

Iowa State Bystander

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ON DISTRIBUTION OF GERMS

Results of Interesting Experiments With Microscopic Organisms Made Recently in France.

Some interesting experiments have recently been made by Gaston Bonnier, together with Matruchot and Combes, with regard to the distribution of microscopic germs in the air. The air to be tested was sucked by means of an aspirator through a glass vessel containing a suitable nutrient solution, so that the germs could develop rapidly. If the temperature sank below 20 degrees, says Umschau, the solution solidified. It was possible not only to count the organisms which developed, but also to make a systematic observation of their development and photograph them. The nutrient solution employed was prepared from potatoes, carrots and similar materials. The form of vegetable organisms obtained varied according to the nature of the culture medium (nutrient solution) employed.

Fifty liters of air taken from the wood of the high land of Fontainebleau produced on carrots 1809 colonies, on beet preparation 336, and in lemon preparation no colonies. On the contrary, at an open, rocky spot in the forest, the lemon culture also showed numerous colonies. Great differences were also observed between samples taken from different points at equal levels and with the same nutrient solution. Thus, for instance, in one case, a sample collected at a considerable distance from the forest showed 1, a sample from the skirts of the forest 120, and one from the heart of the forest 13,000 fungus germs.

The number of organisms decreased very rapidly as the height above the sea level increased, a fact which had long been observed with regard to bacteria by Pasteur and others. Fungus germs in particular also decreased rapidly with increasing height; thus, 50 liters of air from the Alps of the Dauphines, at a height of 260 meters, showed 228 fungi and 41 bacteria. A sample from a height of 1020 meters showed 184 fungi and 2 bacteria; from 1125 meters, 170 fungi and no bacteria; from 1190 meters, 64 fungi and no bacteria. Snow collected acceptably at a height of 2850 meters developed numerous fungus colonies.

Back Number.

A friend went to Justice Harlan at one time to submit a list of names for trustees of an organization of which he was president and arranged according to their position and prominence in the official and the social field. The justice scanned the list critically and then inquired in his usual paternal tones: "Who prepared this list?" The friend answered, "The president's social secretary in part, and then he sent me to"—here the friend gave him the name of a man prominent in one of the great departments of the government, who may be called Halifax—"Mr. Halifax."

"Halifax!" thundered the justice. "What did you do to see him for? He has been dead for over thirty years."

Schools Adopt Film Shows.

Already private schools are installing moving picture machines. A new public school building in Connecticut has a special motion picture hall attached. And elsewhere the attention of educators is turning seriously to this new weapon of instruction. The University of Wisconsin, however, has gone a step further, and has taken definite measures to incorporate the moving picture machine into its educational extension work.—Munsey's.

"Him and Her" Stamp.

Never had there been such a commotion in the little flat. And the most excited person present was the sister of a young mother who had just presented her husband with twins. Auntie was wildly delighted at being auntie in a double sense, and off she rushed to the postoffice for stamps to spread the great tidings. "Stamps!" she jerked, as she reached the counter and hung down her money. "How many, miss?" politely inquired the clerk. "Two!" she cried joyously. "What kind?" "A boy and a girl," she returned rapturously, as she bade him hurry.

What Living Well Means.

There is a difference between living well and living profusely. The one arises from contentment and order, and decency and frugality; the other from dissoluteness and luxury, and disorder and indecency. In short, to the one belongs true praise, to the other censure. If, therefore, you would live well, do not seek to be praised for profuseness.—Epictetus.

A Barometer.

"Bliggins' friendship seems to flatter you." "It doesn't flatter me," said the cynical statesman, "but it encourages me. He is one of those people who never trouble themselves to be affable except to those who are regarded as liable to have some pull."

Doing His Best.

"Have you forgotten that \$5 you owe me?" "By no means. Didn't you see me try to dodge into that hallway?"

No Sportman.

"Do you think there will be any more Arctic exploration?" "I don't see why a man should go so far for the experience. He can get just as cold and hungry and disappointed as any one could desire by going duck hunting."

Stars That Rule.

Press Agent—Stammerheim's life is ruled by the stars, all right. Critic—Nix. Nothing in astrology. Press Agent—Is in his case. You forget he's a grand opera impresario.

AFRO-AMERICAN CULLINGS

A race without a history is not unlike "the Man Without a Country," whose desolate life Dr. Edward Everett Hale has so graphically pictured in his book of that title. So, a race with no written history—no background, no great characters, no great achievements in war and peace, for hope and inspiration of itself and of its children—its poor indeed. Even savage races, before and since "we have the letters Cadmus gave," one of the most priceless possessions mankind possesses, have invented all sorts of devices to perpetuate the memory of their own existence, and what they said and what they did. From this same sentiment has grown that high and noble characteristic of mankind only among living creatures of reverential care and treatment of the old and infirm of the family, of the tribe, of the nation, and which has given us "the soulful maxim, 'old men for counsel; young men for war.'" Standing in the dark shadows after Job, the Captain of the Host, had foully murdered Abner, King David said: "Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?" It is natural for great men to appreciate great men. So we as a race sorrowed over the death of Daniel Alexander Payne and of Frederick Douglass; so we as a nation sorrowed over the death of Lincoln, of Sumner and of Grant. In speaking of the great success of the fifth annual Georgia State Fair at Macon, last November, in a personal letter to our Mr. Fortune, President R. R. Wright said, among other things, of the collection of photographs of distinguished negroes, made a feature of the exhibits. "I want to get you to come to our fair next year and speak upon the distinguished men the negro race has produced. We had a great many responses and a great many pictures. It was the first time in the history of negro fairs that three denominations of currency, signed by the four negro registers—Bruce, Lyons, Vernon and Napier—have been exhibited. I feel that this is a step in the direction of calling the world to the prominent men of the race." It is a step in the right direction; there should be more steps taken like it. For instance, we have no history of the reconstruction period from the negro viewpoint, other than that given by George W. Williams in his "History of the Negro Race in America." Senator B. K. Bruce loomed large in that period, which the story of his life would cover. His distinguished son, Prof. R. C. Bruce, may tell it for us some day.—New York Age.

It is interesting to note that the white waiters are busy themselves with a petition to the American Federation of Labor asking for recognition as a labor organization. The opinion of the head waiter at Hotel Schenley is worth consideration. He says that the waiters want a wage of \$10 per week and a ten per cent. commission on all his sales. This, he adds, would relieve the patron of his moral obligation to tip, and at the same time act as a stimulus to the waiter to serve as many patrons as possible and serve them as well as possible. We suggest that negro waiters get awake to this idea, and find some way to organize and join the American Federation, which will welcome them as members and afford them an impartial protection. Gifted as they are with the innate sense of what constitutes service, the negro waiter should easily hold his own in the field of competition. It requires but little effort to secure the needed protection at the hands of the Federation; so let the colored man take the tide while it serves.—Pittsburg Courier.

When some young and thoughtful man comes forward with honest criticism with respect to the business methods in use in many of our churches, instead of crying him down and discouraging all effort in throwing the light upon present methods, those responsible for present methods should be foremost in welcoming the criticism, and in turning on all the light possible, that the sanity and efficiency of their methods may be made thoroughly manifest. When it is contended that the quality of moral and spiritual leadership in those who dominate affairs in our churches and societies is not what it should be, no man should be more interested in a full and thorough investigation of affairs than the men serving in such capacities of leadership.—Baltimore Afro-American Ledger.

John Arthur Johnson, champion heavyweight of the world, is back in his native land once more, returning recently from Europe, where he appeared with great success in the leading variety houses. The champion is in excellent health and one of the first things he did upon reaching New York was to deny the rumor that he had retired from the ring. Johnson says he has no idea of retiring and is willing to meet all comers, his only stipulation being that he dictate terms as to what end of the purse he is to receive. The champion is in Chicago, where he is spending the holidays with his mother.

The International Hotel Workers' union, a white organization, are protesting against the tipping system and demanding what is equivalent to a salary of \$50 per week. It has become fashionable for New York hotels to advertise the fact that they employ some but "white waiters," and the fashion, it is probable, will spread to other large cities. The negro hotel men of New York should hold a convention and seek a remedy for the desperate condition that confronts them.—New York Age.

The mercenary money sharks are devouring their prey in a most greedy way and are putting their victims under a lifetime burden. Our people, mostly those who are ignorant, are falling in the hands of these usury dealers and they are being robbed in an unlimited manner. Several days ago a negro went to the office of one of these sharks to pay up. He entered the cash on his book and asserted to the negro that he did not give receipts for money and made him understand that hereafter do not ask for any more receipts. They are loaning their money at 100 per cent. We know of a case where a negro borrowed \$15 and paid \$15 interest. These traps are set for people of our race and they are getting the money out of them. We advise the people of our race who are obliged to borrow, borrow from a bank and let the shark alone. They take the advantage of your ignorance and rob you; and as long as you deal with them your nose will be "on the grinding stone," a hewer of wood and a drawer of water.—Palestine Plauddealer.

Gordon Isham, an East Tennessee negro farmer, raised 137 hogs this year which averaged 380 pounds in weight and were the best marketed so far this year at Morristown. Isham realized \$4,618.90 from his hogs at the wholesale price of 6 1/2 cents a pound. It is safe to bet that negro has no trouble with his white neighbors. It is also safe to bet that he enjoys the respect of every one of them. A man who raises corn enough to fatten that many hogs hasn't any time to get into trouble. And now that his hogs are marketed he is doubtless busy fixing up his fences, repairing his sheds, caring for his cattle, fertilizing his land and preparing for next year's crops. He has learned the secret of thrift and happiness. Work has solved the life problem with him, and it lies within the reach of thousands of other negroes to make similar successes if they will but resist the lure of idleness and shiftlessness and devote themselves to a fixed task with a white man's constancy.—Nashville Tennessean.

Flisk University is receiving subscriptions toward a \$300,000.00 endowment fund for improvements. No college or institute in America is worthwhile of support than this school. Long ago it has proved its value to the colored race. The record of Flisk is known throughout the world. It deserves every dollar that will be sent and more. There are hundreds of graduates in various professions all over this country that have been benefited by Flisk and this would be a splendid time to pay a debt of gratitude by sending a note toward meeting the \$300,000.00 debt of our race, willing to do something tangible for education and uplift of the race; the training of young men and women for the higher walks of life, could do nothing better than to contribute to this deserving college. Flisk College believes in the broad education of men and women and puts a premium on the highest development of a student. Again we say, Flisk is worthy of a donation, no matter how small or large.—Illinois Chronicle.

A great many people do not have anything to eat today because they ate it all up yesterday. We once owned a beautiful chrome-colored dog that had more sense than his master. That dog was never hungry. The rise in the price of meats never worried him. How did he manage it? Simply enough. He never squandered or threw one away. When he was fed he would eat his fill and then gather up the fragments, dig a small hole in the yard some place and bury them. He knew every place in the yard where his food was buried. When he was hungry and there was nothing doing at the kitchen, he would dig up some of his food and eat it. He would never disturb his reserved food as long as his portion went to him from the kitchen when he wanted it. Prof. Franklin H. Giddings, of Columbia university, said in a recent address, that "one of the possibilities of human betterment is that all the people in the world should have enough to eat." Very true; but it will never be until people learn to save the fragments.—New York Age.

No man can be a good leader who is not a good follower. No man who is self-centered, narrow and jealous can ever make a successful leader. There are few men capable of real leadership and it is quite amazing that such a few who aspire to leadership are not cognizant of that fact. Leaders are born not made. The people choose their leaders and they know the man who is capable of leadership without his labeling himself as such. True leadership is recognized without much stir on the part of him possessed with that great quality and will burst forth despite all of the attempts to crush it out. True leadership cannot be imprisoned.—Charleston (W. Va.) Mountain Leader.

The thinking members of the race should see the necessity of greater opportunities given our young physicians to secure hospital practice. To think of how great the advantages of the white doctor to practice on both white and colored in all hospitals and the door closed against our own is a serious question, more so now.—Illinois Chronicle.

It is not too early for farmers to begin making preparations for farming next year, in order to make business crops.

RACE SLANDERED BY OIL PAINTING

Painting Which is at Head of East Senate Stairway, Portrays Black Seamen as Cowards.

THEIR BRAVERY RECALLED

REV. REVERDY C. RANSOM TELLS OF PATRIOTISM AND COURAGE OF BLACK SEAMEN IN DAYS GONE BY.

Washington.—Since the mutilation of Powell's "The Battle of Lake Erie," which is regarded as one of the most valuable paintings at the head of the east senate stairway in Washington, many negroes have been heard to declare that the painting has always been an eyecore to intelligent negroes, and that it is looked upon by them as a slander on the negro in the United States navy. Among those sharing such an opinion is the Rev. Reverdy C. Ransom, pastor of Bethel A. M. E. church, who speaks of the painting as follows: "The Battle of Lake Erie," by W. H. Powell, which was mutilated by an act of vandalism in Washington last week, calls attention to a fact that has long been an offense to many lovers of truth. This painting, described as 'one of the largest and most valuable paintings,' is on the walls of the rotunda of the capitol at Columbus, O., as well as in the east senate stairway at Washington. It has, for a generation, been an eyecore to intelligent negroes. Whatever may be its merit as a work of art, it is a painted lie which mistakes the facts of history. This painting represents the white man as standing up in the boat in a bold and fearless attitude while the negro seamen are portrayed as cowering in fear. "In the summer of 1813 Captain (afterwards Commodore) Perry wrote a letter to Commodore Chauncey, in which he complained that an indifferent lot of men had been sent him. Among other things, he said: 'The men that came by Mr. Champlain are a motley set of blacks, soldiers and boys. I cannot think you saw them before they were selected.' Commodore Chauncey replied in part as follows: 'I regret that you are not pleased with the men sent you by Messrs. Champlain and Forrest, for, to my knowledge, a part of them are not surpassed by any seamen we have in our fleet; and I have yet to learn that the color of the skin, or the cut and trimmings of the coat, can affect a man's qualification or usefulness. I have fifty blacks on board of this ship and many of them are among my best men.' "Crime of Vandalism Not Excused. "Perry's former prejudice did not prevent him from speaking highly of the bravery and good conduct of the negroes who formed a considerable part of his crew. 'They seemed to be, absolutely insensible to danger,' he said. "Nathan Shaler, commander of the private-armed schooner 'Gov. Tompkins,' wrote to his agent in New York a letter dated: "At Sea, January 1, 1813. "Before I could get our light sails in, and almost before I could turn round, was under the guns, not of a transport, but of a large frigate! Her first broadside killed two men and wounded six others. The name of one of my poor fellows who was killed ought to be registered in a book of fame and remembered with reverence as long as bravery is considered a virtue. He was a black man by the name of John Johnson. A 24-pound shot struck him in the hip and took away all the lower part of his body. In this state the poor brave fellow lay on deck and several times exclaimed to his shipmates: 'Fire away, boys; no haul a color down.' The other was also a black man by the name of John Davis, and was struck in much the same way. He fell near me, and several times requested to be thrown overboard, saying he was only in the way of the others. "Nothing we have said must be construed as excusing or palliating the crime of vandalism. I sincerely hope that the vandal in question will be apprehended and suitably punished. But the fact remains that Powell's 'Battle of Lake Erie' with its terror-stricken negro tars, is an offense to intelligent negroes, and a slander upon the negro in the United States navy."

AFRICANS IN PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Dressed in bright colored shawls and wearing high turbans on their heads, two colored women, genuine Africans, are attracting much attention in the vicinity of Tenth and Lombard streets. Their names are Akwadre Otto, wife of Menah Otto, of 911 Lombard street, and her sister, Iscovadre Cobillah, and her sister, Iscovadre Cobillah. Aside from their peculiar dress, the faces of both women are badly scarred, which were placed there by their parents, and are called "family marks." The women are from Dahomey, on the west coast of Africa, and arrived in the city on the steamship Merion. The husband is the only one who can speak English, the others merely make a peculiar sound when they converse with each other.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH'S PIPE

A tobacco pipe used by Sir Walter Raleigh and alleged to have been smoked by him just previous to his execution, is offered for sale in London, with documents authenticating its genuineness.

PECULIAR INSURANCE.

Insurance of fetes, pageants and similar affairs against rain is a recognized branch of the insurance business in England.

NEGRO STATE FAIR COST ABOUT \$11,000

ACCORDING TO REPORT OF PRESIDENT R. R. WRIGHT OF THE GEORGIA COLORED FAIR ASSOCIATION.

Macon, Ga.—President Wright has just figured out the expense in holding the Colored State Fair at Macon Nov. 8-18. It amounts to \$10,950.27. Of this \$2,891.06 was given for premiums for agricultural and industrial exhibits. The agricultural exhibits came from about twenty counties and the industrial exhibits from about forty counties. There were exhibits of one kind or another from eighty-three counties. The area from which exhibits came has increased from year to year.

The colored people both in agricultural and industrial lines are gradually being awakened to the importance of improving their agricultural and industrial output. In order to interest them the fair association spent for labor \$2,448.14 in the employment of about thirty persons throughout the state and at the fair. The employees spent two or three months traveling by railway or private conveyance in order that they might arouse and instruct the people along the lines which the fair association is striving to emphasize. In addition to this the fair put out in advertising paper \$715.46, and in newspaper advertising \$501.21.

The expense for free attractions, decorations, water, taxes and rent, etc., was \$2,424.40. The association has up to date been able to meet all of its expenses and pay all of its debts. It has not sought to be a money making affair, but merely an educational enterprise. It brought to the fair association this year some of the ablest colored men and white men in the country such as Dr. John E. White, Judge George Hillyer of Atlanta, Dr. James H. Dillard of New Orleans, Dr. J. D. Hammond of Augusta, United States Register of the Treasurer J. C. Napier and former Register W. T. Vernon. All of these men and others made addresses. In addition to this, there was brought a large and interesting government exhibit representing the most interesting exhibit shown at fairs and expositions by the government. This was the first time in the history of colored fairs that such an exhibit has been sent by the general government and the securing of the exhibit was regarded as a tribute to the reputation of the fair association.

Among the interesting features of the fair was the fact that the Central railroad, through Vice President Winburn and J. F. Jackson, agricultural agent, offered premiums for the best corn exhibits by colored boys in the country along the Central lines. There were two premiums this year. The \$100 premium was won by J. L. Reddick of Bibb county, who raised 112 bushels to the acre, and the boy's prize, a \$50 scholarship in the Georgia State Industrial College, was won by Lawrence James of Houston county. Since then clubs have been organized in Putnam, Lee, Polk, Laurens, Taylor, Washington, Union, Meriwether, Jefferson, Earl, Bulloch, Morgan, Bibb, Effingham, Wilkinson, Henry, Screven, Chatham, Randolph, Richmond, Sumter, Emanuel, Dougherty, Terrell and Burke counties. These will take part in the exhibits at the colored state fair next year.

Perhaps among the most interesting agricultural exhibits were those made by M. L. Yopp and E. D. Ashley, who won the premiums offered by the Macon, Dublin and Savannah railway through J. T. Wright, vice president and general manager. The first prize of \$75 was won by Moses L. Yopp of Dublin and the second was won by E. D. Ashley of Bullards. Yopp's exhibit from Laurens was unique. His cotton attracted the attention of everyone who visited the fair.

President Wright and his associates in the Colored State Fair are greatly gratified with the aid that has been given them by the Central and Macon, Dublin and Savannah railways. He claims to have been inspired in this by J. F. Jackson, agricultural agent of the Central railroad, who is taking great interest in the corn clubs in the state. The next fair will likely be held in Macon about the same time next November.

HOWARD IS PRESIDENT OF LIBERIAN REPUBLIC

HE SUCCEEDS ANOTHER NEGRO NAMED BARCLAY IN OFFICE.

Monrovia, Liberia.—Daniel Howard was inaugurated as president of the republic of Liberia, succeeding another negro named Barclay, who for eight years had occupied the office. A procession headed by the members of the legislature, led by the speaker of the senate and the house of representatives, escorted Howard to the chamber of representatives. Here the new president, after taking the oath, read his inaugural address, in which he set forth his ideas on reform and advanced several schemes for the development of the country. He made special reference to the present political situation of Liberia and its relations to the great powers and said that the uncertainty of the past had given way to the positive assurance that Liberia's integrity would remain intact.

FISHHAWKS MAKE PLAY.

Turks around the Bosphorus amuse themselves by playing pitch and catch with the hungry fishhawks. They throw high in the air a lump of raw meat, and the hawks pounce upon the meat before it strikes the ground, and make away with it to the little ones.

NEW BREW OF TEA.

An excellent tea can be brewed from the common species of fern, called the "maiden hair."

GEORGIA LEADS WITH THE MOST LYNCHINGS

Sixty Persons Put to Death in United States.

RECORD FOR YEAR SHOWS A SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT OVER THAT OF PREVIOUS YEARS.

Chicago, Ill.—The lynching record for 1911 shows a distinct though slight improvement over the records of previous years. The number of persons lynched since January 1—sixty—is slightly less than that of any other recent year. All but two of the sixty persons lynched were negroes. Of the fifty-eight negroes one was a woman. The crimes charged against these victims range all the way from insult to criminal assault and murder. Georgia leads with the most lynchings—seventeen. Lynchings occurred in thirteen states. All of these were southern or border states excepting Pennsylvania, which furnished the only instance of the year where the victim was burned at the stake.

Contrary to the record of previous years the majority of the victims were not accused of crimes against women. The victims accused of attacks on women numbered eighteen, while thirty-one were accused of murder. Two negroes were lynched for insulting white women, four for attempted murder, one for threatening murder, one for highway robbery, and one for persistent stealing. Two were charged with plain assault and one was being held in jail as a suspicious character.

In several instances race riots were reported in which both whites and negroes were killed. These are not included in the record of the year.

GOVERNOR RUSHES TO AID CONVICTS

DONAGHEY THREATENS WHOLESALE PARDONS BECAUSE OF ALLEGED BRUTALITY.

Little Rock, Ark.—Scores of men in convict camps in Arkansas will be liberated if Governor Donaghey carries out the threat he made to free them if contractors do not use methods more humane in handling them. "I give notice to the contractors," the governor indignantly declared, "that I will depopulate every convict camp in the state if this cruelty is not stopped. I will turn the prisoners out as fast as they are brought in unless conditions are changed," he exclaimed.

The situation was brought to the attention of the executive through the pitiful story of a negro, who told Mr. Donaghey he had been beaten with a strap, and who bore deep scars on his back. The governor said the black man's story was but one of many which had come to him recently, and he asserted his information led him to believe inhuman methods were used by a majority of the contractors to whom the convicts are leased. No estimate of the number who will be affected if Governor Donaghey carries out his threat could be obtained, but they will run into the hundreds.

NEGRO OFFICER TO LIBERIA

CHARLES YOUNG IS A CAPTAIN IN UNITED STATES ARMY—NEW ASSIGNMENT.

Cheyenne, Wyo.—Capt. Charles Young, Ninth cavalry, stationed at Fort D. A. Russell, the only negro line officer in the United States army, will report to Washington immediately for assignment to special duty in Liberia. Captain Young is a graduate of West Point and is the author of a book on political economy.

ALFALFA DOES NOT ENRICH SOIL.

At the American Dairy Institute, recently held in connection with the National Dairy show in Chicago, Dr. Hopkins of the Illinois station made a statement that will probably prove surprising to many Kansans. The doctor stated that it is a mistaken idea that alfalfa enriches the soil. "Large yields require a great amount of fertility and will impoverish the soil very rapidly unless fed to live stock and returned to the soil. The idea that alfalfa enriches the soil probably comes from the fact that in many instances the soils have been growing large crops for many years and the crops following alfalfa do better than those following non-leguminous crops. This is due to the fact that alfalfa extends its roots many feet into the ground, utilizing the fertility not reached by the roots of other plants, and putting the soil in good physical condition." What do our old-time alfalfa growers say to that? There has long been a question about whether alfalfa would enrich the soil or whether it is merely a stimulant, and no one, even in the experiment stations of the west, seemed able or willing to answer. This statement of Dr. Hopkins puts a new face on the matter and may lead to a new line of investigation.—Kansas Farmer.

TO REBUILD MESSINA.

Poor old Messina lying in her ruins, an English syndicate proposes to rebuild the piers, ferry slips, breakwaters, barracks, court buildings, jail, postoffice, city hall, sewers, etc. London bankers will lend the Italian government \$115,000,000 at 3 per cent to carry on the public works.—New York Press.

The woman who makes her own bed has no cause to grumble if it proves lumpy.

TAFT IS CLEMENT TO TWO NEGROES

PRESIDENT FREES ADAMS AND SAWYER ON CONFESSION OF REAL CRIMINAL.

Washington.—President Taft commuted to expire at once the life sentence of Arthur Adams and Robert Sawyer, two negro British subjects, convicted at Wilmington, N. C., in 1906, of murder on the high seas, in a confession before the execution, Henry Scott, another negro, convicted and hanged for the same crime, completely exonerated Adams and Sawyer.

Originally Adams and Sawyer were sentenced to death, but this was commuted by President Roosevelt to life imprisonment. The prisoners were natives of the British West Indies, and the British ambassador intervened to secure consideration for the plea for executive clemency.

"I do not find," said President Taft, in disposing of the case, "Adams and Sawyer free from fault, and I do not think that their conviction, insofar as it had led to the present imprisonment, is an injustice, but I do think that the confession of Scott and the other circumstances are enough to relieve them from active complicity in the murders and to justify their now being freed."

The murders were committed on the American schooner A. H. Borwind, whose four white officers—master, engineer, mate and cook—and one negro seaman were killed while the vessel, disabled by stormy weather, was off the coast of North Carolina, October 19, 1905. During the voyage a controversy arose between the master and the sailors over food and other matters.

After the five had been murdered, Adams and Sawyer succeeded in overpowering Scott. They signaled a passing vessel and three were delivered into custody at Southport, N. C.

During the trials at Wilmington, it is said, Scott was very bitter toward Adams and Sawyer, and charged them with complicity in the crimes. Before his execution, however, he made two written confessions, which he confirmed in a statement on the gallows, July 6, 1906, assuming full responsibility of the murders.

The Supreme Court of the United States gave the lower court opportunity to grant a new trial after the confessions. Because of lack of funds the prisoners were unable to avail themselves of this privilege. In considering a previous application for pardon for the two men, the late Solicitor General Hoyt discredited Scott's confessions under the belief that they were made in a spirit of bravado. In the present pardon proceedings, which were instituted by H. B. Warner, an Englishman of New York, J. A. Finch, pardon attorney of the department of justice, went extensively into the cases and was convinced that the confessions were genuine.

JACK JOHNSON RETURNS; MAKES ANNOUNCEMENT

FAMOUS COLORED CHAMPION SAYS HE ISN'T "BROKE" AND TALKS ABOUT HIS NEW AUTOMOBILES.

Chicago, Ill.—John Arthur Johnson, the colored world's champion prize fighter, arrived home from Europe, displayed the "world's" thinnest watch, the world's greatest quantity of gold teeth, the world's largest squirrel fur coat, and issued a statement five minutes after his arrival. The statement said simply: "Don't you ever think Jack Johnson's broke?"

Later he amplified this by saying he started the "broke story" to justify his demand for some \$7,500 training expenses, which he says he got.

Three new automobiles, each guaranteed to outspeed any he previously has driven, will be in garage next week, he says, and 90 to 100 miles an hour will not be unusual, according to his predictions of future driving.

Johnson did not appear to be out of condition so far as physical appearance goes. He says he can train back to condition in a month. Sam Langford, he said, was the only fighter who could hope to put up anything like an even match, and the Boston boy, he added, confidently would be whipped.

A LESSON FROM JAPAN.

Japan has about the area of Kansas, but her percentage of agricultural land is about that of New Hampshire. It doesn't look as if she would need many agricultural schools, does it? Most of her farms are so small that they would about make a stock yard for one of us. Yet twenty-three years ago, says a Japanese writer in Hoang's Dairyman, Japan had six schools where farming was taught. And then came the twenty years of her most rapid progress. China was defeated in war and then the mighty Russia. The whole strength of the nation was expended on those things which would enable her to carry the awful load of army, navy and bond debt. And what became of the six agricultural schools?

Instead of being allowed to dwindle they have multiplied, until in 1908 there were in Japan 4,375 agricultural schools. In these schools were enrolled 152,209 pupils, and in that year there were graduated from these schools 93,406 children.

LONG AND ARDUOUS WORK

Pundita Rambhai, who is described as the most learned woman in India, has been working on a translation of the Bible for nearly five years. She has something like fifty assistants at work.

FRENCH MODERN HOSPITAL.

The University of Lyons in France is to have a model hospital, with all the latest equipment, and 1,300 beds for the care of the sick.