Something Concerning the Isle of Porto Rico.

Its Chief Characteristics Are Climate, Which Is Very Hot; Sugar, Which is Very Sweet; Tobacco, Which Is Very Fine, and Rats, Which Are Very Big.

of Porto Rico.

ever, for its lack of native quadrupeds

by the astonishing abundance and

size of its rats. These animals were

unknown in Porto Rico until imported

of every planter, for white they

will devoor indiscriminately anything

ugar and sugar cane and many an un-

fuckly planter has gone out in his fields

mernings to find his entire crop has been

ruined by a swarm of rats, the ro-dents gnawing off the stalks at the

bottom in order to suck the juices, for

the Spanish rat has a sweet-tooth and

knows a good thing when he tastes it,

The population of Porto Rico was by

he last ceusus 813,937, of this number

visited the island are not slow to

affirm that to judge from the looks of

the remainder there is a considerable

admixture of negro blood in nearly all

ble that the process of amalgamation

has had something to do with darken-

ing the Porto Rican complexion, but too

much reliance must not be placed upon

color in the tropics. The island is one

of the few places on earth where whites

and blacks work together in the same

field without the superior race feeling

that their association is a degradation.

The term work, however, should be

understood with the fact in mind that

it is used in allusion to the tropics,

for labor in the tropical zone differs

road in Porto Rico dangerous. When

planters undertook to make a journey

military race, and as soon as they

reached man's estate their turbulence

manifested itself in servile insurrec-

tions. Most of the other Spanish colo-

nies were provided with negroes from

the west coast, and of temper much

more tractable. In consequence of this

difference in the temper and character

of the slaves, no colony has had the

and the emancipation was thus halled

Outside of the principal towns there

siderable an element of the population,

reed from the necessity of labor by

the abundance with which nature pro

to exertion of any kind, live in a

shelter, a few rags for their clothing.

In the towns, besides the old-fash-

date almost back to the time of Co

of eternal youth.

The blacks, who form so con-

with as much satisfaction by the

whites as by the blacks.

trouble with its slaves as Porto Rico.

very materially from the same article

entable they have a penchant

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The general gossip concerning Spain relief from the heat, for shortly after and her provinces has scarcely touched sundown the sea breeze falls to a calm the Island of Porto Rico, which, now that Cuba has almost passed from under the control of the mother country, the land, so that a night spent in a is the last remaining possession on the Porto Rican house gives the stranger Western continent of the empire that the impression of being imprisoned in once claimed about 18,000,000 square miles of territory in the New World, That Porto Rico will probably be the next to go is considered certain, and, in view of the fact that more than one revolution has taken place on the island, and the spirit of freedom is strong among the people, it seems arebable that the loss of Porto Rico to

Spain is not far distant.

Porto Rico is the fourth in size of the Greater Antilles; Cuba, the Islands of Hayti and Jamacia each being larger. So far as its mileage is concerned, the last Spanish island is by no means very few wild birds, the largest being the parrot. The island makes up, howimposing in size, containing in round numbers 3,500 square miles being somewhat less in size than the stare of Connecticut and a little larger than the combined states of Delaware and Rhode Island. It is less than a twenby the Spaniards, but now they are the pest of every household, the bane tieth of the size of the state of Missouri and would not make more than a corner in one of the great counties of Texas. Small as it is, however, it is not quite so large as the province of Thessaly, now in the possession of the Turks, but is, nevertheless, a valuable possession from the fact that it has some of the richest land on the globe. capable of producing four crops a year and under proper management the is land could become an independent state of considerable importance in that quarter of the world.

Porto Rico is almost a quadrangle but in spite of the regularity of its coast, it is more plentifully supplied with rivers and small streams than would be supposed, for on the north the rest of the population. It is probashore there are seventeen water courses, which, for small sea-going vessels, are navigable in each case several miles from the shore. The backbone of the island is a range of mountains running directly east and west and rising about 1,500 feet above the sea.

There are uplands and lowlands, pas ture lands, sandy bottom and loamy bottom. There are districts that grov tobacco as fine as that of the Vuelta Abajo Valley in Cuba, while the yield of sugar from cane is greater per aere in Porto Rico than in any other sugar producing country in the world. What there is in the soil of the island to under a temperate sun. The day-labcause a greater yield of sugar to the orer under the equator has a strongly quintal of cane the chemists have defined conviction that much work never been able to discover, but certain like much study, is a weariness of the it is that a ton of cane in Porto Rico flesh and he is heartily opposed to will yield from I to 12 per cent, more wearying his flesh unnecessarily. A sugar than a similar amount in His- couple of hours in the early mornpaniola, Cuba or Jamaica. Some idea ing, the same amount late in the afterof the value of this product to the island noon, satisfies the conscience of the may be judged from the statement that Porto Rican laborer; during the rest two years ago the expert of cane sugar of the time he smokes and eats, gos-from Porto Rico was 54 861 tons, com- sips with his neighbors and last but pared with which the next largest items not least he sleeps, for there is more of export coffee and tobacco, are in-significant, the amount of coffee sent summer and in wipter, than on any abroad being 16,881 tons and tobacco other area of similar size on the face 1,807 tons. Those who have made a carreful study of the island understand. however, how little of its available. The blacks in Porto Rico are not agricultural resources have yet been now slaves, and it was a great relief a judgment do not hesitate to assert colored, when slavery came to an end, hat under proper conditions these ex- for the blacks of Porto Rico have alresources of the soil of the island are lent, insubordinate and dangerous therefore practically exhaustless, a for- slaves of any Spanish colony. During tunate circumstances, for Porto Rico the slavery days there was scarcely has neither mines nor manufactures, a year in which there was not a serno mineral deposit: of value have been vile insurrection in some part of the renders the population strongly disin- themselves into bands and made every clined to indoor labor

The climate of Porto Rico is probably of any length they always provided an more severe on people from a temper- armed escort, without which there was Artilles. Someone has described the would be found somewhere on the climate of Madrid as three months of road. The reason for the turbulence vinter and nine months of sheot, and, of the Porto Rican slaves, as comparleaving out the winter, the description ed with the Africans in other parts fits Porto Rico with utmost exactness. of Spanish-America, is peculiar as il-Winter, however, in the tropics is justrating both the difference between merely a comparative term, the differ- the negro tribes of Africa and the ence being about this, that in Porto power of heredity. The earliest Porto Rico during the winter time the Rican planters were under theinfluence stranger from the temperate zone of a Spanish company, which also had only faints with the heat while large possessions and trading stations summer he drops down dead, on the Zulu coast. Most of the slaves mean winter temperature sent to Porto Rica were from the in Porto Blee is eighty degrees; the Zulu country, and although great numean summer temperature of St. Louis bers were only children when they left in July is 79, so that the winter in the Dark Continent the boys grew up Porto Rico is a close approximation with the same fearless spirit that has to the month of July in St. Louis. To always been shown by the men of this match a winter of this description a summer temperature that would melt lead might be naticipated, but there is not tout difference that might be expected, for during the summer months the thermometer in Porto Rico seldom risec above 100, and the heat of the day blow freely over every part of the is-

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A Lesson on Forgiveness.

Matt. XVIII, 21-35.

BY J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D., Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

INTRODUCTION-After the transligu- I ration Jesus descended from Mount Her-mon, and in the valley below healed a lunatic boy which the nine disciples had failed to do in His absence. As He jour-neyed He referred again to His death. Crossing the sea He entered Capernaum and repaired to the house of Peter. There land. The nights, however, bring no and the area of the island is not suffi-He was approached by the tax collectors who inquired on the subject of tribute. Afterwards He instructed His disciples on various subjects. It was at that time He ciently great to produce a breeze from answered their celebrated question conanswered their celebrated question con-cerning greatness in the kinedom of heaven, and a little child was placed in the midst as an emblem of His true sub-jects. There He also gave the parable of the lost sheep, and set forth the power of united prayer; and there He taught them concerning their duty to an offending brother, enunciating a law which was intended to be perpetually binding upon all His followers. Having but a short time previously (Matt. xvt. 18) declared His purpose to found His church, and having published the fundamental prin-ciple of that church, it was important that its members should know how they might dwell together in unity and peace. an oven. In spite of the torrid temper ature, however, the island is healthy. The health rate of the country does not depend upon its temperature; some of the hottest regions in the world are also among the healtiest, and the absence of very large cities which might serve as breeding places of diseases is probably one factor in the health There is one singular thing about might dwell together in unity and peace (Pealin exxxiii, 1.) the island in which it differs from every other of its size in the world. There are no digenous quadrupous and

QUESTION Divided These last re-QUESTION DAGGETS—These last remarks awakened reflections in the mind of Peter, who came to Jesus with important questions (verse 21). He desired to know how many times a brother ought to be forgiven, whether the limit should be fixed at seven transgressions. One of the prophets (Amos, i. 3) had declared the extent of Get's mercy, but the passage ad been a subject of dispute among the halr-splitting rabbs. Some claimed that God would forgive four offenses and then cease; others that He would exercise emency three times plus four times, nt is, seven times, and that this Di-ne act would measure human forgive-ess. Peter desired Jesus to decide which view was correct. The question indicates that the apostle had not escaped from the narrow limits of legal enactment. He manifested a disposition to stint himself in that which is good, going no further than Divine law required, afraid of doing o much in religion, particularly of forgiving too much, a fault quite common among men. Many put restraints upon the evil of their natures, and exercise the 200,000 were negroes. Those who have better part only as they are influenced

> ANSWER GIVEN,-It is safe to assumthat all the apostles were anxious to hear the decision of this question. Shall it be three, or four, or seven? The opinion of Jesus is to be compared with that of Jew-ish doctors: "Not until seven times," not ish doctors: "Not until seven times," not limited by that number, said the Saviour, "but until seventy times seven," that is, without limit. (Verse 22.) In thus removing all bounds to the exercise of forgiveness the Master had exhibited its true quality and prepared His disciples for spiritual development. There is something of ill-nature in scoring up injuries, purposing to be avenged when the number is full. God keeps account (Deut, xxxii, 24), because He is the judge, and xxxii, 34), because He is the judge, and vengeance is His; but man must not imi-tate Him in this, lest he be found to step into the judgment seat. (James iv, 12) Besides, no man can preserve his own peace unless he forgives without remem-bering how often he has forgiven. We must learn to pass by and forget inmust learn to pass by and forget in-juries when the conditions prescribed are met. In fact, genuine forgiveness implies the blotting out of transgressions, (Pslam, clil. 12), and the return of the transgressor to favor. The rabbis were all wrong on this point, and the teaching of Jesus was far in advance of them all.

being merely aggregations of huts, many grass-covered and the best houses having tile roofs. The capital, San | Could Fiddle Under Spurious Hypno-Juan, has a population of 23,000, but is not the largest city, being exceeded in From the Morning Oregonian. size by Ponce with a population of 37, utilized, and persons competent to form to the population, both white and 545, and San German, 39,414. The cities do not differ materially from towns of the same size in other parts of Spans ports could be increased twofold. The ways been known as the most turbu- | Ish-America. In the harbors of all are fortifications now ancient, which could not stand for an hour against the guns of a modern fleet, while around San-Juan and several of the others are the remains of the walls erected for the discovered and the tropical climate island, and runaway slaves formed protection of the cities during the wars with England, France and the buccaneers. The forts are now almost in ruins, for only under the pressure of strong necessity did the Spaniards erect them, or keep them up, and now ate zone than that of any other of the a strong probability that their bodies that the necessity no longer exists they are allowed to fall into decadence. An American fleet would have practically no opposition in occupying any of the ports of the island, for these are de-

fenseless. The earliest history of Porte Rice was that of all the Spanish islands, discovery, the extermination of the natives in war or in slavery, the abandonment of the island by the military adventurers who first ocupied it, its subsequent occupation by agriculturists and the importation of negro slaves to take the place of the natives. Porto Rico, however, was a little more unfortunate than most of the other islands, for the Spaniards quickly discovered that there was no gold in its soil and so they went on to the continent. The planters of the early days did not succeed in their efforts to cultivate the land, and the people of the sland were reduced to such poverty that in the capital a special dispensa tion was given for the celebration of mass at night in order that the women might attend service, and yet not be compelled to exhibit their rags on the streets in the daytime. During the last century of peace the population has very materially increased. In 1802 Porto Rico had 163,192 people; by 1836 this number had increased to 357,686. The Africans and the halfis little to interest the tourist in Porto breed population has increased at a far more rapid rate, however, than the white. At the beginning of this cendury there were but 13,000 slaves, while the free blacks numbered 16,000, duces everything necessary to life, renthe mulattoes \$5,000. The black popudered by the heat of the climate averse lation is now estimated at scarcely more than 15,090, while the "colored" style as primitive as that of the Congo Valley, Grass buts, thatched element exceeds one-half the entire with palm leaves and straw, form their | population.

Politically the island is under the same rule, or rather misrule, as other oned houses, which do not however, Spanish provinces, being governed by differ greatly from those of Spain 300 Spaniards who come out from the years ago, there is not much to attract mother country with the sole idea of the attention of the curious. Evidences making all they can as speedily as of a former turbulent state of the coun- possible and returning to Spain. The try are found in the sentry boxes of leading planters are Spaniards who stone at the corners of the walls which reside only a small portion of the overlook the public squares and at the year on the island. Some never leave street corners, indicating where once Spain, but allow their plantations to strict watch was kept, not only for the be managed in wasteful fashion by oming of a foreign foe, but also for overseers and agents. There is theresigns of domestic insurrection, while fore in Porto Rico the same element the old gates of San Juan cemetery of political unrest as existed in Cuba before the war-a native population lumbus. Not far from the capital is impatient to control, alien landfords Casa Blanco, once the castle and coun- and greedy officials. Twice since the try home of Pence de Leon, who ruled outbreak of the Cuban war the natives here in royal state, and in a leaden of Porto Rico have risen in rebellion. box in the cathedral are the bones of but on each occasion the effort has the man who is now remembered prin- proved abortive. There is no reason to cipally for his search for the fountain suppose that the Spanish administration will reform its ways any more The island is well provided with than in Cuba, and the freedom of the towns, there being seventy-three which island from Spanish misgovernment have a population of 1,000 and upward. is questionably an event of the near Most of them hardly deserve the name, future.

SALE ORDERED .- Jesus did not pause I in the relation of the parties and the with a mere abstract statement of the broad Christian rule. Had He done so the disciples might have thought that His requirement was unjust and impracticable. He therefore gave an illustration intending still further to unfold the nature and obligation of mercy. That illustration may be treated under four heads. The first part (verses 22-25) presents the stern creditor dealing without morey with a helpless debter, a master with his servant. The latter owed ten thousand talents, equivalent to \$55,000 in gold, a sum beyond his ability to pay. Accordingly, the other goes forth to sell the delinquent, his wife, his children, and all that he had. That mode of adjusting accounts was common throughout the His requirement was unjust and imprac ng accounts was common throughout the ing accounts was common throughout the entire oriental world, and was practiced in Europe within a comparatively recent date. This reduction of a servant to a slave proceeded upon the supposition that a man forfeited his freedom when he was unable to meet obligations of a pecuniary kind, and that he became the textful property of his greditor. This rightful property of his creditor. This feature, introduced at the beginning of the parable, employs a prevailing custom, which is not approved, to show the peril

There are

delivered the offender over to the

given in the sermon on the mount (Mait, viii4-15.) The wisdom of the requirement must appear to all. One haw must pre-vail in the spiritual world—the same gov-

erning the relation between man an man as between God and man. Otherwise there would be favoritism and confusion

tesides, the formation of character, th

development of the nobler spiritual qual-ities, is possible only as a man rises into that higher realm and becomes God-like

in that he is merciful. A feeling of re-lentless animosity toward any person, whatever the offense, is prejudicial to

THE CONCLUSION .- The influence of

Christ's teaching in this case may be seen in the writings of the apostles. This same Peter, who raised the ques-tion, wrote thirty years after. "See that

ye love one another with pure hearts fervently" (I Peter, I:32.) John doubtless had this interview in mind when he said (I John iii, 11), "This is the message

that ye heard from the beginning that we should love one another." Paul not only condemned litigation by church members (I Cor., vi.5), but set forth in

the clearest terms, the very principle of Christ (Eph., iv:32). "forgiving one an-other, even as God for Christ's sake hath

forgiven you." one of the most beautiful of all the precepts in Holy writ. Under the inspiration of this teaching the church of the first century became re-

chirch of the first century became re-nowned for its unity. Tortulian (A. D. 145-220) in his apology for Christianity addressed to "the rulers of the Roman empire," after repelling the charges against Christians, pleads in their de-fense, that "they are peaceable people, dwelling together in love, having no disputes among themselves.

DEET FORGIVEN.-There is only on way of escape from slavery and all its consequences, and the servant hastens to try that method, -he appeals to the good try that methot,—he appears to the good-ness of the Master's heart and succeeds. Had he attempted an excuse, or invoked the law, or thought of flight or resist-ance he would have made matters worse. But he fell down, an act of humiliation confessing himself dependent, saying; "Lord" that is Master, "have parlience "Lord," that is, Master, "have patience with me," do not deal severally though justly, suspend this sontence (versa 28.) And then be promised, what he was not And then be promised, what he was not likely to perform, that he would pay all, a promise, however, that expressed desire and purpose. He did not ask to have the delit cancelled, but to have the time extended. The master was "moved with compassion." He saw the helpless, sorrowful state of the pleader, and freely forgave all the debt (verse 27), so that the servant was entirely released from his obligation. Here is an exhibition of forgiveness. It proceeds out of a tenderness giveness. It proceeds out of a tenderness of heart awakened on beholding the or-fender's spirit (I John, 1:9.) This part of the parable is doubtless intended to illustrate God's method of pardoning the sin

FELLOW OPPRESSED .- A remarkable scene is next presented in the parable (verses 28-30.) This same servant, going out from his Master's presence, a man, his debt cancelled, meets a fellow who owed him the insignificant sum of eighteen dollars. Forgetful of the good example and of the favor received he demanded payment and accompanied that demand with personal violence. His con-duct was not unlike that of the highwaymun who is conscious that his course is wrong. The fellow attempted the same method that had been so successful in the first instance—he fell down, he asked for patience, he made the same promise to pay. It would seem that a man, a re-leased debtor, hearing the very words which he had offered, would be touched with sympathy. But not so—he cast the other into prison, the only thing he could do having no newer to sell, proposing do, having no power to sell, proposing to confine him until the debt was paid. By this feature it is evident that our Saviour intended to contrast the spirit and conduct of a man who, having re ceived God's forgiveness, refuses to for-give the smaller offenses of a brother in the church. There is a double contrast

LIKE A ROGUS TRILRY.

tism as Well as When Not Under It.

A short time since there arrived it Portland, a young gentleman who is a very skilful and artistic performer of the violin. On account of this and other good qualities, he found a warm welcome in musical circles, and frequent gatherings of the musically inclined were held for his entertainment and to have the pleasure of listening to his playing. On one occasion last week there hap-

pened to be present at one of these gatherings a young lady whom he had not previously met, and who was also a performer of no small merit on the It was arranged among the party that a joke should be played on the newcomer. The evening passed pleasantly, many beautiful selections being played on the piano and other instruments by members of the party. interspersed with singing and conversation, the subject of hypnotism being brought up and discussed at some length, the newcomer expressing his total disbelief in this occult science. Just before the time for parting he played with great feeling and taste one of Beethoven's sonatas, which was loudly applauded. Then one of the party remarked what a fine thing it would be if any one could be hypnotized and made to play like that. Another, who had expressed his belief in hypeotism and claimed he possessed one knowledge of the science, said he elieved he could hypnotize any memper of the party, and cause him or her to play the violin, perhaps not so well as the last performer but passably weil. He was at once urged to make the experiment, but no one was willing to experimented upon. Finally the young lady mentioned was, at the solicitation of her friends, induced to ensent to be hypnotized.

The usual motions were gone through, and she gradually passed into the hypnotic state. Then a violin and how were placed in her hands and she was directed to reproduce the sonata last played. She went through the entire about as well as the gentleman who had preceded her, to the wonder and istomshment of all, and especially to least idea that the lady was a violin player, and imagined that there must

disputes among themselves, and forgiv-ing each other's faults, "that it would be better if society were governed by the same Christian principles. posed. He had his revenge later when the joke was explained to him by re-marking that this was a fair example marking that this was a fair example

HIS CHRISTMAS PRESENT. A Clever Girl Put Herself in the Stockings.

"She was the prettiest and brightest girl that we had at our house party that winter," related the smiling old lady who loves to dwell upon the holiday festivities when she was a girl. "She was a great favorite with the men because of her dashing ways and the air of good comradeship that she always carried with her. Yet we could never see that one of her sultors was favored above another, and often wondered if she would fill the appointed destiny of woman.

"In the party was Harper Allison. We aways called bim Harpy. He was big, atheltic, good-natured, and good to look at, but we never thought of him as a brilliant man. It was as plain as could be that he was in love with her, and men of his type are so persistent. They lay seige and no matter what may come, they continue the

"I know that he proposed to her a score of times, but he was always put off with the laughing assurance that she was not to be won by any of the stereotyped methods, and that if he ever did find a lodging place in her heart he would see a sign.

"Christmas eve we all hung up our stockings outside of doors, just as a lark, you know. In the morning we all had presents to show but Harpy. He pretended to be disconsulate beyond onsolation. He had put out a great long pair of woolen stockings, knit in black yarn and tipped in red by fussy old aunt in Maine, who always feared that Harpy never dressed warmly enough. He had not only been slighted by Santa Claus, but the stockings themselves were gone.

"After dinner there was a sleigh ride of the old-fashioned kind. she raised her dress to clamber into piece without an error, and played it the big sled, we all saw that over her dainty shoes she wore heavy woolen stockings, and that the toes were red 'Now I know what I got,' shouted the first performer. He had not the Harpy, and before us all he toesed her into the air, caught her as she came down and kissed her Indefinitely-De

be more in hypnotism than he had sup- troit Free Press. FREE TRIAL TO ANY RELIABLE MAN

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900 DROPS SERVANT PUNISHED. - The next scene of the parable depicts the judgmenthat fell upon this heartless servant. There are at least four items: 1. The AVegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulaconduct of his fellows, who were sorry, who condemned and reported (verse 3). This is the first form of retribution that overtakes the wrong-deer—the loss of ting the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS CHILDREN good opinion of associates, 2. The ar-raignment. The Master calls the culprit into His presence and says "O. thou wiced servant" (verse 22.) Unmerciful-Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest.Contains neither ness is great wickedness—it is proof of a bad heart. 3. The reproof. "I had pity on thee," said the Master, "shouldest Opum Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC. not thou have pity on thy fellow?" (versit) The act which should have softened the heart of the debtor appears to have Prope of Old Dr SANUEL PITCHER been hardened. Mercy had been abused and perverted, 4. The chastisement (verse 34.) The master was angry—he who had been compassionate became resentful. He Pumpkin Seed *
Alx Serina *
Riohalle Selt *
Anize Seed *
Pagermint .
It Carbonna Sola * cers to be confined in prison, and there punished, thus suffering the same as he had inflicted upon his unfortunate fel-low. The pardon was reversed. The pen-alty of the law was enforced. Hiera Sied -Clarified Sugar -Wategreen Flora: Aperfect Remedy for Constipa-PRINCIPLE STATED.-The parable tion, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms Convulsions Feverishness and Loss of SLEEP. were about Him. He would have the postles know, and of course all other also, that God's mercy toward men is Tac Simile Signature of discountilization of their attitude toward their fellow men, "My heavenly Father," he says, for the moment humbling himself, shall "do unto you" likewise, "if ye forgive not," and, to make the more forceful the forgiveness must be from the heart. This same teaching had been even in the segment on the norma (Mat. Chat Heteter. NEW YORK. Ate months olde 35 Boses – 35 Cents

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