

THE ISLAND OF TUTUILA.

OUR SHARE OF THE SAMOAN GROUP.

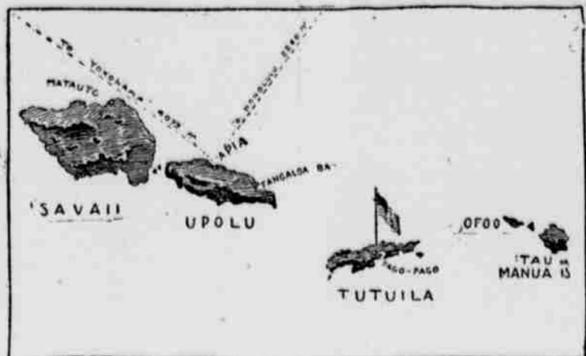
BY HUGH H. LUSK.

Under the new Samoan treaty the United States becomes the possessor of a small island in the South Pacific Ocean, situated about 930 miles south of the equator. For some fifteen years past we have had a more or less sentimental regard for this island, because it was here that our Government had acquired from a native chief a lease of part of the shore of a harbor on which to establish a coaling station. The harbor was the only one in the Samoan group in which vessels could lie safely during a hurricane, such as occasionally visits the group, and its only drawback was that it was almost wholly inaccessible on the landward side. Now and then, but at long intervals, an American man-of-war has called at this harbor, but it may be doubted whether any of the crews ever attempted to climb the almost precipitous hills that wall in the placid sheet of landlocked water which the natives call Pago-Pago. The island of Tutuila is by far the least known of the three main islands that form the group of Samoa. It lies about thirty miles south of the other two, on which alone Europeans or Americans have settled, either as planters or traders, and excepting the harbor of Pago-Pago on the southeast, and a small bay known as Leone, near the northwest corner, it possesses no place of anchorage or shelter even for the smallest trading vessels.

The general appearance of Tutuila, like that of all the volcanic islands of the South Pacific, is very beautiful. As we entered the passage, from twenty to thirty-five miles broad, between the islands, every eye scanned the shores, under the impression that the schooner would be found lying at some point under the lee of the land. There was, however, no sign of a sail. On either side the land rose high and broken, clothed from shore to summit in the luxuriant vegetation of the tropical islands, and as we proceeded at half-speed through the passage it became more and more evident that for some reason our tender had not arrived. We had reached the eastern end and cleared both islands before any solution of the difficulty presented itself, but then a very small cutter was discovered lying close inshore, at a point where a native village could be seen among the palm trees that formed a background to the silver-white coral beach.

The cutter turned out to be a trader engaged in collecting a cargo of copra (sun-dried coconut) to be taken to Apia to the German company's stores. We were told we could stay on board if we liked, but the cutter must go to Leone Bay at the western end of the island, before it would return to Apia. The prospect of staying on board was

enough to leave it to our hosts to paralyze themselves with the strange narcotic. In the meantime we had contrived to make it understood that we wanted a guide to show us the native path over the hills to Leone Bay, where the missionary lived, and the offer of a dollar readily secured a guide, in the person of a young man of magnificent build and appearance. The bargain once made, we lost no time in starting. Our guide, who was dressed in full native costume, which consisted of a very large and finely powdered head of hair, and a very



THE SAMOAN ISLANDS.

small cinchura of some kind of native cloth round his loins, led us along the beach for a short distance, and then faced the hill which rose abruptly and very steep behind the little village. The climb was so steep that but for the profusion of saplings, shrubs, and climbing plants that hedged in the narrow path we should hardly have managed it. When at last we reached the top we found ourselves at a height of perhaps eight or nine hundred feet above the sea, on the top of a long



THE BELLE OF TUTUILA.

ridge that seemed to run the whole length of the island.

The land slopes downward from the central ridge on the northern side in a succession of spurs, with deep gullies and watercourses between; but on the southern coast, especially near the eastern end of the island, the slopes end abruptly in cliffs and precipitous banks that descend to the ocean. It is here that Pago-Pago lies, and from the top of the ridge it can be seen like a nearly circular basin of perfectly smooth water, shadowed by the surrounding mountains, and with only one narrow entranceway, which winds between two lofty wooded bluffs. The island is not more than eighteen miles long, and nowhere, I should judge, much more than five miles broad.

From what I saw of the natives of

There is certainly no wealth to be extracted from Tutuila. Even the primitive agriculture of the island could hardly be much extended, as there is scarcely an acre of level land to be found there. Coconuts, indeed, grow along the shore everywhere, and even to some extent inland; orange-trees grow to the dimensions of forest trees; there are nutmeg-trees in the forest that clothes the slopes; and arrowroot, ginger and pineapples abound everywhere. All these things go to make America's South Sea island a delightful fairy spot, but they are, and must always be, on too minute a scale to hold out any temptation to the planter and the trader. Perhaps, for the sake of the natives at least, it is well.

The Navy Department has decided to assign Commander B. F. Tilley, of the collier Abarenda, as the commandant of the Pago-Pago coaling station, which will place him in charge of the administrative affairs of the Samoan territory of the United States. Commander Tilley is now at Pago-Pago. The naval officers who have been on



THE SAMOAN ISLANDS.

The Island of Tutuila recently in connection with the work of building the wharf and establishing a coaling station in the harbor of Pago-Pago state that there are at present about 1500 people on the Island of Tutuila, owing allegiance to about three chiefs. The principal chief is named Mangum. The people are different from the inhabitants of the other Samoan Islands, being particularly peaceful in disposition.

The population is unique in the fact that every soul is reputed to be a devout Christian. They are so orthodox that not one person could be induced to come aboard one of the American ships on Sunday, while all of them go to church. This condition is ascribable largely to the influence of French missionaries.

Nothing has been positively settled as yet as to the government of the island beyond the fact that the principal official will be a naval officer. The general purpose is to have him interfere as little as possible with the natives so long as they continue in their present peaceful manner to govern themselves without friction.

Steyn's Cyano Courtship.

President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, took for a wife Miss Fraser, who was the belle of Bloemfontein. This was many years ago, when the great African was a poor, struggling law student and clerk. Miss Fraser's parents were very proud and well-to-do and did not favor the match. Steyn made love and wrote love letters by proxy, choosing a prominent young farmer as the go-between. Every day, sometimes twice a day, Miss Fraser and the farmer would take long walks and rides together. Bloemfontein made up its mind that Steyn had been cut out, when the law student returned from Europe, where he had taken his degree. Gossip rose to fever heat when the news came that Steyn had called upon the farmer. Everybody was certain that a duel was about to come off. A short time passed in which everyone was on the qui vive. Disappointment was nothing to the feeling which was created when, instead of a duel, there was the wedding of Steyn and Miss Fraser, with the farmer as the first groomsmen.—Philadelphia Post.

Bridget Was an Irish Woman.

A lady had in her employ an excellent girl who had one fault. Her face was always in a smudge. Her mistress tried without offending to tell her to wash her face, and at last resorted to strategy.

"Do you know, Bridget," she remarked in a confidential manner, "it is said that if you wash the face every day in hot soapy water it will make you beautiful?"

"Will it?" said Bridget. "Sure, it's a wonder ye never tried it, ma'am."—Our Dumb Animals.

Effective Entrenchments.

With regard to the Boer entrenchments, it may be noted that, according to the reports of Boer prisoners, the comparatively small effect produced by the English artillery fire is largely owing to the trenches being made in the form of the letter S instead of in the straight lines adopted by European armies. This pattern, which has been borrowed by the Boers from old Basuto methods, affords, it is said, both freer movement and greater protection. Many of our present ideas with regard to entrenchments have been learnt from the Turks.—London Mail.

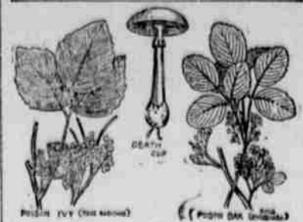
Good Coffee in Beerdood.

The coffee is always good in the Transvaal, but usually over-sweetened. When any guest is in a Dutch housewife's good books she shows her appreciation of him by loading his cup of coffee with sugar, which he must drink, unless he desires to upset her easily-aroused susceptibilities.

THE DEATH CUP.

The Yearly Victims of the Poisonous Mushroom Are Many.

It is probable that not many people ever heard of phallin, not only one of the most remarkable substances in the world, but one of the most terrible poisons. And it is so very common that



it can be found in almost every field and swamp in the country, for phallin is the poisonous element in the deadly mushroom, the "death cup," as it has been most appropriately called. Not only that when phallin was first discovered it was found that it was almost identical with the poison of the rattlesnake, so that death from mushroom poisoning is very similar to death from a serpent bite. But still more wonderful. It is known that various bacteria produce nearly the same poison—the bacteria, for instance, of diphtheria and typhoid fever. It seems odd enough that death from the poisonous mushroom, from a rattlesnake bite and from diphtheria should result from practically the same cause.

It is said that twenty-five people are killed every year in the United States by eating the death cup, mistaking it for the edible mushroom. It requires only a bit of the death cup to kill—a piece the size of a pea will do it. One case is cited in which a boy ate only a third of a small uncooked cup of the deadly mushroom, but it was enough to cause his death. Indeed so harmful is the phallin poison that even the handling of the death cup and the breathing of the spores may produce serious illness.

The "death cup" is only one of a number of poisonous plants in America, although there are not many in this country or in Europe. The commonest of all is the familiar poison ivy of our fields and roadsides. Contrary to almost general belief, poison ivy is not injurious unless actually touched. Its irritating power is due to a non-volatile oil contained in the leaves, the effects of which, while distressing, are not deadly. A very good representation of the poison ivy leaves and fruit is shown in the picture. Once familiar with it, one needs never mistake it for anything else. Poison ivy is much more common in the East than in the West; one of its favorite growing spots is along old stone fences and at the edges of swamps. The poison oak, so-called, because its leaf resembles that of a Western oak, is first cousin to the poison ivy; it is found only in the far Western States.

Thousands of Doll-Makers.

Over in Germany there are 5000 children in one district alone who are employed to dress dolls and help in the manufacture of various kinds of toys. All the children who do this work are under twelve years of age. They are taught the art of dressing a doll at the tender age of four. At the same time, according to the compulsory education law, they are obliged to go to kindergarten school for at least one year, and that term is devoted to such things as making dolls and dressing them, doing everything, in fact, except molding the heads, which is done by men expert at the business. After that the German children have three or four years of study, when they are allowed to go into the doll or toy factories to add to the daily income of the family to the extent of a few cents a day. The children who go to the kindergarten have lots of fun making clothes for the dollies, and so fond do they get of the little waxen-faced creatures that they are often sore at heart when the matron comes around to collect them all to be sent abroad.

An Interesting Tree.

The old tree shown in the illustration stands in front of the house of William Bremmer, of Flowertown,



Penn. Upon its trunk is an iron tablet, which reads as follows:

Henry Kent, Coward,
Was Hung from this tree
January 18, 1777.
For DEFECTION.

The accepted belief is that Kent was a soldier in the Continental Army, and some even believe that the tree is haunted by his ghost.

NEW YORK FASHIONS.

Designs For Costumes That Have Become Popular in the Metropolis.

New York City (Special).—The furor for the pulley belt necessarily meant a stock to match, so when a lady wanted it, of course, it wasn't



PULLEY STOCK FOR AN ASCOT.

long coming. The stock is very much the same as the belt, only, of course, longer, as it goes twice around. The pulley principle is carried out by the two rings in front, and these allow the



PULLEY STOCK FOR A FOUR-IN-HAND.

ribbon to be drawn as tightly as desired.

Flexible bones hold the ribbon well up in place, yet are pliable enough not to interfere with its being drawn closely into shape.

of daisies rests on the hair at the left back.

The alternate rows of gray satiny straw braid and gray chiffon ruffles form this tippy little Pompadour, which is finished off most effectively up at the left front with a splendid pink rose and a liberal bunch of soft purple violets.

Such very good style is this attractive hat of pearl gray straw, the crown being of black straw. A black velvet drapery rests on the rounding gray brim, and rises in front to form wing-like loops. A plume-like strip of corded white silk is drawn through the black jet buckle which holds all this down at the front.

For dress occasions this dainty little pink Pompadour, composed entirely of thickly-laid folds of malines, is most fetching. It is strikingly set off by the big black velvet chon, which has a rhinestone ornament stuck in its very heart. It is so very shapely, too, especially where it rests on a pretty girl's night-like tresses.

An altogether exquisite little dress hat is of pastel blue straw. It has a soft crown and a full, soft brim. Mirror velvet in pastel blue is drawn snugly round it, looped in front, drawn over the crown, and looped down under the brim in the back, where a steel buckle catches it. A generous bunch of lilies of the valley, backed by their foliage, is planted in front.

Popular Styles For Boys.

Geographical location determines to some extent the juvenile fashion, and garments fashioned in a style that is in large demand in Boston would meet with poor showing in New Orleans or San Francisco. However, the sailor will be in demand all over the country and there is not a doubt that this style of suit is the most becoming for nine boys out of ten.

One innovation is particularly noticeable this spring, and a good one, too—the discarding of braids and fancy nautical emblems, also the curtailing of size of the collar.

Next in importance is the vestee suit. Perhaps we state it wrongly. Perhaps vestees will lead the list.



A QUINTET OF SPRING HATS.

It can be tied in several different ways, two of which are here shown, namely, as an ascot and as a four-in-hand.

The pulley stock comes in all shades of satin ribbon and in all washable gauze ribbon for summer wear.

Five Military Novelties.

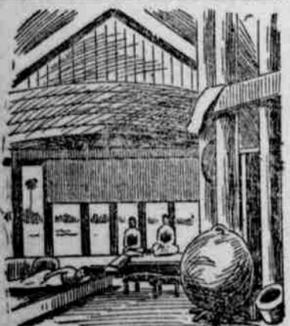
Women are already buying hats of white straw, lovely soft creations that look light as thistledown. The shapes are about what we are used to, the Pompadour and the face hat, but not horrible, plattery things that look as if manufactured by the thousand. As you see, the hats are not large. Of course, there will be large hats, but they are for carriage wear, garden parties or for bridesmaids. That flowers figure goes without saying.

One of the most charming face hats is a clever affair of soft, satiny bluet braid. It seems built on Louis XI. lines, though these are not definite. Creamy Renaissance all-over lace is gracefully draped over waves of white chiffon. Two turquoise pins hold the front folds in place, and a bunch

Certainly they are suits after our own heart, permitting as they do the use



SAILOR SUIT. VESTER SUIT.
of real vests, shirts, collars, suspenders and all such fixings.



INTERIOR OF A TUTUILA CHIEF'S HOUSE.

so disagreeable that several of the party determined to try the alternative plan of walking overland to Leone and there awaiting the arrival of the cutter. Leaving all our luggage on board, we were landed on the beach within a hundred yards of the village, which now showed among the trees like a group of overgrown beehives of the old straw material and conical shape. The natives were most friendly. They invited us into the largest hut, on the floor of which we were accommodated with mats of woven grass,



PAGO-PAGO, TUTUILA, SHOWING THE HILLS RISING FROM THE SHORE.

while two girls prepared a bowl of kava juice for our special entertainment. Personally, I had heard enough about this famous liquor of the islands to decline it, and though my companions tasted it, they were wise

Tutuila, I should suppose them to be well disposed to Europeans so long as they are not much interfered with. There have been repeated and somewhat sanguinary wars among them during the last twenty years.