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In addition to the loss of her colonies Spain has dropped \$10,000,000 per annum of colonial trade.

A great wave of industrialism is sweeping over the South. Factories are springing up on every hand.

The comment of English newspapers upon American affairs is much more copious and far more intelligent than it was a few years ago.

It speaks well for the quality of our army in the Philippines that the number of officers who have died of wounds received in battle is out of all proportion to that of the privates.

It has been suggested that as so many cattle are killed by lightning while standing near wire fences that ground wires be used, which would conduct the electricity from the fence wires into the earth. The experiment is so inexpensive as to surely justify a trial.

A writer in the Century, in discussing the International Date Line, points out that by the acquisition of the Philippines, the United States is the only nation in the world whose trade will have to cross the date line to reach an important part of its territory. We are learning new things about our new possessions every day.

A new and practical development of the co-operative principle is rapidly gaining ground in the Australian agricultural districts. It is known as the shares system, and represents combined effort on the part of landlord and tenant in agricultural production, the profits, after payment of expenses, being divided in proportions mutually agreed upon beforehand.

Arctic whaling appears to be as big a gamble as Arctic gold mining. The profits are big when whales are found, but when they fail to appear the sailor man is in a bad way. That is the fix of the men who sailed in the Jeanette, the Karluk and the Alexander. Only one whale has been caught, and the luck is worse than has been known in the Arctic for twenty years.

The value of the Methodist camp meeting is being called in question by Zion's Herald. It suggests the adoption of some other system, possibly that of Northfield, since Methodism has out-grown its primitive stage, and the increasing culture and ability, alike of its ministry and its laity, should find recognition, as they will find opportunity for better efficiency, in the improvement, if not the abandonment, of the primitive, spectacular characteristics of its past.

Electrical science has now reached a point when we can begin to consider as a practicable proposition the conservation and distribution of the tremendous force generated by the falling waters of the Sierra, says the San Francisco Chronicle. It should be carried to the farms and be made to saw wood, churn milk, pump water, grind grain, fill silos, chop feed, run sewing machines, cut sausage meat and be handy generally. It has been idle for centuries enough. When it has done all this, let it turn to and moisten the ground to raise the wood to be sawed, milk to be churned, the grain to be ground, the feed to be chopped and the meat to be made into sausages. *Water is king.*

A Black Deed.  
 The future historian of the Chicago renaissance will record the black circumstance that in August, 1899, the bathtub nymphs of Fra Lorado Taft and his pupils were chopped up with hatchets and dumped into Lake Michigan. "Chicago doesn't know yet whether it liked them or not," remarks the Journal of that town. Art is eternal, even if these particular nymphs, being composed not of bronze or marble, but of plaster and sawdust, were extremely perishable. The principle of porky sculpture remains, and Fra Lorado is yet alive to carry on the movement. —New York Sun

The woman who invented satchel-bottom paper bags was offered \$20,000 for the patent before she could get away from Washington.

**John Y. McKane, a Remarkable Product of Politics.**



JOHN Y. MCKANE.

The death of John Y. McKane removes one of the most remarkable political characters ever known to local politics in New York State. He was born in the County Antrim, Ireland, August 10, 1841. He lived in Ireland until he was about four years old, when the McKane family immigrated to this country and settled at Sheephead Bay, Long Island. McKane did not smoke or drink. He was a hearty, rugged, blue-eyed man with Scotch-Irish blood in his veins, who did not know what it was to become weary either of work or of political turmoil. As a boy he dug clams on the beach in summer and went to the village school in winter. He worked at gardening and other odd jobs until he was fourteen, when he was apprenticed to a carpenter. He learned the building trade and laid the foundation of his wealth at this business. McKane always did what he pleased with the vote of Gravesend. In 1893 McKane was in the height of his power. William J. Gaynor, after carrying on a fight against the McLaughlin Democracy, became a candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court. He made a demand on McKane for a copy of the registry lists of Coney Island. They were refused. He said over the telephone on October 30, 1893: "Mr. Gaynor will find out that if he wants to get along with me the easiest way to do is not to fight me." As a result of the fight McKane became a convict in Sing Sing, and William J. Gaynor became a Justice of the Supreme Court. McKane served his term, which, with rebate for good behavior, was shortened to four and a half years. He was released from prison April 30, 1898.

**Terrible Effects of Porto Rico's Hurricane**

Ponce, Porto Rico.—The hurricane, sad as is the havoc it wrought, great as is the misery it caused, has accomplished in a day what would have taken diplomacy years to bring about. It has taught the natives that the Americans are their real friends. The Americans, by their prompt and generous assistance, have wiped out all lingering prejudices.

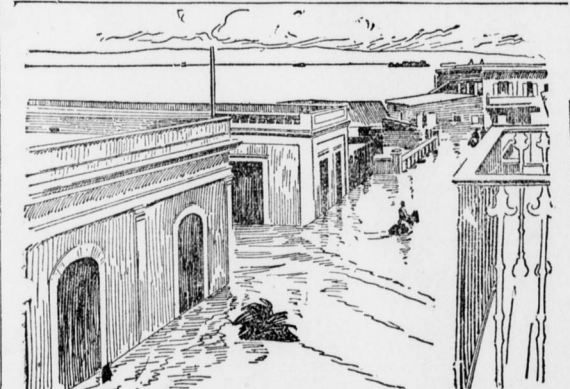
Porto Rico suffered more than any As regards the actual financial loss to the island occasioned by the hurricane, estimates vary. So far as I can figure it out the loss to the whole island will amount to about seventy-five million pesos, or more than \$30,000,000.

This amount covers damage to warehouses and machinery, damage to bread-houses and stores of coffee, tobacco and sugar; damage to this year's cane, coffee and fruit crops, including estimated loss on the next three years.



HOUSE IN PONCE DEMOLISHED BY THE HURRICANE.

other colony by the hurricane of August 9. Every district in the island has been devastated. Thousands of homes have been ruined, and crops upon which the whole population depended for subsistence have been laid waste beyond retrieve for at least three years.



STREET IN ARECIBO, PORTO RICO, DURING THE HURRICANE, SHOWING HEIGHT OF WATER ON THE HOUSES.

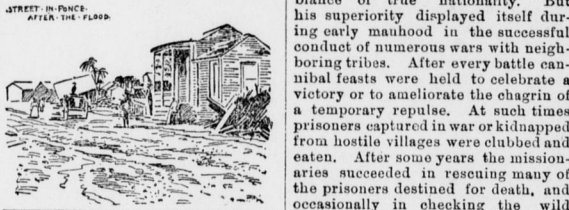
Porto Rico to-day is as barren as was Cuba at the close of the insurrection. Here, in Porto Rico, fields that were once beautiful with waving canes, hillsides but a few days ago covered

bread fruit and avocado trees, upon which the natives depend to a great extent for subsistence, have been swept bare or broken down. Only the most sheltered banana groves are left standing. The coffee crop is wholly ruined, and all but the smallest of the trees have been destroyed. A coffee plant takes five years to mature. The half ripe orange crop is on the ground. A few cane fields have escaped, but with the factories demolished these are only valuable for fodder.

The wholesale, indiscriminate distribution of food is being stopped, else the whole population would become pauperized. In all centres I visited rations are now being distributed to the old and infirm and to young children. To all able-bodied adults is offered work. At first this course of action caused some complaint, but now the plan is beginning to work well, and the poor are all the more independent, and better contented for it.

The first care of the military authorities has naturally been for the troops. In Ponce the \$5000 granted by General Davis to the commander has been spent in cleaning up in and around the quarters. At every country station the troops are living under canvas. In most cases the barracks have been blown down. At Albonito not one wall of the whole barracks is left standing. The soldiers lost everything they had, and those in the hospital had a narrow escape with their lives.

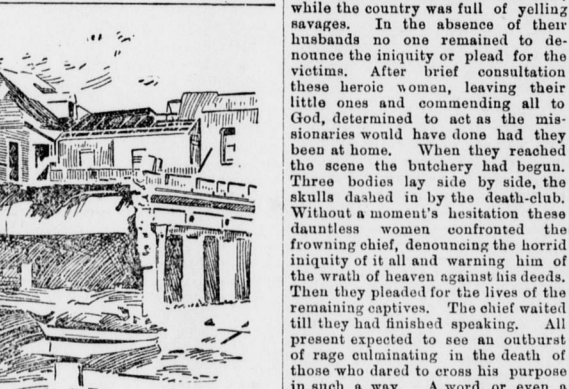
The barracks collapsed during the



STREET IN PONCE AFTER THE HURRICANE.

first hour of the storm. Fifteen minutes after the walls had toppled in the men, who had even formed ranks outside in the pelting rain, had appointed a delegation to wait upon Captain Wheeler to ask permission to render assistance to the town. The captain joined his men. Without a thought of their own loss, without thought of any danger, the whole troop crossed the swollen river between the barracks and the town, and were soon engaged in the work of rescue, dodging pieces of flying zinc or rushing into tumbling houses.

On the night of the hurricane I was sleeping on my own plantation in the district of Bayamon, about ten miles from the capital. At about half-past seven o'clock Tuesday night my cap-



WRECKED CAFE IN PLAZA ADJOINING CUSTOM HOUSE, PONCE.

often ridden for miles without seeing a house left standing. Where the houses withstood the wind the roofs were gone and furniture and clothing were ruined by the rains.

It is the well-to-do who are, perhaps, to be the most pitted. Beautiful haciendas and powerful sugar factories were laid as low as the native's shack; crop; damage to live stock, and damage to railways and shipping. It does not cover the loss sustained by the Public Works Department, which will be heavy; nor does it cover the loss to the island of capital that was confidently expected to seek investment here this winter, and which may now be frightened away.

The loss of growing crops is, be-

itaz, or head man, came to the door and reported that the Government had sent out notice that a hurricane was approaching, via St. Thomas. Like many others, I did not give full credence to the warning. At half-past five the wind was blowing thirty miles an hour.

Daylight was long in coming, for the sky was inky black. When dawn did come we could be sure the storm was not far away, and everything movable was taken in. Tenants began to run to us for shelter and we took them in also.

At half-past seven o'clock the storm began in earnest, and in half an hour it was impossible to stand against the wind. We had braced and tied down the roof as best we could, but one single puff carried away all our stays. In half an hour our roof was gone and the rain pelting in. At ten o'clock the wind was blowing seventy-five miles an hour. Once we made a sortie, and rescued a woman and two children, but hardly had we got them inside when the house began to creak and groan, and we sought the open. Dodging flying branches of trees and stray bits of timber, we crawled along the lee side of a penguin fence to a shack, sheltered behind a hill.

It was half-past twelve before the storm was over and we could venture forth. Our house, we found, had not blown down entirely; but the wooden walls were slanted at an angle of thirty degrees. The roof was completely off and everything inside absolutely ruined by the water.

It was two days before we could cross the river to get to market. Every peasant's hut for three miles around was down. Four hundred houses on the outskirts of Bayamon were piled up in the public road. The railroad running to San Juan had been completely washed away. The highways were blocked with rubbish. It was two days before supplies of bread reached the town. In the interim the people lived on half ripe fruit.

**TALES OF PLUCK AND ADVENTURE.**

The Mission Women in the Fijis.

Among the friends made in the early days of my ministry, writes G. W. Payne, in the New Voice, was the Rev. William Moore, now deceased, and several members of his family. Mr. Moore labored for many years in the Fijian Methodist Mission, his career dating back into the dark days of lust and blood amid which that mission began. His party lauded among cannibal savages. Anarchy and bloodshed prevailed on every side. The missionaries were frequently threatened with instant destruction, their houses destroyed and their property stolen. In other parts of the group mission workers found a martyr's death. Many stirring incidents occurred in the earlier and darker days of their work which have never been recorded. The incident of which I write was related some years since in my hearing.

Shortly after the advent of the mission party referred to, a leading chief, named Thakomban, acquired considerable influence over the savages throughout the group. He was a man of great intelligence and striking personality. In later years, by wise statecraft, he brought the scattered tribes of Fiji into some semblance of true nationality. But his superiority displayed itself during early manhood in the successful conduct of numerous wars with neighboring tribes. After every battle cannibal feasts were held to celebrate a victory or to ameliorate the chagrin of a temporary repulse. At such times prisoners captured in war or kidnapped from hostile villages were clubbed and eaten. After some years the missionaries succeeded in rescuing many of the prisoners destined for death, and occasionally in checking the wild orgies over those actually slain.

During one of the frequent tribal wars the missionaries journeyed to a distant village with a view of reconciling the tribes concerned. Thakomban, for the time being, resided in a village adjacent to the mission station. During the absence of the missionaries a party of his warriors brought in seven women captured while gathering food on the plantations of their enemies. The chief forthwith decided to celebrate a great feast, and all night long preparations were in progress. In the early morning news came to the mission house that crowds were gathering to witness the slaughter of the captives and to participate in the feast. The wives of the missionaries were alone with their little ones and a few faithful attendants, while the country was full of yelling savages. In the absence of their husbands no one remained to denounce the iniquity or plead for the victims. After brief consultation these heroic women, leaving their little ones and commending all to God, determined to act as the missionaries would have done had they been at home. When they reached the scene the butchery had begun. Three bodies lay side by side, the skulls dashed in by the death-club. Without a moment's hesitation these dauntless women confronted the frowning chief, denouncing the horrid iniquity of it all and warning him of the wrath of heaven against his deeds. Then they pleaded for the lives of the remaining captives. The chief waited till they had finished speaking. All present expected to see an outburst of rage culminating in the death of those who dared to cross his purpose in such a way. A word, or even a gesture, and their bodies would have lain beside those at their feet. For a moment a lurid gleam shot into the fierce countenance; but it passed as quickly as it came.

"What I have killed I have killed," he said. "The others are yours. Take them. Go!"

With feverish haste the noble women loosed the bonds of the captives and led them away.

One Gun Against a Regiment.

A fresh story of a naval officer's courage in the Philippines is brought to Washington by Surgeon Stone, late of the Bennington, who is now in the city. Its hero is Lieutenant Emory Winship, also of the Bennington, and now on leave in this country, recovering from the effects of five Mauser bullets gathered in various parts of his anatomy while saving a landing party of 125 men from being cut up by a regiment of Filipinos.

It happened shortly after the bombardment of Malabon, about March 5, that Admiral Dewey expressed a wish for some photographs of the earthworks and the ten-inch shells from the Monadnock. Commander Tausig said that if he were allowed to land a few boat loads of men he could get all the photographs wanted. It was believed at that time that the hostiles had all vacated that part of the shore, so permission was given to land a party. Several boats, with between 125 and 150 men, started ashore and on landing made for an old church which was the chief object of interest.

A false idea of security led them to advance very carelessly, throwing out no advance and taking nothing but their side arms. Only a boat guard of two men under Winship was left to keep up steam in the launch which had towed in the landing party, but fortunately the launch had a small automatic gun mounted forward, and Winship was well acquainted with its working.

The landing party had gone inland some little distance, when they were surprised by a whole regiment of Filipinos, who suddenly appeared out of

**METAL TRADING-CHECKS.**

IN GENERAL CIRCULATION IN MANY DISTRICTS OF THE WEST.

Instances of Hardship Caused by Their Use.—The Government's Limited Powers.—Similarity to United States Coins Causes Confusion.

The question has arisen in various quarters, why the Government has not taken some steps to prevent the general use of the metal trading-checks which are in circulation in many of the country districts of the West. These checks are about the size of a silver twenty-five-cent coin. They are stamped with the name of the firm issuing them, and with the statement that they will be received for the amount of their face—which may be anywhere from five cents to one dollar—in trade. Ostensibly they are redeemable only at the store issuing them; but, by a tacit agreement among the merchants in a neighborhood, the checks are often accepted wherever presented, and then from time to time a general clearing takes place between the issuing houses.

A good deal of hardship has been caused by the use of these checks in places where the stores were few, or where all the merchants were competing with such fierceness as to preclude the exchange of courtesies. In one lumber camp of Minnesota the proprietors have put into circulation some \$25,000 worth of checks, practically the only money known there. The men buy all their household necessities at the company's store, as a rule, and there the company's trading-checks are always good for their face. But the other day a pitiful case came to notice, where a woman whose husband had removed to another camp, and who had to provide for herself and four children, went to the company's store with one of its checks to buy some flour. The store happened to be out of flour, the check was not good at any of the nearest hamlets, and the woman's husband having left the neighborhood, she could not get credit on her own account, and experienced much suffering in consequence. This is only one instance of many complaints of which are coming to Washington, the theory of the writers being that the United States Government can very soon break up the use of the checks if it will.

Unfortunately, nothing can be done under the present law, and with the courts of the West making their very rigid rulings on the construction of the statute. Most of the dealers who are putting out these private coins take refuge behind a decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Van Auker case a number of years ago, to the effect that trade checks and tokens redeemable in trade only do not fall within the purview of the law forbidding the private issue of currency. If any of the tokens were stamped "Good for ten cents," they would be outside of the Van Auker decision, and the merchants issuing them would be liable to prosecution. The tendency of the courts to support the claim of the merchants while they keep within the technical limits set by the Van Auker case was shown by a recent decision of Judge Grosscup in Illinois, and a later one to substantially the same effect in one of the courts of Minnesota.

Appeals have been made to many of the merchants issuing trading checks to cut these checks square in shape, or in some other way reduce their present similarity to United States coins. Although aluminum is used extensively in making the checks, and its light weight ought to warn a person of any observation whatever, the checks bear so general a resemblance in size, shape and color to genuine money that ignorant persons are liable to be, and continually are, lured into taking them as money. So far the appeals have been in vain; and, as prosecutions in some of the States have fallen flat, the operatives of the Secret Service have been instructed, whenever a case of the trading check abuse comes under their notice, to lay it before the United States District Attorney for the district concerned, and leave him to judge whether a prosecution shall be instituted or not. Possibly the matter may be presented to Congress at its next session, with a request from the Secretary of the Treasury for some remedial legislation.

It is now understood that the Junior Republic, which is to be established near Annapolis Junction, Md., as an offshoot of the George Junior Republic at Freerville, N. Y., will issue a coinage and paper currency of its own. The coinage will be of aluminum, the denominations following those of the silver coinage of the United States, while the bills will be for one, two, five and ten dollars respectively. Whether these coins and bills fall within the counterfeiting laws or not will depend upon their design, color and inscription. If the resemblance to actual money is dangerously close, the Secret Service will undoubtedly pounce upon the whole outfit. The Junior Republic has an opportunity of setting a good example of respect for the law by avoiding a clash with the Government in this respect. The toy money will answer all its proper purposes just as well if some very obvious differences are observed between it and the Government's coin and notes. In some of the business colleges a special currency is used to practice the students in banking and other mercantile work, and great care is exercised to avoid trenching upon the counterfeiter's domain.

The republic of Hayti, sometimes called the "Black Republic," occupies about one-third of the island of Hayti, San Domingo covering the rest. Ninety per cent. of the 800,000 citizens are Africans who speak French.

It is not often that an enlisted man gets a chance to run a part of the fight to suit himself. That chance, however, came to one bugler, Captain Hannay, finding that L Company was too far away to hear orders, sent his bugler after the company to sound the charge. At the first notes L flew onward. It was right here that the bugler forgot, for the time being that he was only the commanding officer's orderly. He saw another chance for L to move on the jump—too good a chance, he thought, to be lost. He sounded once more, and Lieutenant Ross, imagining, of course, that the order came from Captain Hannay, excoated it. Not even yet was the bugler's thirst for forward action sated. He sounded again and again, as the heat of generalship made his blood flow fast and hot. By the time the bugler came to himself and relinquished the duties of light-director, the poor fellows of L Company were troubled with shortness of breath. In this brisk affair, according to the official report, the dead reached a total of about sixty, including some officers. It is the enemy's dead that is meant, of course. Twenty-one Mausers and six Remingtons were the spoils of this field.—Manila Correspondent in Leslie's Weekly.

Adventure With a Bear.

While berrying on the Amnesia Mountains a few days ago Mrs. Samuel Stanton, of Canton, Penn., was startled by a crackling sound in the bushes. Investigation revealed a huge black bear eating berries off a bush. The beast came at her and seized her bucket of berries, while the woman, terrified, fled down the mountain with the bear following her. Hunters who went out found the empty bucket, but no bear.

Li Hung Chang No Patriot.

"I regret to say that I may have to shatter a possible American idea," says Admiral Charles Beresford. "Li Hung Chang is no patriot. He is nothing but a selfish old millionaire, anxious to make money at the expense of his country's ruin."

It doesn't make any difference what his political sympathies are, whether he is the friend of Russia or England. He is a cipher, without office and without influence.

His successor as Viceroy of China is Jung Lu, now the diplomat of highest rank in the Empire. "He is friendly to the 'open door,' though it be held open with the iron hand. The Emperor of China is still alive, reports of his assassination to the contrary notwithstanding. He was a reformer, but he tried to reform too fast. 'You can't alter the system of 4000 years in a few months, and, as he tried, he was asked to step down. The Dowager Empress, who has been a power in Chinese palace politics for two generations, rules as regent in the name of the Emperor.'—New England Magazine.

Norwegian legislators propose that girls who do not know how to knit, sew, wash and cook should be refused permission to marry. Daughters of wealthy men are not to be excepted.