranger things could happen than that in the troubles now besetting Austria this advice should be acted upon.

The German press and government are represented to be in a towering rage over the idea that their threatened seizure of Haitian property in summary redress for a fancied insult is any of Uncle Sam's business. If this is true they will simply have to cool off. The Monroe doctrine applies as well to Germany as to Great Britain, and Americans are quite as ready to back it up in the one case as in the other.

The Owl, a nickel magazine containing short stories, presents in its December issue, an inviting table for general reading. It is like the Black Cat, only more so, which is enough said.

POLITICAL BREVITIES.

Representative Charles E. Voorhees has abandoned the David Martin faction in Philadelphia and accepted employment in the Durham camp.

The Philadelphia Bulletin on Monday afternoon announced with emphasis that Attorney General McCormick had decided not to be a candidate for governor. The Philadelphia Press next morning, with Mr. McCormick's authority, denied the truth of this announcement. The question is unanswered as yet.

Ex-Candidate Thompson, Dr. Swallow, Wayne MacVeagh, Herbert Welsh, ex-Congressman Sibley and several other opponents of the Republican organization in Pennsylvania held a quiet conference last Saturday evening to consider the possibility of springing an independent nomination for governor. The idea is to try to combine every opponent of Quayism and "smash the ring." Nothing was decided upon.

It is inferred from the Hazleton Sentinel's political editorials that that journal thinks ex-Congressman Leisenring ought soon to fish or cut bait.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER.

- 1. Several high school boys decline to continue further educational acquisitions as it might unfit them as jurors on a nice jury murder trial.
2. A naughty plot will on the Chesick boards be borne by its own blishes.
3. The Rowing association gets an order for boats and an offer from a swell coacher to fit a crew for a big regatta.
4. Editor Lynett in view of an approaching poor board election, bestows another column of editorial jolly on Republicans who has been flaccid.
5. Several prominent church members have held interests in nickel-in-the-slot-machines, decide to sell their claims and join the Good Citizens' league.
6. The number of people who don't care to be Mr. Anson's successor as Handley executor, continues to decrease.
7. The man who kicks about boss rule, and who simply wants to change bosses.
8. J. M. Chittenden, Jr., buys a residence for use in the Klondike.
9. A local brewery will on resolutions suggesting that the First Presbyterian and Baptist churches move up town.
10. The editors of papers in Lackawanna county who have not yet published a book of poems decide to pool their productions in the volume.
11. Many people continue to complain of the depravity of this city and yet refuse to contribute to the Rescue Mission fund.
12. Remedical girl clerks in the court house learn that they aren't needed by new Democratic incumbents.
13. Several would-be congressmen aren't so anxious to be candidates if liquor is not to be sold in the government buildings.
14. Editors of yellow Sunday journals suffer from biliousness.
15. A large sale of scholarships at Wilkes-Barre.
16. Rural seekers of knowledge in Luzerne take to the woods.
17. Local lawyers, people decide that brewing is not a nice business and that they will form a plumbing and ice consolidated combination.
18. Santa Claus visits the bargain counter.
19. Many wise men form a syndicate and buy the Home for the Friendless property for a big new apartment house.
20. T. Owen Charley writes the first chapter of a book entitled "Ananias Journalism as a Means of Inciting Religious War."
21. Christian Endeavorers invest the suns realized from the "lady conductor" street car enterprise in Klondike real estate.
22. The New England society members enjoy their banquet to such a degree that their families do not have a good time while that attack of the goat lasts.
23. Manager Davis decides that Al Reeves' brain is all wool but is only about a half year old.
24. A band of tramps makes a collection of Christmas turkeys left indiscriminately in accessible refrigerators and garb summarily several days.
25. The star applicant for the Handley executorship vacancy gets a gold brick in his stocking.
26. The man who didn't pay his election bets has had dreams.
27. The councilman appearing with a new diamond pin is immediately sized as being of the 500 a bunch.
28. All the time to whom Wade Finn has promised the poor board collectorship hold a meeting and agree to do something.
29. The members and New Year ball committee stay up all night trying to devise something novel and startling for their big ball, but decide the factors have left nothing undone.
30. Mr. Verno almost begins to wish he had enlarged the borders of his Christmas tree.
31. The public generally prepares to welcome the New Year with the usual good resolutions.

can recommend this book in the strongest terms as one eminently suited to improve and uplift its reader.

"The Freedom of Henry Meredith," by M. Hamilton, another "Melod of the Camerons," is issued in Appleton's Town and Country Library. It is a singularly keen and interesting study of the divorce question, which without ensaying to be "preachy" nevertheless conveys a lesson nowadays in sad need of conveyance. Few books of the year will better repay a reading.

The Christmas Century is a specially fine number. It is begun most appropriately by an article from the pen of Jacob A. Riis, describing "Merry Christmas in Tenements." When one has read that he will be in a suitable frame of mind to receive that liberally toward his poorer brethren which is the essence of the Christmas observance. We have not space in which to mention in detail the admirable contents of this number, but it is one that no Century reader should neglect to secure.

The December Philistine glories in the fact that it is the last of the magazinelets, and asserts that it finds its existence so profitable that it has just built a fine new home, with a big latch string on the outside. This if ever there was one is surely a cause of deserved success.

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GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR. DRESS GOODS NEWS.

And Good News It Is To Prudent Buyers

You can hardly afford to pass by our handsome Dress Goods stock this week without observing what a wonderful cut we have made in prices. Our large center window will give you a faint conception.

- At \$2.98 per dress pattern, over 75 styles of Fancy Suitings.
At \$3.98 per dress pattern, over 40 styles of Foreign and Domestic Novelties.
At \$4.98 per dress pattern, over 60 styles of the choicest and newest English, French, German and American High-Class Novelties.

We have but one or two dress patterns of a kind of any of these fabrics, and the extremely low prices to which we have marked them behooves an early call if you wish to get any of the plums.

Professor Miller, the eminent Pianist and Composer will hold recitals every afternoon on our second floor from 2 to 5.30 o'clock. During his stay, Sheet Music will be sold at half price, 25 cents per single copy or three copies for 50 cents.

FINLEY'S Don't Be Tempted. BLANKETS and COMFORTABLES. For this week we quote the following low prices: Cotton Blankets, 10-4 Columbia Blankets, 11-4 Silver Queen Blankets, 11-4 Gloriana Blankets, 11-4 Arcadia Blankets. Mixed Blankets, Borders—Red, Blue, Pink and Lemon. 10-4 Kingston Blankets, 10-4 Oxford Blankets, 10-4 Welland Blankets, 11-4 Oxford Blankets, 11-4 Welland Blankets. All-Wool Blankets, (Also Crib and Cradle sizes)—Borders—Blue, Pink, Brown, Red and Lemon. 10-4 Tioga Blanket, 10-4 Hero Blanket, 10-4 Housekeepers' Choice Blanket, 11-4 Oakland Blanket, 11-4 Norwood Blanket, 11-4 Niska Blanket, 12-4 Housekeepers' Choice Blanket, 12-4 Gold Medal Blanket, 13-4 Gold Medal Blanket. Our line of California and Elder-Down Blankets is always complete. Robe and Wrapper Blankets (Reversible), brocaded patterns for Ladies' Wrappers, Gentlemen's Bath-Robes and Smoking Jackets. Comfortables, Full size Comfortables, both sides fancy at 98c, \$1.50, \$2.25, \$2.75, \$3.25. French Satine Down Quilts at \$3.98; special price for this week only. Also a choice line of Silk Comfortables. 510 and 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE. Have you seen our new Combination Bible, Teachers' Edition, Helps, Maps and Guides, Handsomely Bound, Cloth Binding, for the low price of \$1.40. Reynolds Bros 136 Wyoming Ave., SCRANTON.

BOYLE & MUCKLOW, 416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE. CHRISTMAS IS COMING ALWAYS BUSY. HOLIDAY PRESENTS GLOVES SLIPPERS RUBBERS. Sensible presents, Slippers and Shoes from 25c to \$5.00. Our best efforts are at your service. Always use our stores as if they were your own. FOOTE & SHEAR CO. 110 Washington Avenue. HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for DUPONT'S POWDER. Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Amateurs and the Repairing Chemists. Company's HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Safety Fuse, Caps and Exploders. Rooms 212, 213 and 214 Commonwealth Building, Scranton. AGENCIES: THOMAS, JOHN E. SMITH & SON, Piquette; E. W. MULLIGAN, White-Barre.

There Is No Reason OIL OR GAS HEATER. WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING KINDS: Standard Oil Heaters (2 sizes.) Majestic Oil Heaters (2 sizes.) Oil Radiators, Blue and White Flame, 1, 2 and 3 Burners. Banner Lamp Stoves. Gas Radiators, nickel and bronze finish. WE ARE SATISFIED THAT AFTER YOU HAVE COMPARED OUR GOODS AND PRICES WITH OTHERS, YOUR BUSINESS WILL COME OUR WAY.

Beidleman's Big Holiday Book Store opens Friday evening, December 3; Board of Trade Building, Linden Street. MUSIC. Souvenirs for Ladies. BEIDLEMAN, BOARD OF TRADE THE BUILDING AND BOOKMAN, 437 SPRUCE ST. THE CLEMONS, FERBER, O'MALLEY CO., 422 Lacka. Ave.

Vertical text on the far right edge of the page, including 'The Scranton Tribune' and other small notices.