

IN THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

Condition of Colonies—Diet Elections—Two Remarkable Trials.

Berlin, November 25.

"There are all sorts of signs and indications that we as a nation are beginning to see how wrong, how radically wrong, has been our treatment of the German transoceanic possessions so far," says a high official. "These colonies have not prospered under our rule. I recall the answer an English friend once gave me when I asked him why it was that his countrymen had been and were still playing such a dog in the manger policy toward us in the matter of colonies, hampering and hindering us wherever and whenever they could. 'Because,' said he, 'you Germans know nothing about colonizing; don't want to know anything about it from people who know more about it than you do, and will never learn enough to get any good out of your possessions, either for yourself or for the world at large. Look at the French colonies! It's the same thing with them. We English are the only people who have learned colonizing as a business. And the commonly accepted doctrine nowadays is that only those are entitled to colonies who know how to manage them and make something worth while out of them.'"

"I admit there is considerable in this view of the matter. But I told him that our colonies were as yet very young; that we were certainly very inexperienced in this line, and likewise constitutionally slow. But, on the other hand, I said, we were sure, we were patient, and we had made up our minds to keep the colonies we got and to acquire additional ones wherever we honestly and decently could. As answer my English friend only shook his head in a doubtful, doubtful way, as if my reply struck him as uncanny. And yet I was right. And what is more, I am firmly convinced that in the long run we Germans will make—ceteris paribus—as much or more out of our colonies as the English are making out of theirs. And recent events are beginning to bear me out.

"Germany has territorial possessions beyond the ocean amounting to about six times the size of the motherland, with a population of ten or twelve millions all told. They are located for the most part within the tropical belt, a few within the subtropical and one, viz. Kiao-Chou, on the Chinese coast, lies in the moderate zone. As I admitted at the outset, we have so far not made a success of them. Everything has had to conform to the official table measure, on pain of being prevented from flourishing, directly or indirectly. That has been—and to a certain extent still is—the great curse under which our colonies have suffered. Whatever could not or would not be squeezed or stretched into the official Procrustean bed had to die. But the fact is unmistakable that public opinion in its widest sense is veering around. We are seeing the folly of our ways. Hereafter, private initiative will have a better field in our colonies. The imperial government from now on will vigorously further colonial development in every reasonable way, commercially, agriculturally, and in the matter of attracting desirable immigration.

"True, the bulk of our colonies offer no adequate inducement to our lower class immigrants, men and women owning only their fists as mobile capital, for in the tropical colonies—in German East Africa, in Togo, in Cameroon, in the Carolines and Marianas, even in German New-Guinea and in German Southwest Africa, our immigrants could not live by the sweat of their brows; the climate is against them. They need capital to make their way. Even in Samoa the amount of this capital must not be below 10,000 marks (about \$2,500), according to the statements of the present Governor Sofis before a Reichstag committee, and the amount required in Africa—for sugar, cotton, rice, coffee plantations, etc.—is much higher, varying from 20,000 to 50,000 marks. So, then, our present colonies, with the single exception of German Southwest Africa (adjoining Cape Colony to the south), and, in a certain sense, Kiao-Chou as well, will never do to deflect the stream of our emigration from the United States, Canada, Argentina and South Brazil into their own channels. It is somewhat different, however, with our German population in Australia, which is being attracted to settlement and investing capital in the Carolines. But for German capital and for Germans with funds amounting to 10,000 up to 50,000 marks even our present colonies will prove hereafter, under the more favorable circumstances now prevailing, a rather promising field.

The Prussian Diet elections have come and gone, almost without causing a ripple on the surface of public life; nay, more, almost without changing for the ensuing lustrium anything in the make-up of that body, faintly called "representative." To the peculiar workings of the Prussian election law under which delegates are chosen for the Diet, and to the three-class system of electors which it provides, attention was called in previous letters. There is not a man held enough in Prussia, not even the most dyed-in-the-wool reactionist of them all, to defend this monstrous election law per se, a law which Bismarck himself, although at the time profiting from its defects, was frank enough to term "the worst electoral system in existence." Yet there it is: under its wording the usual reactionary majority of entailed estate holders, of high government and court officials, and of other representatives of class legislation in its baldest and most heinous form, has been returned. In all, about three-fourths of the delegates in the lower house belong to these elements, and the higher branch, the House of Lords (Herrenhaus), contains almost none but these. And this is the Prussian Parliament which is supposed to represent "the people." Numerically, the largest party in Prussia, the Socialist, has not elected a single member—in fact, how could they under a law which is purely plutocratic in its tendency? But one-fourth of the members in the lower house belong to other elements than the "Yunker" party—that is, to various shades of the Liberal party, too weak either to initiate or prevent obnoxious legislation. And, of course, all attempts which will be made during this session of the Diet to modify or abrogate this caricature of an electoral system will be voted down by an overwhelming majority. All the efforts of such Liberals as Dr. Theodore Barth, all the efforts of the entire Liberal press—constituting by far the most numerous and most influential portion of the German press—and all the mass and indignation meetings held for the purpose of exerting enough public pressure upon the Prussian government to induce a change in the prevailing election law, have gone for naught.

Two cases (culminating in criminal trials) have stirred the nation for weeks, the one of the Countess Kwilecki, and the other of Lieutenant Blise, very different in their essence, on a surface view, and yet both showing similar internal symptoms. The Kwilecki case concerned the owner of an enormous estate at the very easternmost end of the Prussian monarchy—at Wroblewo, in the Polish province of Posen—an estate of some thirty thousand acres, and yielding princely revenues. The countess was charged with having substituted a purchased baby for the rightful heir, a baby having belonged to a poor cobbler's wife, in order to keep the estate away from another branch of the family. The testimony was not only voluminous—it occupied the Berlin court for a month—but extremely contradictory. On one side or the other there must have been what may euphemistically be called "loss of memory" in an unusual degree. The upshot was that the court dismissed the charge for want of sufficient proof. Of most interest, though, in

this case, was the light thrown on the mode of life of that part of the old fashioned Polish aristocracy to which the defendant belongs by right of birth. The evidence showed the same barbaric wastefulness, the same methods of insane mismanagement, for which the Polish "slachta" in the days of Polish sovereignty was famous. With an enormous estate, with tenants by the thousand, with revenues rising into the hundred thousands, it was deposited in court that the owner had been continually harassed by creditors, by usurers, and that the bailiff and the sequestration officers had been steady guests at the feudal chateau of Wroblewo, while some nights play ran so high there that wealthy guests rose from table utterly ruined and done for.

"Of that, I repeat, there are signs and indications. Let me briefly enumerate some of them. It is expected that the Reichstag this winter will grant the first appropriation for the construction of the Daressalam-Mrogoro railway, which will make a good half of the interior of German East Africa accessible, and promote the laying out of plantations (especially cotton) wonderfully, because it will give them a steady and paying market on the coast. In German Southwest Africa several railroads have been finished within the last twelve months. The navigable rivers both in the Cameroons and in German East Africa, have been regulated recently. In German Southwest Africa immigration has largely increased, both of Boers from Cape Colony and the former free States, and from Germany; paying copper mines have been opened up there, and gold has been found in not inconsiderable quantities in several places, besides blue earth mines that promise diamonds and other precious stones.

"But aside from all this, and much more important, is the fact that we have started in seriously to raise cotton, vanilla, ramie and other fibrous plants. Vanilla has been produced in German East Africa, of a quality almost equalling that of Mexico, though as yet in small bulk. In the Cameroons—which, so far as soil and fertility go, is the most valuable of our possessions—rapidly increasing crops of cocoa are raised, and cocoa of so fine a quality that it ranks with the best in the Hamburg market. But of largest importance by far is the cotton question. For several years it was in the experimental stage, but this year it has emerged from it. The finest cotton so far produced in German colonies is that of Togo (on the central western coast of Africa), whose product is being classed on the Bremen and Hamburg bourses as 'fully good middlings,' and of which some fifty thousand pounds have reached us this fall. But the cotton of German East Africa, too, sells for from 70 to 80 marks a hundredweight, and much of it is equal to the best 'White Egyptian.' How large this year's cotton crop is in that colony cannot be stated as yet, but it is considerable, and it promises to be trebled next year, as by that time many new plantations will be under way. All along the 150 navigable miles of the Ruffidi River new plantations have been started. In Southwest Africa, especially the district around Okahandja and along the Swakop River, cotton has been planted as well. The same is true of the Carolines.

"Of course, the propelling force in this has been the scarcity of the American cotton crop, but that Germany has gone into the cotton raising business to stay is plainly shown by the fact that the imperial government has identified itself with the industry. In German East Africa, J. H. G. Becker, formerly an expert cotton grower of Hookley, Tex., has been made the colonial chief inspector of cotton, with headquarters at Daressalam; and in Togo, after several years' teaching by graduates from Booker T. Washington's cotton department in Tuskegee Institute, the industry has been firmly and rationally established and an inspectorate created. Besides that, however, the Colonial Economic Committee in Berlin now grants a number of annual stipends to young German farmers desirous of becoming cotton planters in German colonies, enabling them to pursue a regular course at the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, supplemented by a year's practical training on cotton plantations in that State, the whole matter being under the supervision of the German consul in Galveston. Thus, then, within a couple of years Germany will have a fine staff of experts in cotton raising, experts trained in every branch of theory and practice, and the rest will naturally follow."

The case of Lieutenant Blise came before the public from the other end of the empire, from the frontier of France, from Forbach. The young officer had written a novel in this dreary garrison, where the enmity of the Francophile population made social intercourse or other rational enjoyment impossible for him. In this novel he had painted an ultra realistic and strictly truthful picture of the systematic dissipation and debauches to which his comrades and his superior officers were reduced in order to make the heavy time pass by. Some of his portraits were so lifelike that they will involve him in a series of duels, he having, besides, already been forced to doff his uniform by court martial's decree for having been unduly indiscreet. The one picture and the other are curiously alike—from a certain point of view—and they have furnished the text for scores of editorial sermons on the moeurs contemporaines. It were vain to deny the fact that Germany's pastoral days are irrevocably gone.

Two remarkable books are just out. One treats of the life of the late General von Kretschman, a general of infantry, who did much in 1870 to win the battle of Vionville, one of the bloodiest and most hotly contested during the Franco-German War. The book is written—and that is the sensational feature of it—from her father's private papers and letters by his eldest daughter, now Frau Lily Braun, wife of a Socialist leader. Her father had disowned her some years before his death. She is, however, a decidedly brilliant woman, and the book in the guise she has given it is scoring a success. There are many curious passages in it that will scarcely be relished at the court of Berlin. The other book is likewise a memoir. It embodies that portion of the letters, notes and diaries from the hand of the late Admiral and General Albert von Frosch which his son, who fills a responsible position in the army, has been permitted by his chief to publish. There is many a hiatus in the book, but though at best a torso, it is nevertheless very readable and full of information, notably in the shape of caustically drawn pen portraits of the leading figures in the wars of 1864, 1866 and 1870-71, and in personal contact with. To put it, however, roughly—the one book is remarkable for what it reveals, the other for what it permits the reader to read between the lines.

NEWS AND STORIES FOR SPORTSMEN. The Christmas number of "The Illustrated Sporting News," replete in a larger design by Edward Penfield, in which the golden maid and the huntman chase a loving cup, standing before a log fire, contains many articles of interest to those who read their sports as the Wall Street man does his stock reports, and to the general reader as well. A supplemental portrait of Ethel Barrymore, by Ernest Haskell, is one of the features of the illustrated number. Other features of the special article "Our Presidents Who Were Sportsmen," from Washington to Roosevelt; "The Shetland Pony in the Native Island Home," following the Hounds in Old Virginia; a description of J. B. Haggis's Kentucky estate, "Making Polo Ponies of Texas Quarter Horses," "Skating in the Capitals of Northern Europe," "When the German Emperor Goes a-Hunting" and "A Christmas Panther Hunt on the Cimarron" are some of the special articles replete with illustrations, dealing with phases of recreation that appeal to all who have love for outdoor life. "Uncle Silas Pays a Christmas Visit to His Very Strenuous Relatives" is the title of a double page feature of illustrations bound to excite much fiction. Fiction, dealing with sports, is contributed by Cyrus Townsend Brady, John Kendrick Bangs and Clara Morris, and Edward S. Martin contributes "A Little Talk About Christmas."

SHIVER IN GUNNYSACKS.

So Lascar Crew Comes Ashore for Winter Clothing.

"Nothing to wear" has been the plaint for three days of the Lascar crew of the British steamer Nithsdale, now lying in a Brooklyn dock. The Lascars lined up at Colombo, and brought with them no clothes beyond their tight jackets, loose cotton trousers and kilts, which are poor protection enough for these latitudes. Last Saturday their sarang, Mahomet ibn Hassan, went to Captain Haddon, and asked for warmer clothes for his men. He was told that he could have an advance for the men to buy the clothes. Having had experience with the "slop shops" of many ports, the Lascars refused the offer. After much wrangling between the sarang and the skipper, the men received yesterday 10 shillings each, to be expended by an agent of the Legal Aid Society for clothing.

Wednesday night the deck sarang, Abdul Raman, met the sarang of the fireroom, Mahomet ibn Hassan. "May the dogs of Jeddah that refuse us proper raiment be as warm in Jehannam as we are cold," said Abdul. "Bismillah," reverently said Mahomet to this pious wish. "But this is in my heart, that I go to the sahib captain and flatter him with fine words, that he may give us warmer clothes."

"It is well," said Abdul, and Mahomet went to see the captain. That late person at once informed the sarang that if he did have a bloody English boat it was no (qualified) "lime-juler." Mahomet fled below, as from the wrath of Eblis. "This captain," he said, "is of the race that consumes much strong waters, and his words were as hot as the liquor. What is the plan in thy heart, oh, brother?" "This," said Abdul, "that we go up into the city to their Kadi, or some of their wise men, to compel this man to keep us warm."

BONDS TO SECURE BILL.

Papers Worth \$80,000 Intrusted to Justice Subject to Lien.

Justice Marean, in the Supreme Court, Brooklyn, has in his possession and in the Nassau Trust Company for safe keeping, \$80,000 in stocks and bonds belonging to Frank D. Heyward, of Mamarroneck. They were turned over on the demand of the court by Reuben L. Maynard, a lawyer, of No. 141 Broadway, who, it is alleged, took a most unusual way to collect a claim for services.

In affidavits Mr. Heyward declared that on Monday he went to the office of Mr. Maynard, on the securities of the stocks, to have them returned to the office regarding the securities. They were sent to the act by request from the Fifth Avenue Trust Company. When they were placed on the table Mr. Maynard, it is said, swept them all into his valise.

"They are mine until you pay me your bill," he is quoted as saying. Heyward declared that a bill had never been rendered to him, and the lawyer asserted that his client owed him a balance of \$2,800. Although he offered to guarantee the payment of the bill, Mr. Heyward says, the lawyer was obdurate, and demanded settlement in full at once.

Mr. Heyward then retained John L. Hill, another lawyer, and got an injunction restraining Maynard from selling the stocks and an order compelling him to show cause before Justice Marean yesterday why he should not surrender possession of the stocks. Mr. Maynard appeared and asked for an adjournment. After he had consented to turn the securities over to the court, receiving the promise that they would be kept subject to his lien, an adjournment was granted until Monday. Then he presented affidavits to the court, claiming his position.

Mr. Heyward declares that the retention of the securities seriously embarrasses him.

MUCH SECRECY IN CULVER DECREE.

Papers Filed in Safe of County Clerk—Notice of Decision Not Posted.

Much secrecy has been maintained in the granting of an interlocutory judgment of divorce by Justice Maddox to Mrs. Everett Mallory Culver, daughter of Senator Clark, from Dr. Culver. The papers in the case, including the judgment, findings of the court and the testimony taken by Maurice Dillon, the referee, of Port Chester, have been filed in the private safe of County Clerk Sutherland.

The evidence has not been sealed, as Justice Maddox denied the motion of Mrs. Culver's lawyers in that respect, but the justice did inscribe these words on one of the papers: "There is no good reason for this application. The provisions of Rule 76 apply here, and the clerk and his deputy and assistants undoubtedly appreciate their duty under that rule."

Deputy County Clerk Coward refused to show the newspaper men the papers on file unless an order of the court was secured.

The notice of the decision of the court was not even placed on the bulletin board of the court clerk, where notices of decrees in divorce cases are generally entered immediately after they are granted.

CEREMONIES AT GUANTANAMO.

Foreign Residents Present—Warships Start on Saturday for Culebra.

Guantanamo, Dec. 11.—The place where the American flag was raised yesterday has been named Camp McCalls. The American, English and French residents witnessed the ceremonies. Many small vessels were decorated, and the Cuban national hymn and "The Star Spangled Banner" were played. A number of American and English guests were entertained at luncheon on board the warships. Few of the local Cubans were present. All the warships except the Vixen and the Prairie will sail for Culebra on Saturday, engaging in maneuvers on their way there. American engineers here are engaged in drilling for a water supply and for pier foundations. Senior Furber, chief engineer at Santiago, who represented the government of Cuba at the formal transfer of the naval station's site yesterday, and a Cuban lieutenant accompanying him, were cordially received by Rear Admiral Barker on board the flagship Kearsarge.

WOZ RICH; HIS COUNTRY POOR.

When the Cherokee, which arrived yesterday from San Domingo City, was in San Domingo Harbor the troops of both the old and new republics wandered about the city half clothed and half starved. When Woz y Gil left the country for Paris, there was little money left in the Dominican treasury to pay off the soldiers. Woz did not go away at all poor, for his fortune is said to amount to \$1,200,000. The paying off of the successful revolutionists began the day before the Cherokee left San Domingo. There was no money in the treasury, and the men were paid in old clothes.

NEW FLAGSHIP OF HAYTIAN NAVY.

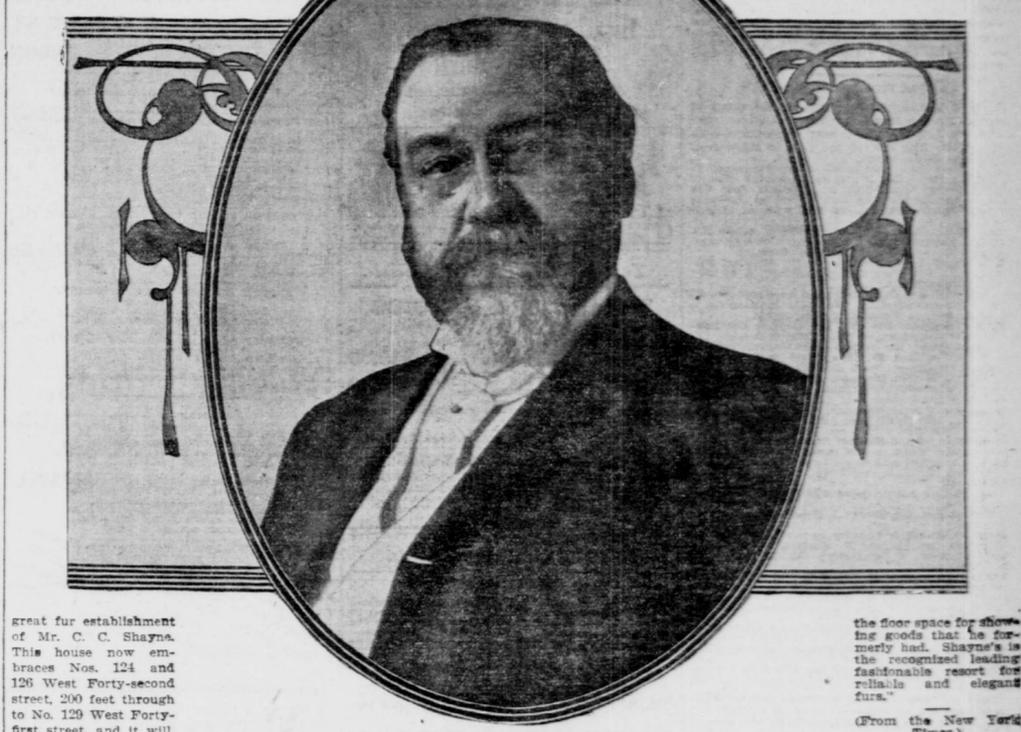
Soon to be flagship of the Haytian navy, the freighter-yacht Scythian is lying at Pier 1, East tration. Her was laid up in Boston for more than a year, until she was sold to the Haytian government. She will be armed with several light rapid-fire guns. She has only 22 tons displacement. Scythian was the steamship. Then she was purchased by Miss Susan De F. Day, who used her for a yacht, "Michael Moran," of No. 81 Wall-st., sold her to Hayti.

TO REOPEN CIUDAD BOLIVAR.

Caracas, Dec. 11.—A government decree has been issued creating a new harbor and custom house at Amacuro, opposite Trinidad, for merchandise needing transshipment to destinations in the Orinoco district. The government has decided that the port of Amacuro shall be reopened about March 1, 1904. It is expected that the port will be next for direct importations from all countries.

THE LARGEST FUR ESTABLISHMENT IN THE UNITED STATES

Its Beginning, Growth and Reliability—The Business of 1903 the Largest in Its History

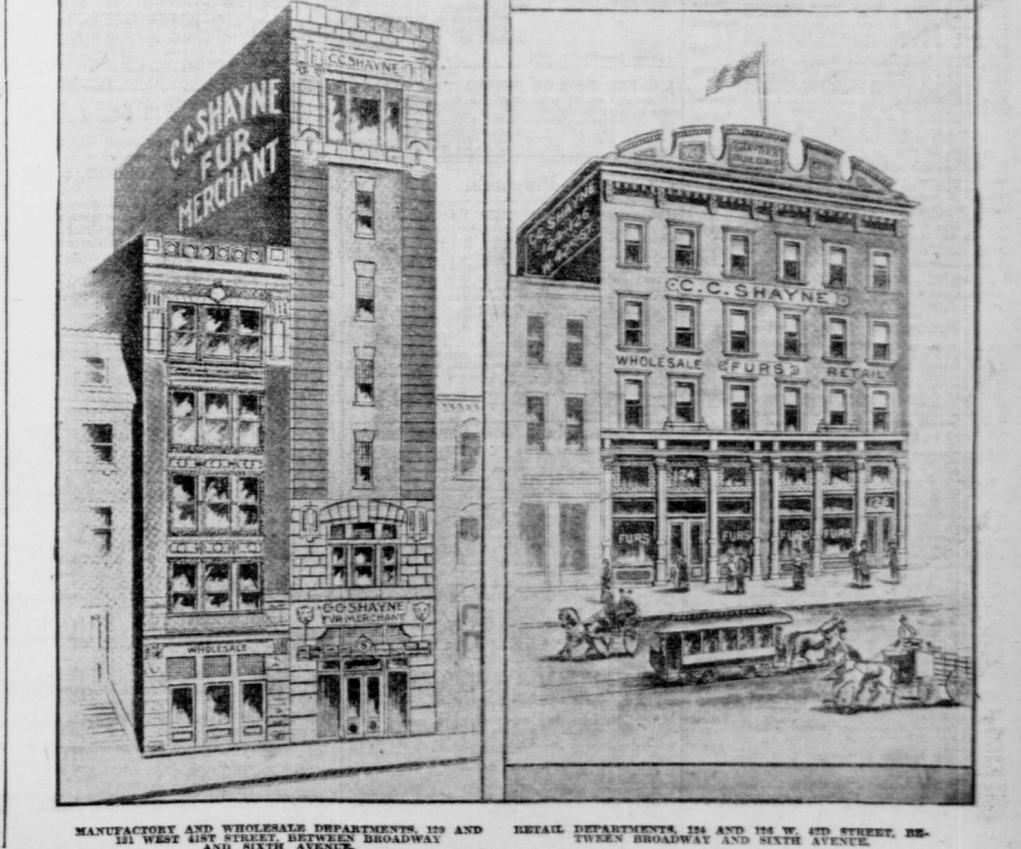


NEW, if any, more interesting chapters of history can be found in the growth of New York's business enterprises than that which pertains to the great establishment of Mr. C. C. Shayne. This house now embraces Nos. 124 and 126 West Forty-second street, 200 feet through to No. 129 West Forty-first street, and it will within six months include the spacious building now being erected at No. 131 West Forty-first street, and will cover an area of 760,000 cubic feet, nearly double the size of any other fur establishment in the United States.

Christopher Columbus Shayne was born in Galway, Saratoga County, New York, September 29, 1844. He was educated in the academy of his native county, and at seventeen left his home to seek fame and fortune. At the age of twenty-one, in 1865, he was admitted as a partner in the Camp Hat and Fur Company, the largest fur establishment in Cincinnati, Ohio. Three years later, in 1868, he organized the well-known firm of C. C. Shayne & Co. Mr. Shayne soon recognized that Cincinnati would never become a fur centre, so he removed to New York in 1872 and located at Broadway and Tenth street, opposite A. T. Stewart. That his career has been eminently successful is attested by the fact that the firm of C. C. Shayne & Co. is the largest fur house in the United States, and buys and sells in all countries where the fur-bearing family of animals are produced or furs worn.

Beginning business at an early age, Mr. Shayne possesses the most comprehensive knowledge of all the details of the fur business, and the public as a consequence has confidence in his integrity and good judgment. He will not tolerate a deception of customers by his salesmen—his positive instructions are, "Tell the facts; never misrepresent an article to make a sale." Many honors have been bestowed on Mr. Shayne's beautiful fur creations, notably at the World's Fair, for the best dressed Russian and Hudson Bay Sables, Mink, Ermine's and Other skins, and for garments of Russian Sables, Sealskin, Persian Lamb and Ermine. Mr. Shayne has made a specialty of Russian Sable for years, and carries one of the largest and best selected stocks in the world. His establishment is recognized not only in America but throughout the civilized world as the headquarters for genuine Russian and Hudson Bay sables. He sells only the natural skins, not blended or darkened in any way, which he can recommend, and the fur buyers, recognizing this fact, send him orders from all over the country for these high-class goods. It does not require any extraordinary process of reasoning to arrive at the conclusion that the business conducted on this basis must be successful, and that the proprietor has honestly become one of the wealthy men of the nation, as has been the case with Mr. Shayne.

Mr. Shayne is one of the large real estate owners of New York City property, and the



MANUFACTORY AND WHOLESALE DEPARTMENTS, 129 AND 131 WEST 41ST STREET, BETWEEN BROADWAY AND SIXTH AVENUE. RETAIL DEPARTMENTS, 124 AND 126 W. 42D STREET, BETWEEN BROADWAY AND SIXTH AVENUE.

mentary notices. Among some of the important ones are the following: (From the New York Tribune.) "Mr. Shayne has enlarged his magnificent fur establishment so that he has three times

the floor space for showing goods that he formerly had. Shayne is the recognized leading fashionable resort for reliable and elegant furs. (From the New York Times.) "Mr. Shayne's store is one of the largest and finest in the world devoted to the fur trade. His property is the result of years of devotion, study and work in all the details of his business. Because of his world-wide reputation for honest dealing and commercial integrity he has secured the best trade in America." (From the New York Press.) "The feminine heart and head find much to admire in the magnificent display of furs at the well-known establishment of C. C. Shayne, West Forty-first and Forty-second streets, the recognized leading fur house in America." (From the New York Mail and Express.) "C. C. Shayne's name is stamped on all his productions, that being a guarantee of reliability. Mr. Shayne has built up a business on the foundation stone of strict integrity; as a result he keeps all his old customers, while constantly gaining new ones." (From the New York Commercial Advertiser.) "The building occupied by Mr. Shayne is five stories high; the new building now being erected will be seven stories high and will be fire proof. The main salesroom is 50 feet wide, 100 feet deep and has a ceiling 22 feet high. Gorgeous chandeliers dot the ceiling and rugs of generous profusion carpet the hardwood floor. "The manufacturing department occupies the second, third and fourth floors, the fifth floor being used for finishing. The two upper floors of the new building will be used for the storage of furs. On the top of the five magnificent cases in which the Shayne display was made at the World's Fair are splendid groupings of the fur-bearing family of animals. Altogether it is one of the most complete fur establishments in the world and is patronized by the elite of the metropolis and the nation." The services rendered the public by Mr. Shayne need more than passing mention. He was largely instrumental in securing the passage of the bill by Congress limiting the amount of baggage of homecoming European visitors. This bill is claimed to have kept \$75,000,000 a year of American money within our borders which had previously gone into European trade channels. He has taken up with his customary earnestness the agitation of a new immigration bill. He outlined his views before the New York Society of Commerce in a speech last week in favor of restricting immigration because of the lowering of the moral and physical standards of the immigrants; the tendency of foreign countries to make this country a dumping ground for their poor and vicious population and the harm that arises from allowing the steamship companies to be the sole arbiters of the fitness of these incoming hordes now amounting to one million a year. Mr. Shayne has good and timely ideas of how this immigration can be curbed, and one of his suggestions is that committees of three men each, two members of each committee to be physicians, shall be stationed at each of the large foreign ports to pass upon the qualifications of those intending to emigrate to the United States. Mr. Shayne has the reputation of carrying through to a finish whatever he sets his heart and mind on, and believes his immigration ideas will bear fruit.