## THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE-SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1899.



ation.

## SEEMS LIKE A MERE SPECK IN THE SEA

## WAKE ISLAND AND ITS PECU-LIARITIES.

It Is Certainly the Freak in Our New Possessions--- Is Often Completely Submerged-Life on It Not Likely to Be Wildly Exciting.

From the Washington Star. In many respects the freakiest of the more than 1,400 islands of which Uncle Sam has come into possession as a result of the war is Ecuell, of Halcyon, or Wake island, as it is more commonly known

"Presto! Change! You see it! Now

you don't." So sayeth Prestidigitateur Neptune. For, alas, this new possession is an island one day, another a treacherous reef biddea beneath an enticing sea. Needless to say it has never been inhabited by human beings, at least not within the memory of mariners or explorers. How, then, can any one dwell there for the protoction and preservation of Uncle Sam's interests. That is the question which only Yankee ingoauity can solve. To make human habitation possible, not to say comfortable, upon this lonely spot there must be a sort of reversion to the primitive sinte of uffairs which Dr. Cushing late-It found to maxe existed down in the Florida keys. The extinct inhabitants of the keys ware pile dwelters.

## LITTLE KNOWN ABOUT IT.

When it was announced the other day that we would claim Wake island there was to be found in Washington no one who could venture any information as to its history. The hydrographic office, the government bureau of information concerning islande, has naught but a few lines giving latitude, longitude and sailing directions. Since then, however your correspondent has persistenty ransacked libraries and old records with some success. In an old volume of charts kept in the library of congress ten feet high breaks upon it. was found a map of the disappearing island. Moreover, the war department contained among its records a brief good. Of course, the army engineers description of it in a letter written by Brigadier General F. V. Greene, who planted an American flag there last Fourth of July. Accompanying this letter is a rough sketch of the southern part of the Island drawn from a compass survey made by two army officers. Compared with the chart in the congressional library, this sketch suggests that Father Time must have wrought many changes in the outlines of the dot of land.

Wake island was first discovered from the deck of the British ship Prince William Henry in 1796. There is a tradition that it was christened Wake in honor of a British naval officer of that name, but all the Wakes in the official list of the British navy miles from Guain. flourished a generation or more sube uent to the date of discovery. In 1841 the United States exploring expedition under Captain Wilkes sighted beneath the sea, but its utter lack of the little sand hill and explored it. fresh water emphasizes the impossibil-The old French charts call it "Ecuell," which means "rock," while some En- life upon Wake Island. How will the according to some authorities. Haleyon life possible under this condition? was discovered by an American cap- When the army engineers improve the tain, yet the two seem to be identical. since Wilkes and subsequent explorers state that Wake Island is the only spot of land to be found near Haleyon's assigned position.

The report of the exploration remained in the records of the war depart-ment unnoticed until a few days ago, when it was remembered and laid before a cabinet meeting during a dis-cussion concerning the proposed 7,000mile cable to connect San Francisco and Manila. ON MEASUREMENTS OF PAIN Result of Experiments Made by Dr. Arthur MacDonald. That the sea has this habit was noted when Captain Wilkes made his explor-From the Washington Post. Dr. Arthur MacDonald, a specialist He found the vegetation and coral blocks all inclined uniformly tow-ard the east, showing that the rush tion, read an interesting and remarkwater had been from the west.Gen- able paper before the American Fsy-

eral Greene's original purpose in ex- chological Association, in New York, ploring the island this year was to dis- yesterday, upon measurements of pain. cover whether it might be a suitable Dr. MacDonald's study in this unosual diuntion for a coaling station. He says direction has resulted in the collection the coal bins and the necessary adja-cent buildings may be readily built sitiveness to pain of persons of both sexes, from which he has deduced the up above the highest possible tide level. From a bird's point of view Wake following: Women are more sensitive to pain Island looks like a huge, irregular letter "V," with two detacher parallel than men, and the American profes-sional men are more sensitive to pain per ends of the fork. The whole is than American business men, and also surrounded by a shaggy coral reef. The more sensitive than both English and surface above water consists of coral German professional men. The labor-

sand, pebbles and bowlders. Stunted ing classes are much less sensitive to trees line the shore, while further above pain than the non-laboring classes, are a few of the shrubs usually found while the women of the poorer classes upon the low islands of the Pacific, are less sensitive than those in more comfortable conditions. Young men of especially the tournefortia, which bears the wealthy class are much more sensmall, fleshy fruit. The inclination of sitive to pain than the men of the the entire leiand is from the northwest working class, and young women of the wealthy class are more mensitive to the southeast, while it is but five miles by two a d a half miles wide. than the young men of the same class. Deep water exists immediately off the In general, women are more sensit-ive to pain than men, but it does not lining reefs, there being no shallow anhorage off shore.

A GREAT LAGOON. conduce more pain than men. The left To one who lands and walks a half hand is more sensitive to pain than the mile inland, Wake island appears to right, and in general the sensibility to pula decreases as use increases. The left temple is more sensitive than the have been built by the coral insects an a protected harbor for vessels faright. From the ages of ion to eleven there is an increase of obtuseness to tigued by their long journeys over the Pacific. Indeed, practically all of the dry land visible is no more than a mere pain, and from eleven to twelve there is a decrease, with another increase rim or lining to a great interior basin from twelve to thirteen. From thiror lagoon, containing possibly a thousteen to seventeen the right temple inand acres of clear water, which, judgcreases in obtuseness while the left ining from its color, may be twenty fathcrases in acuteness, oms deep. This may be improved for

In his experiments Dr. MacDonald a harbor and coaling station, not only examined, and caused to be examined. for our war vessels, but our transpacimore than 1,409 persons, including girl fic passenger steamers and merchantstudents in public and private schools, men. The difficulty, as now presented, self-educated, working and business that there is no natural channel men, and university women, large enough for any craft heavier than MacDonald save that girls in private a rowboat to enter. There are three achools, who are usually of wealthy openings into which the sea water can parents, are much pour, but all are guarded by outlying pain that girls in public schools, from reefs. One of these inlets, at the ex- which it would appear that refinement treme northwest end, is about 2,000 and luxuries tend to increase sensitiveyards wide, but the obstructing reef ness to pain. University women are is continuent and a surf from six to more stasilive than washerwomen, but less sensitive than business women. The prospects of finding a natural There seems to be no necessary re-

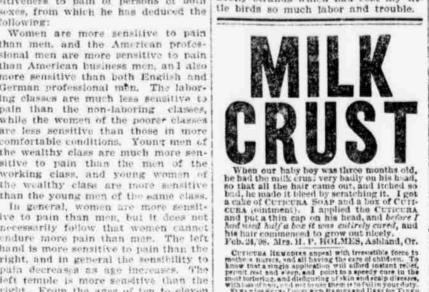
lation between intellectual development channel here are believed to be very and pain sendtiveness, obtuseness to could make short work of the coral pain being, apparently, due more to hardihood in early life. Self-educated obstructions at any of these inlets, and women who were not trained in unithe expense would be but slight. The versities are more sensitive than busiwestern reef could be easily blasted as women, the greater sensitiveness through, as was done at Honolulu. The of self-educated women as compared with university women being due, problocation is equally advantageous for a able station, harbor or coaling station. ably, to the overtaxing of the nervous If you look upon your chart which system of the former in their unequal struggler for knowledge. Girls in pubou have at home, you will not find this little dot of coral, too insignificant lic schools are more sensitive at all for notice when our maps, published ages than boys. before the war, were made. But if you

The experimental measurements of will draw a straight line connecting sensitiveness to vair were made by Dr. MacDonald and his assistants with the Honolulu and Guam, it will represent a distance of 3,311 mlles. This line is aid of a temple algometer. The device the great circle course between those is used by being pressed against the temporal mutcle, amount of pressure two points, and Wake Island lies only thirty miles north of it at a distance being indicated on a scale, of 2,005 miles from Honolulu and 1,306

A SEWING CROW.

plans by picking up the reel and reships ahead, landed at 11 o'clock in the morning, left three hours later and caught up to his fleet before aundown. turning it to the maid's work basket. However, one afternoon the crow did get rid of me entirely, and on my return from my long expedition I found both crow and "moriche" just going to roost in the empty cage, which was really one kept for them to play in. I then perceived what the reel of cotton which was again lying on the veranda floor, had been wanted for. The crow had sewn a strong armchair with an open patterned seat securely to the cage by nine long strands and was

> sleepily contemplating the work with great satisfaction. It was quite easy to see how it had managed, once i start was made with the cotton, but it must have entailed a great deal of flying in and out with the end of the cotton, for it had not been broken off. Of course, I left the chair in its place, and it remained untouched for some months, but I always had to use it myself, lest any one should move it too roughly, and so break the con-



nectly strands which had cost my lit-

of ner, and red to use them is infatting the state of a state of the second seco Fold monghout the world. Powers D & C Cong., Seis Prove, therton. How to Com Date a Sain Disease of

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sensitive to

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#### WORK OF CORAL INSECTS.

In fact, there would never have been any point of land in this lonely spot had nature's original intentions been carried out. The coral insect is respon sible for the upbuilding of the sea bottom there. The very highest spot is is required only a moderately rough sea to submetric it. Therefore our new cable station will have to be mounted upon a structure similar to the skeleton light house towers erected upon more treacherous shoals along our Atlantic coast. Those in charge of . the edifice will find it safe to venture below when the sca is normal; but when it rises they will have to climb they must sleep, lest a sudden storm for centuries without interference.



sex had been particularly chosen to endure the most polgnant miseries of human kind. Countless suffering women throughout

this land will feel an eager sympathetic heart-throb in reading the frank and sarnest letter of Mrs. Josie F. Clark, of Enterprise, Mo., addressed to Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Baiffalo, N. Y.

K. V. Flerce, of Billinio, N. Y. "Your kindness to me I can never forget," she says. "I cannot express half my feelings of gratefulness to you. I had despaired or ever getting well. I had been in had health for twelve rears. Had aches all through ms. numb hands, told feet, everything I ate distressed ms; my jowels were constituted. I was very nervous, tevereased and despondent. When I first wrote non I thought I could never be cured. I have then six bottles of Dr. Flerce's Golden Medical biscovery, and up health is now good. You have my nomest recommendation to all sufferents. I think there is no medicine in the world as good as Dr. Pierce's."

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LACK OF FRESE WATER. An Industrious and Amusing Feath-Not only its occasional submergenered Pet from Venezuela.

From the Cornhill Magnaine. ity of any previous existence of human Perhaps of all my birds the one I glish charts label it "Haleyon." But, government agents installed there find, amusing. It was a glossy black bi.d called the sewing crow was the most about the size of a thrush, with paleyellow tail and wing feathers, and harbor, how can they install a comcurious light blue eyes with very blue plete harbor plant? Where can they rims. It was brought from Venezuela, get fresh water for steam purposes? When these questions are put to them rice bird." but it never specially af-they point to the floating condenser fected rice as food, preferring fruit and

he built upon stills as readily as can for sewing materials. I found it one buildings.

only fifteen feet above sea level. Thus lonely onsis in the great desert of water enge kept in the veranda outside my soon to teem with caravans bearing our expanded commerce will find suf- patience and ingenuity of that bird in ficient animal food to appease their passing the wool through the meshes appetites. Many birds inhabit the of the wire can hardly be described. I dwarfed trees, returning to repair their suppose it was a reminiscence of nest nests each time the mad sea subsides, building, because it siways worked tected by floimes' Electric Pro-When Captain Wilkes was there he harder in the springtime. noticed some short-tailed albatross, great friend in a little "moriche," black quite tame. The great interior lagoon and yellow also, but of a more slender when it rises they will have to climb abounds with fish, especially some very build, and with a very sweet whistle, to the top of their little perch. Here excellent mullet, which have multiplied they must sleep, lest a sudden storm for centuries without interference.

### A LONELY LIFE.

Dreyfus' life upon Devil's Island is carcely more lonely than would be the xistence of a small group of men stationed at the top of a tower far out in this isolated speck of land. But when the harbor is improved and the cable station permanently established a milltary force will be necessary for the preservation of order during the landing of foreign crews, while a vessel of war will be essential to the protection of the cable station. Should a terrific to remain upon the island may take refuge upon this.

Spain previous to the war, and that we will come into possession of it upon the ratification of the treaty of Paris. As a matter of fact, this isolated sand hill might have been dubbed "No Man's Land" the day before General Greene planted the American flag upon its coral beds and deposited a box there to inform all subsequent visitors that he had explored it in the name of the United States.

QUESTION OF OWNERSHIP.

By right of discovery the island beonged to England, if reports be true, but by right of occupancy it will belong to us as soon as a solitary citizen or agent of the United States governa question whether the planting of the American flag upon the island and a subsequent desertion without leaving a morsel of humanity for defense or assertion of authority would be regarded under the law of nations as an establishment of sovereignty.

The discovery of this, our newest ossession, was purely accidental, as was also the selection of the historic Fourth of July for the planting of the stars and stripes thereupon. General Greene was hurrying to Manila on the transport "China" with the second expedition for the relief of Admiral Dewey, when his lookout sighted the tiny spot of land upon the horizon. Hood's Pills easy to buy, easy to take, General Greene dispatched his slower Hood's Pills easy to operate. 350.

and its local Spanish name means "the Tris." which distilled salt water into meat worms. I had several of these fresh water at the rate of 60,000 gallens crows, but one was particularly tame. a day during the war. A condenser can | and rambled about the house seeking a lighthouse, a coaling station, a cable or twice inside a large workbag full of station or any other of the necessary crewels, where it had gone in search of gay threads, with which it used to At all events, the occupants of this decorate the wire walls of an empty own sitting room. The extraordinary was very comic to watch its efforts at arning embroldery from its friend. It arrived at last at some sort of cage decoration, but quite different from that of the crow, who evidently disapproved of it, and often ruthlessly pulled the work of a laborious morning on the "moriche's" part to pieces. Now the "moriche" knew better than

to touch the crow's work, though he often appeared to carefully examine it. One day the crow must have per-suaded the "moriche" to help him roll and drag a reel of coarse white cotstorm blow up at any time those afraid ton from the corridor of the workroom across the floor of my sitting room nto the veranda. I saw them doing There is a mistaken notion fostered this more than once and had uniny many that Wake Island belonged to tentionally interfered with the crow's

## Catarrh Cured

Fullness in the Head and Ringing in the Ears

#### Better in Every Way Since Taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

" For several years I had no cessation of the suffering caused by catarrh. I had a sense of fullness in the head and ringing in my ears. One of my nostrils was tightly closed so I could not breathe through it, and I could not clear my head. ment can be installed thereupon. It is I tried several catarrh cures, but failed to get relief. Seeing accounts of cures by Hood's Saraaparilla I determined to give it a fair trial. After taking a few bottles I was satisfied it had effected a cure, for the catarrh no longer troubled me a particle and I felt better in every way than for years. I am now able to do a hard day's work on the farm." ALFRED E. YINST, Hoernerstown, Pennsylvania.

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