

THE JOURNAL

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IN A NUTSHELL....

Notable Predecessors of the California Earthquake.

The destructive earthquake in Los Alamos valley, California, is, very likely, another manifestation of the same subterranean disturbance that caused the eruptions of Mount Pelee and La Soufriere in May and June, stimulated the activity of numerous volcanoes in Central America and caused the earthquake which wrought such ruin and caused such loss of life in Guatemala in April. The California earthquake is the most violent the United States has experienced since the Charleston, S. C., earthquake of 1888, which destroyed a large number of houses, damaged most of the remainder, killed 27 persons outright and finally caused the deaths of many others. The tremors there continued for many months, though they ceased to be destructive after four weeks. The phenomena were much the same as those reported from Los Alamos. The Inyo valley, California, experienced a severe earthquake in 1872. All the houses in the village of Inyo were thrown down and one-tenth of the inhabitants killed. At this time the series of shocks continued for three months and a fissure was formed for forty miles along the base of the mountain range. There were some remarkable permanent horizontal and vertical displacements of the surface. Owens river was temporarily swallowed.

Some of the notable earthquakes recorded in history were those of Sparta, B. C. 464; Antioch, A. D. 115; the Roman world, A. D. 8, 365; Antioch, A. D. 526; Jamaica, 1692; Lieboon, 1765; Venezuela, 1812.

terment of civil life. The object of the league is a stupendous one, but it approaches it step by step, a little at a time, no task being too small. The object is defined as being to "make America the most beautiful country in the world, with its citizens the best educated and the best governed—a country where life is truly wholesome and livable."

HAWKEYES BECOME FLICKERTAILS

An Iowa syndicate yesterday purchased of the Northern Pacific Railway company 150,000 acres of land west of the Missouri river in North Dakota. Iowa has of late years been a prolific source of population exodus and land colonization schemes. Minnesota and the Dakotas have profited from this Iowa unrest. The capitalists and farmers of that state—who have flocked in and bought our land and have begun the tilling of the soil and the raising of cattle.

Iowa has long been famous for its cattle raising and fattening. The stockmen of that state see great possibilities in utilizing the bunch grass lands of western North Dakota for cattle raising, after a more thrifty fashion than that of the big "outfits" whose day of glory is past. North Dakota will benefit greatly by the presence of these newcomers. They will improve agricultural methods and the grade of stock, and they will constitute the beginnings of a large population in a country scarcely settled hitherto.

It is not to be supposed that any aliener-miner will be so neglectful of the city's interests as not to attend the next meeting of the city council and thereby insure the passage, before it is too late, of an ordinance providing for the issuance of \$250,000 of bonds for the improvement of the waterworks system. The city is growing rapidly and its consumption of water is increasing proportionately. It has now become both a question of quality and a question of quantity. It is believed to be necessary to put \$200,000 into distributing mains in order that the increased capacity of the pumps and the reservoir may be of full benefit to the city.

CHINESE INDEMNITY AND TARIFF

The treaty negotiated by Great Britain with China, the substance of which has been cabled, is of the deepest interest to our government as it is practically the model from which the other nations will arrange trade relations with China, as it embodies the most favored nation clause and has to be accepted by all before it becomes effective. One important feature of this treaty is the abolition of the vexatious likin tax, the tax levied in the interior on imported goods passing from province to province, which makes the goods cost enormously by the time they reach destination, as the officials are habitually pecuniative and line their pockets with excessive exactions. The treaty reads as if all the internal taxation of the empire is to be abolished. It is not known whether the original British proposal to substitute for the abolition of the burdensome and trade-hindering likin interior tax, an additional tax of 7 1/2 per cent to the customs duty of 5 per cent and 2 1/2 per cent added to free goods from taxation in transit to an interior port, is included in the arrangement. This would mean 15 per cent taxation on foreign goods. Americans in the Chinese trade object to this arrangement, as 90 per cent of our cotton goods trade is with northern China where the likin tax is but slightly enforced, and no advantage would be derived from the proposed surtax of 7 1/2 per cent, as might be the case in the middle or southern provinces. This matter will be threshed over when the treaty comes before the treaty powers. It would seem incredible that the Chinese government would abolish its internal taxation at a time when it depends largely upon such taxation to meet the terms of the indemnity agreement.

As to the indemnity, the Chinese authorities still contend that it was the understanding that the semi-annual payments of 11,000,000 taels were to be made at the rate of value of the tael then prevailing. The gold value of the silver tael at the time of the agreement was 74.2 cents and since then it has slipped down to about 63 cents. Every power, party to the treaty, knew well that silver has no constant value and fluctuates uncertainly, and that if gold payment is insisted on, it will take the greater part of the Chinese revenues (silver) to meet the indemnity payments. Our own government, Great Britain and Japan are willing to help China by accepting indemnity payment at the silver tael value as fixed—74.2 cents. Germany is inclined to take this course, but Russia and France contend for gold payment. To effect this, all the import duties at Chinese ports would have to be made payable in gold, which would disarrange international trade to oblige Russia and France, who are by no means large traders in China. Russia's percentage being very small comparatively, and our own and that of Great Britain and Japan being large. In our own case our government could well afford to remit the indemnity 50 per cent, in order to keep on a friendly trading basis with China. France and Germany have issued loans against their lump indemnity claims, arguing that they are entitled to gold, and they, with Russia, do not feel disposed to consider the silver basis proposition. Our government was the first

of the treaty powers to agree to take payment in silver. There should be considered the fact that China's entire revenue is only 80,000,000 taels and the sum reserved for the debt only leaves her a net income of 30,000,000 taels for the use of the government in the administration of the provinces and empire. The treaty powers interested in building up trade in China will never get much trade by adopting policies which impoverish the country.

We can't undertake to say how the supreme court will view the theory that it is the inalienable right of a woman to drink in a saloon, but it seems reasonable that in such a state as Colorado, where women have all the political rights men have and the difference of sex has no corresponding difference before the law, a woman has just as much right as a man to partake of "red liquor" or any other kind of a drink, under the same conditions in which the man exercises that "rational pleasure." The question has gone up to the supreme court from that state.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT

It is predicted that the approaching session of the Trans-Mississippi congress in St. Paul will be powerfully instrumental in bringing about further improvements of the upper Mississippi. We believe the people of the northwest who have given some attention to the functions of water transportation and its effects on railway rates are strongly in favor of such improvement. Even those who have been most contemptuously opposed have at times made unguarded admissions that have weakened their position. Mr. J. J. Hill has as consistently opposed waterways as any man, but at St. Louis a while ago he declared himself in favor of the improvement of the river so as to give a twelve-foot channel from New Orleans to St. Louis. If water transport is good from St. Louis to the sea it is good from Minneapolis to St. Louis. So much attention has been concentrated on railways that water routes have not always, of late years, had that part of the inland commerce of the country which they can handle more cheaply and better than the railways. But the attention of the business world will not always overlook them. Where its benefits are so obvious as on the great lakes it has never been neglected, but the tortuous, uncertain river channels have been largely forgotten.

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MINNESOTA POLITICS

TAWNEY STARTS ON KNATVOLD'S TRAIL. The battle is now on in the first district. Congressmen Knatvold and Tawney are contending for the seat of the first district. Knatvold has taken in the county seats, but from them has stirred up the district, and a good fight is promised. Freeborn county is not sold for Knatvold's arrangement. This would mean 15 per cent taxation on foreign goods. Americans in the Chinese trade object to this arrangement, as 90 per cent of our cotton goods trade is with northern China where the likin tax is but slightly enforced, and no advantage would be derived from the proposed surtax of 7 1/2 per cent, as might be the case in the middle or southern provinces. This matter will be threshed over when the treaty comes before the treaty powers. It would seem incredible that the Chinese government would abolish its internal taxation at a time when it depends largely upon such taxation to meet the terms of the indemnity agreement.

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The Nonpareil Man

Casually Observed. Fears are expressed in our set that the Castellanos will have to pay their bills. Outrageous!

If Uncle Loren should lose the nomination and John Lind should run and get in by "aiding to home," Uncle Loren would become a confirmed beggar in special provisions.

Who wouldn't be a Chicago "short." If you win, you win; and if you lose you call on the court and win. You can't lose.

Rev. Dr. A. A. Berle, who has been called to the pulpit of the Union Park Congregational church in Chicago, used to be sporting editor on the St. Louis Post Dispatch. The sporting editor is equal to almost any emergency.

When the delegation to see the mayor came home there was frost on the pane for little brother.

With the incoming of August, summer in the garden is at its deepest and richest. The streams of life are banqueting. The more delicate flowers have passed by the heart of yellow blossoms, like double and triple stars, are just bursting into bloom. There is a quiet and peace among the flowers and when the deep undernote of the organ is over the only interference with the serene yell of the sanguinary mosquito as he demands his bucket of warm, mellow gore.

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STOPPING A BRUISED WAIYAW

By EPES W. SARGENT.

Copyright, 1902, by the S. S. McClure Company. "Alice Armstrong is running away, Alice Armstrong is running away, Alice Armstrong to the slender figure in rusty brown the whir of the car wheels seemed to repeat it unceasingly, and every jar of the Pullman trucks gave the words cruel emphasis. Surely every one must know her secret. She looked about her guiltily, but the car was almost empty and the few passengers were absorbed in themselves or asleep.

Above the back of a seat farther up the aisle she saw the nodding head of a sleeping woman and the restless curls of a golden-haired child. With a start she turned to the window again to hide the tears that sprang to her eyes. Edith had hair like that, the little 6-year-old sister whom she was leaving perhaps forever. She had not time to think herself; only till she could earn a home for

When the delegation to see the mayor came home there was frost on the pane for little brother.

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