

TRADE WITH JAPAN.

Commerce of United States Has Grown Rapidly in Last Year.

Fast Outstripping Great Britain in Dealing with the Enterprise Little Island King—dow of the Mikado.

The commerce of the United States with Japan has grown more rapidly during the last year than that of any other nation.

The annual returns of the foreign trade of the empire of Japan, just received by the bureau of statistics, shows that the imports into Japan from the United States increased from 16,373,419 yen in 1896 to 27,030,337 yen in 1897, while her exports to the United States increased from 31,532,341 yen in 1896 to 42,436,404 yen in 1897. Only three countries, viz., Great Britain, China and British India, made as large sales to Japan as did the United States in 1897, and in no case was the increase in imports as large as that from the United States. The gain which the United States has made over other parts of the world in supplying Japan with her imports is shown by the fact that the imports from the United States increased 65 per cent. in 1897 over 1896, while in total imports from all parts of the world the increase of 1897 over 1896 was only 28 per cent., the gain of Great Britain, our chief competitor, being only about 16 per cent. The rapid development of Japan's foreign commerce is shown by the fact that her exports in 1897 increased 28 per cent. The articles which showed a marked increase in Japan's imports from the United States were raw cotton, cotton duck flour, hats and caps, fowling pieces, carriages, pig iron, plate and sheet iron, iron pipes, nails, steam boilers and engines, steel rails, locomotive engines, railway carriages, electrical machinery, spinning machinery, mining machinery, printing paper and telegraph wire.

HELEN GOULD IN PUBLIC.

She Lays the Corner Stone for Moody's Boys' Dormitory at Mount Hermon, Mass.

Helen Gould, daughter of the late Jay Gould, the other day laid the corner stone of a new dormitory for Moody's boys' school at Mount Hermon, Mass., to be known as Overton hall. With a beautiful silver trowel she spread mortar upon the stone and as she stepped back by the side of the evangelist she said, nervously:

"I declare this stone well laid. I pray God to bless all that come within this building."

Then, as the granite block was lowered into its place, she tapped it with a hammer, which was the signal for 350 boys to give the school yell and 400 girls from the seminary to wave varicolored banners. Rev. Mr. Torrey read Scotland and Robert Scott, of London, each an address, in which he said Lord Overton, of Scotland, and Robert Scott, of London, each had sent him \$25,000 for school purposes. Miss Gould was accompanied by Mrs. Russell Sage, and so enthusiastic was their reception that the latter was compelled to make a brief address to Moody's boys and girls.

THOUGHT TO SAVE OTHERS.

Switchman in a Signal Tower Throws the Red Danger Light and Then Expires.

When he felt the warning touch of death upon him in his lonely signal tower, William Freeland swung the red danger light across the track and died. The last act of his life doubtless saved many others, for trains were constantly passing the station of Dunton, on the Long Island railroad.

Freeland's body was found in the tower at nine o'clock p.m. A few minutes earlier the Sag Harbor train had gone rushing by, and everything was all right then. Then William Warner, in charge of the Cunard pier Mr. Hay said:

"We all hope in England that the war will soon be over, and it does look as though it soon would be. Your war does not cause a decline in American securities in Great Britain. There are many who fancy American stocks, who are anxious to purchase as cheaply as possible and are all looking for good things. I have come to study whether there are legitimate reasons for the rise in prices of commodities."

TELLS OF FAMOUS SHOT.

Officer of the Puritan Writes to a Chicago Lawyer About Bombardment of Matanzas.

A Chicago lawyer has received from one of the officers of the United States steamer Puritan a letter giving an account of the bombardment of Matanzas and the famous shot which silenced the Gorda point battery. The story was written at the request of the attorney, and is as follows:

"You ask me about Matanzas, and the bombardment. Wednesday the New York came down from Havana to investigate a report to the effect that the dots were putting up some new batteries at Gorda point. She passed us and signaled us to follow her, steaming in to within 3,000 yards of the batteries. She stopped and suddenly we saw her forward eight-inch guns fired, the shot striking the earthworks near the battery. The Spaniards replied to this shot, and the New York began to 'light up.' You could not see her for smoke."

"We began to get nervous, for fear that we were to be left out of the mass, so we signaled for permission to fire, and it was given, we unchained a few of our pets and did good work. We fired only one of our 12-inch guns, one in our forward turret, at the Murillo battery, on the left-hand side of the harbor. It struck short, but the ricochet must have hit the battery, as the duds immediately were seen going over the hill, striking only the high places. The famous shot was our last one from the port forward four-inch gun, and it was quite funny. A man by the name of Jackson, an old cowboy, is the gun captain. Three minutes after the order 'cease firing' was given from the flagship, everybody was startled to hear this four-inch gun go off. The man evidently felt that he had a 'dead-head' and let her go regardless. The range was about 2½ miles, and the shot struck right in the Gorda battery and burst—a phenomenal shot. The men shouted themselves hoarse."

CAPTAIN DUNSEATH DEAD.

One of the Oldest Steamboat Pilots in the Country Expires at Chicago.

Capt. David Dunseath, a pioneer steamboat pilot of 50 years' experience on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers died the other day at his home, 597 Walnut street, Chicago, aged 80 years.

Capt. Dunseath was born in Cincinnati. When he attained to young manhood that city was a great river port, nearly all of its commerce being by water. He shipped on a flatboat, and took the first craft of that kind down the river to New Orleans. Before the first steamboat was seen on the Ohio he knew every foot of channel and shore line between Cincinnati and the gulf port. In later years he was conceded to be the most expert steamboat pilot on the lower Mississippi.

In 1864 Capt. Dunseath was assigned by the government to raise a gunboat that had been sunk by the confederates in Red river. He chose two boats of the Champion fleet, Nos. 3 and 5, for the task, but the expedition proved disastrous. The boats were destroyed by the rebels and he was taken prisoner and was detained at Fort Donelson 14 months, or until the end of the war, despite repeated efforts by his wife to have him exchanged. Fifteen years ago failing sight compelled Capt. Dunseath to relinquish active work, after half a century of life on the river. He then left Cincinnati, where he was one of the most conspicuous figures of the Ohio metropolis, and came to Chicago to live. He is survived by his wife, two sons and five daughters, all residing here.

REBUKING ATLANTA WOMEN.

These Who Gave Flowers to Spanish Prisoners Scored by One of Their Own Sex.

The sentimental women of Georgia who deluged the Spanish prisoners with flowers on their way to imprisonment at Fort McPherson have been roundly scored in the Atlanta Constitution by Miss Ima Dooly, a prominent society young woman of that city. Says Miss Dooly: "To think that women—American women and southern women—so far forgot loyalty and dignity as to present flowers to the Spanish prisoners in the present crisis is a matter that excites the contempt of all who have heard of it. Flowers now are the only tributes we can place upon the graves of our dead heroes, and there is no reason why our roses should be thrust by silly females at the feet of Spanish dons." If the young women so far got themselves as not to appreciate the inconsistency of such an act, it is earnestly hoped their protectors, whenever they may be, will look after them in the future."

ARE RICH ISLANDS.

Interesting Information Regarding Cuba and Puerto Rico.

Former Capable of Supplying the Entire Western Hemisphere with Sugar—Dangerous Harbor of San Juan.

In response to the demand for information in regard to Cuba and Puerto Rico, the Bureau of Foreign Commerce, department of state, has issued a bulletin containing much interesting information, drawn from consular reports and other official material, concerning the geography, products, commerce, railways, debt, cable, etc., of these islands. It includes also detailed descriptions of all the large cities. It is pointed out that if all the land suitable to the growth of sugar cane was devoted to that industry Cuba might supply the entire western hemisphere with sugar. The island already has produced in a single year for export 1,000,000 tons, and its capabilities have been only in the experimental stage. Although settled more than 50 years before the United States, Cuba still has 13,000,000 acres of primeval forests, including mahogany, redwood, ebony and many other valuable woods.

In a report from Consul Hyatt, the richness of the mineral deposits about Santiago de Cuba is pointed out. American companies with a combined capital of over \$5,000,000 now operate mines in this vicinity and employ from 800 to 1,400 men, shipping to the United States from 30,000 to 40,000 tons of ore per month, most of it going to Bethlehem, Steelton, Sparrows Point and Pittsburgh. These iron ores are said to be among the richest in the world. Mr. Hyatt believes that the old copper mines in the same vicinity, which used to turn out \$3,000,000 worth of copper ore annually for use in the United States, could be worked with profit. The extent of the tobacco and sugar industries are given in detail, although these have suffered seriously as a result of the last three years of warfare. About 80,000 of the inhabitants are ordinarily engaged in the cultivation of tobacco. The Cuban debt is placed at \$295,000,000, or about \$97 per inhabitant.

The description of Puerto Rico is especially interesting in the account of San Juan harbor. It states that the entrance to the harbor is one of difficulty and danger, particularly when norther is blowing. The "boca," or entrance to the harbor, is a mass of seething, foaming water, and presents an imposing spectacle. To see steamers of from 16 to 18 feet draught enter through this seething "boca" is a sight to be remembered, as the great waves lift them up and seem about to hurl them forward to destruction. San Juan is described as a perfect specimen of a walled town, with moat, gates and battlements. The description of the various cities both in Cuba and Puerto Rico shows that yellow fever and smallpox are everywhere prevalent, and that the streets reek with filth, that the water supply is poor and usually polluted, and that modern sanitary methods are unknown.

TO STUDY EFFECT OF WAR.

Proprietor and Editor of a London Paper Comes to America to Investigate Economic Conditions.

On the Campania, which arrived the other day at New York, was A. MacKenzie Hay, one of the proprietors and editors of the London Statist. He has come to the United States to study the effect of the Spanish-American war on economic conditions, to discover if there are any substantial reasons for the increase in the price of necessities, or whether it is the result of speculation pure and simple.

Mr. Hay will stay a week in New York and then proceed to Baltimore, Washington, Chicago, and possibly Canada, spending one month in America. When seen on the Cunard pier Mr. Hay said:

"We all hope in England that the war will soon be over, and it does look as though it soon would be. Your war does not cause a decline in American securities in Great Britain. There are many who fancy American stocks, who are anxious to purchase as cheaply as possible and are all looking for good things. I have come to study whether there are legitimate reasons for the rise in prices of commodities."

RARE OLD BOOK IN CHICAGO.

John H. Wren Secures a Copy of the 1751 Edition of Gray's "Elegy."

Safely ensconced in the snug library at the home of John H. Wren, in Chicago, is one of the rarest books written in the English language, it is faded, parchment-like leaves bearing the title of Gray's "Elegy in a Country Churchyard," and the publisher's preface giving evidence that the rare volume was printed in 1751.

The book was purchased by Mr. Wren from an old collector of rare books in London, England, who valued it at \$400. It being an original copy of the famous work, Mr. Wren purchased it and had it sent to his home, where it arrived recently.

It is said that this copy is one of the three copies of the first edition now in existence, and the happy possessor announced his intention of retaining it not only for its intrinsic value but for the associations that have hallowed its pages.

B. & O.'s Women Station Agents.

There are 18 women employed as station agents by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company. Traveling auditors of the road say that their accounts are well kept, and that their stations are cleaner and neater than those in charge of men.

Trade Review in Greece.

The United States consul at Athens writes that, notwithstanding the war with Turkey, which, of course, hampered business in Greece, the foreign trade of that country is growing with great steadiness and is in a surprisingly healthy condition.

Hamburg's Dog Tax.

In Hamburg the authorities tax a dog according to its size.

Bulletin Financier.

Bulletin Commercial

Mardi, 7 juin 1898.

COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING-HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS.

Jours cette semaine..... \$5,569,713.00 \$128,327.00

Même temps la semaine dernière..... 3,387,960.00 381,977.00

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