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As the time in which to close out this stock is limited, no effort in the way of cut prices is being left undone. Shoe buyers will find that in comparison with ordinary prices these goods are almost being given away. This immense stock is being sold at figures which will warrant your purchasing shoes for future needs.

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Sizes still complete in the Johnson & Murphy line.

French Calf and Cordovan Hand Welt, 250 pairs, going at $5 pair.

Ladies' line of White Oxfords and Slippers, all sizes and widths.

300 pairs Men's Calf Shoes reduced from $4 and $5 to $2 and $3.

Lots of School Shoes at your own price.

200 pairs Men's Work Shoes reduced from $1.50 and $2 to $1 and $1.25.

175 pairs Women's fine turned shoes, reduced from $3 to $1.50.

100 pairs Misses' Cloth Top Button, spliced heel, reduced from $2.50 to $1.50.

75 pairs Children's Cloth-Top Button, spliced heel, reduced from $1.75 to $1.25.

M. A. COX & CO.,

No. 517 Second Street, Opposite the Lace House.

DOOM OF ABYSSINIA.

Italy About to Conquer the Queen of Sheba's Land.

THE SWITZERLAND OF AFRICA.

A Christian Country Since the Fourth Century—The Mohammedans Never Conquered It.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The news that the Italian army in East Africa has begun active operations for the conquest of Abyssinia will be of decided interest wherever the name of this ancient land has become known and its curious and varied history has been read. That success will ultimately crown the efforts of the Italian arms cannot be doubted, for the clumsy swords and spears of the Abyssinians will stand no show in a contest with the rifle and revolver, and the shield of the African warrior furnishes no protection against the bullets of the machine gun. The natural defenses of the country, strong as they are, will not long resist the skill of a civilized invader, and although the progress of the Italians may not be rapid, no doubt can be felt that in the course of three or four campaigns they will effect a complete subjugation of one of the most interesting peoples of the Dark Continent.

The new subjects of Italy have a history running back at least to the time of Solomon, a thousand years before Christ, for the antiquarians are agreed that the Queen of Sheba, who made the visit to Jerusalem in order to cement the friendship between the two nations, was none other than a monarch of Abyssinia, which then, and perhaps long before, was a rich, populous and powerful state. For ages it continued to be the one civilized country in Africa, aside from Egypt, then the torrent of Mohammedan invasion surrounded it on all sides, and though the tide of Islam was stayed in the rocky passes of the Abyssinian mountains, the country was for centuries cut off from intercourse with the civilized world and known only by tradition. So dim became the recollection of a nation that was Christianized in the fourth century that even its existence was sometimes doubted, and the intelligence brought from it by an occasional traveler or African merchant who had succeeded in penetrating its frontiers was treated as an imaginative tale of one ready and willing to play on the credulity of mankind. So for a thousand years Abyssinia remained unknown and human progress within its limits stood still. Then came a period of better knowledge with the investigations made of the country by the Portuguese, and in 1770 Bruce traveled through Abyssinia, afterwards writing an account of his visit, which nobody believed, but which has since, in many important particulars, been shown to be exactly true. Our knowledge of the country dates from the time of Bruce, though no material use was made of the information gained until near the middle of this century, when a British consul was appointed to reside in Abyssinia, and from the desire of the ruling monarch, the unfortunate King Theodore, in 1864, to bring about more intimate relations with Great Britain, came the imprisonment of all the British subjects, the war with Great Britain, during which a British army penetrated to the interior of the country, stormed Magdala in 1868, and Theodore, resolved not to be taken, blew out his brains with a pistol.

But not only in secular, but also in sacred history Abyssinia is famed, for, according to the prevailing traditions of the Abyssinians themselves, the first missionary to that country was the chamberlain of the Queen Candace, a narrative of whose baptism is given in the Book of Acts. The land was then known as Ethiopia, a name which a large portion of it still bears, a striking illustration of the persistence with which a proper name will linger among an illiterate and even savage people. The Ethiopian or Abyssinian church was organized in the beginning of the fourth century, and it is a remarkable fact, known to few, that through the missionary labors of this body Nubia and perhaps also a large part of the Soudan were Christianized, and remained so during the several centuries and until the fifteenth, when the gradual spread of Mohammedanism to the south and center of Africa crushed out the Christian faith and supplanted it with that of Islam.

As a source of possible wealth Abyssinia will prove a valuable acquisition to Italy or any other country. Although situated under the tropics, this favored land has almost every climate except that of the extreme polar regions, since within its limits lies land of every altitude from the level of the sea to 10,000 feet above. So great a variety naturally gives an immense range of productions, and within 100 miles the traveler passes from the sandstorms and date palms of Massowah, one of the hottest places on the globe, to the cool uplands and river valleys of the interior, and a little higher, to the barley and rye that are the favorite grains in the cultivated regions of the extreme north. While much of the country consists of elevated table lands and rugged highlands, the river plains are often of extreme fertility, and under proper cultivation are capable of supporting a very dense population. That, with the lazy and irregular attention they receive, they keep the millions of Abyssinia in comparative comfort is a tribute of no mean significance to their value, as well as an indication of what they are capable of under proper cultivation. But the men, or rather their wives, for in this, as in most other parts of Africa, the women do all the work, are not good farmers, so they put in the seed at the proper season, and if it pleases Providence to make it grow, well and good, if not, they rest contented with the dispensations of fortune, and consider that they are not to blame for their own poverty and occasional suffering, having done their best.

Although nominally a Christian and once civilized people, the Abyssinian methods of life do not materially differ from those of the nations by whom they are surrounded. The temperate character of their climate renders elaborate architecture unnecessary, even if they were able to undertake it. Their houses vary in construction with the locality and climatic conditions. In the lowlands, where the heat is almost unendurable all the year round, a circular hut of sticks and bamboo, with a thatched roof, answers every requirement of Abyssinian society, while on the uplands, a house of stone, with a roof of poles covered with mud, is a residence fit for the nobility. He who enters the country with a view to studying the inhabitants should, however, have a nose without conscience, for the Abyssinians, among their other numerous faults and shortcomings, have a constitutional antipathy to bathing, and the consequences of this little peculiarity are often painfully conspicuous to the educated nasal apparatus. Besides carrying their system of manual, pedal and bodily uncleanliness to the last possible point, they are found of elaborate headdresses, and these are prepared by drawing the natural allowance of hair up to the top of the cranium and fixing it there with a liberal amount of beeswax and mutton suet. Of course, under a tropical sun, the wax and suet melt and run down over the face and neck of the wearer of the coiffure, but a native-born Abyssinian does not mind a trifle like a stream of grease running over his forehead, but wipes it off as well as he can with the corner of the large square of cotton cloth that serves him as a tunic, and goes about his business. He has his head "made up" two or three times a month, and sleeps on a wooden pillow to avoid disarranging his hair, and the idea that anybody could object to the smell of a quantity of rancid fat never enters his head, while the presence of a large local population in his headdress, encouraged by the fact that fine tooth combs are unknown in Abyssinia, gives him no more concern nor inconvenience than the odor of the decaying suet.

The house of the Abyssinian gentleman is kept much as he keeps his head attire. In the abode of every man of quality there is a large room which is variously used as a living, dining, reception and almost every other kind of a room. In the center there is a table, made by driving four posts into the ground and placing boards upon them in such a way as to make a passable dining table, round which are placed blocks of wood, on which the guests seat themselves at the feast. The floor is covered with a dense matting of grass, and when guests are expected a fresh supply is placed on top of the previous layer. As this primitive carpet is made the receptacle for all the fragments of food that are thrown away, the cups of water and beer dregs left at the bottom of the mugs being also tarown into it, while the domestic animals, mules, goats, horses and fowls use the room as a means of entrance to their quarters in the rear, back doors being considered dangerous, the grassy matting in the course of a few weeks becomes so odoriferous

KING MENELIK II.

that even the Abyssinian nose becomes indignant, and the conclusion is arrived at that the carpet must be taken up. So it is, and the house is left untenanted for two or three days to air. At the end of that time, a new carpet of fresh grass is laid, and the same process is repeated year after year.

To most readers the Abyssinians are known principally from Bruce's story of the manner in which they cut steaks from living animals. This is one of the few yarns of that great traveler which has received only partial corroboration from the lips of recent travelers, but all agree that from what they have seen of the Abyssinians, the thing is quite possible today, even with all the improvements that have been made in the condition of these people during the last century. One of the most recent observers, noting particularly the manner of preparing food for use, has given an exact schedule of what may be called the etiquette of butchering. According to this account, when an ox is slaughtered at the door of the king's palace, the flesh is divided according to a perfectly understood system. Every part of the animal belongs, of right, to some member of the household. The gunners on guard, or sentinels, have the strip down the chest; the man who washes the royal apparel has the second joint of the right foreleg; while the shield bearer has the same portion of the left; the royal wood cutters and carriers enjoy the privilege of killing and skinning the beast, and for their perquisites are entitled to cut a small bit from every portion of the carcass, all the others meantime watching with jealous care to see that this bit is not too large; of the heap of fragments thus collected, the wood cutters take two-thirds, while the beaters of the royal drums get the remainder. The neck, paunch and liver belong to the grass cutters; the thigh bones, with adhering meat, to the women who carry the pots of royal beer when the king is on a journey; the porters of the king's baggage take the fat of the intestines and the shoulder bones, with the meat sticking to them; the fifers of the royal army, each like the wood cutters, have a bit from every leading part of the carcass; the court jester has the gristle from the ribs; the royal scribe has a piece from the shoulder; the cooks have the membrane of the abdomen; and so on, until the whole carcass is divided, each understanding perfectly what is his portion. After all this exactness of division the question is natural, what does the king get? The answer is easy. The royal share is composed of the tongue, the cheeks and the hump; the tongue to make him wise, the cheeks to render him brave in battle, and the hump because it is about the only part of an African steer that is really good to eat, being composed of a substance in consistency and flavor greatly resembling marrow. All three must be presented to him as fresh as possible, and so great is the anxiety on this point that the carvers frequently begin on the king's portion before the animal is dead.

Such people as these, no matter what their nominal religion, are not easy to civilize, and the real task before the Italians will begin after the population has been conquered. The conquest and military occupation will prove a matter of no great difficulty. The hill forts of the Abyssinians are in strong natural positions, and, occupied by a force of civilized troops, the mountain passes would be impregnable to any body of men that could be brought against them, but there is not the slightest expectation that the natives will be able to hold their own against the veteran battalions that will be brought into the field, so it is highly probable that in the course of a few months some other methods of dividing a slaughtered ox will be in vogue in the capital of the ancient Ethiopia.

A CANADIAN LEADER.

Editor Willison, of Toronto Globe, Talks of Manitoba School Question.

J. S. Willison, editor of the Toronto Globe, the organ of the Liberal party of Canada and the chief opponent of the coercion of Manitoba on the school question, arrived in the city Friday, accompanied by Mrs. Willison, on a visit to the latter's sister, Mrs. Jane Wright, at 908 Fifth street.

Mr. Willison is 38 years of age, and has a fine figure, erect and well-formed. He is a splendid talker, good natured and refined. He wears a brown beard; his baldness is becoming quite noticeable. The conventional spotted gray suit is the principal English characteristic in his dress. His three brothers are naturalized Americans, his two sisters are the wives of Americans of Canadian birth, and he is about as well informed on American affairs as any American.

"This is my first visit to the West," said Mr. Willison last evening to a Post-Intelligencer reporter. "Friends have advised me to make the trip years ago, but I now see my mistake in not having done so long ago. We have only visited the Canadian provinces, traveling considerably in the country with a team. The country is a wonderful one and has great resources."

The abolition of the separate schools, or what Americans would call Catholic schools, in Manitoba has been a subject of much discussion in the Canadian newspapers since 1890. The Globe has consistently held that Manitoba has the right to decide that question for herself. Regarding this question Mr. Willison said:

"As the union formed in 1867 only comprised Ontario and Quebec, and the province of Manitoba was not organized until 1870, the Globe holds that Manitoba has the right to settle the school question without interference from the Dominion government. She abolished the separate schools in 1890, and the question went into court, and has been carried to the privy council. The government now says to Manitoba that the separate school must be re-established, and threatens to coerce the province. This course we oppose, and have done so from the start. The same question was settled by Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island by abolishing the sectarian schools, and the privy council has sustained the action. Manitoba has the same right.

"It is not a party issue. The Liberal party is largely composed of Catholics, yet we as Liberals and numerous members of the party oppose the separate schools for Manitoba; that is, unless Manitoba wants them. It is not a question of Catholics against Protestants, but one of states' rights."

Mr. Willison is a brilliant journalist, an able writer and a man of prominence second to very few indeed within the Dominion. His paper is the most widely circulated and the most influential. It is the mouthpiece of the Liberal party. For sixty years it has favored free trade, and has opposed every step toward the present high tariff of Canada. Mr. Willison is of the opinion that the Liberal party in Canada resembles that of England principally in name. He thinks that the political union with America is not considered seriously by Canadians.

SIXTY-ONE MILES AN HOUR.

Speed of an Electric Locomotive on the Baltimore & Ohio.

Baltimore, Sept. 6.—Electric locomotive No. 11 on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, attained a speed of sixty-one miles an hour on the Baltimore tunnel line today. The burst of speed was made on the heavy grade of the tunnel, and the engineer says it was equivalent to seventy-five miles an hour on a level track.

MARINE NEWS.

Port Gamble, Sept. 6.—Special.—Arrived—Schooner Comet, Capt. Tonstrom, to load for San Pedro; schooner John D. Tallant, to load for San Francisco. Sailed—Barkentine Klickitat, Capt. Cutler, for San Francisco.

Hoquiam, Sept. 6.—Sailed—Schr Sailor Boy, from Aberdeen, for San Francisco. Arrived—Tug Colman, from Seattle.

San Francisco, Sept. 7.—Arrived—Schooner Marion, Gray's Harbor. Cleared—Bertha, Unalaska; Progressist, Nanaimo. Departed—Steamer Levi C. Burgess, Tacoma; City of Puebla, Victoria and Port Townsend; Alice Blanchard, Portland.

Freights and charters—British bark Brussels, now at Portland, flour, thence to Cork, U. K.; British steamer Pass of Brander, now at Portland, wheat, thence to U. K., Havre, Australia or Dunkirk.

Passengers on the City of Puebla.

The steamer City of Puebla sailed from San Francisco Saturday with these passengers:

For Victoria—P. J. Dahlen, Mrs. G. Graham, Miss P. Dahlen, Miss G. Viratt, Miss De Viratt, Mrs. A. Kernay, Miss L. McKitrick, Mrs. Gosthwall, Thomas Collins, A. J. Thomas, J. Gregory, D. O. Callaghan.

Port Townsend—Miss A. Keeling, H. McLennan.

Everett—H. Salinger, Henry Lewis, T. J. Golden.

Seattle—C. McElrith and wife, Mrs. L. Leslie, Miss L. Rogers, Mrs. Breckenfeld, Samuel Blair, M. E. Clough, Miss Blair, A. O. Connor, Miss H. Mills, Miss B. Bishop, Miss Bray, J. Dodds, W. Fulton, C. S. Whitcomb, J. S. Moore, C. W. Rathburn, J. Stewart, E. D. Chopin, Miss M. Thompson, J. H. Thompson, Mrs. J. B. Wright, Miss L. C. Randall, Miss C. Randall, Charles Plummer, Mrs. E. H. Plummer, S. H. Griffith.

Tacoma—Dr. Beede, R. J. Blake, Mrs. Wason, Miss Baggs, Miss L. M. Lissa, Mrs. W. Worthing, M. W. Horr, C. L. Donohue, Mrs. J. Engdale, Mrs. L. E. Sullivan, J. W. Irwin.

WATER FRONT NOTES.

Steamer Willapa is due from Alaska today.

Schooner Caroline has returned to the halibut banks.

Steamer Greyhound has been chartered by the Sons of Hermann for an excursion to Everett.

Schooner Prosper at Tacoma will go to sea tomorrow afternoon with lumber for San Pedro.

Four-masted schooner Olga finished discharging at Schwabacher's dock yesterday and at 1 p. m. left for Tacoma in tow of the tug J. E. Boyden. She will load lumber at the St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber Company's mill.

Steamer Gen. Canby took her second cargo of 8,000 brick to the Port Orchard dry dock yesterday.

Steamer Rosalie took a carload of peanuts to Victoria last night and a quantity of bonded merchandise.

Schooner Gen. Banning will begin loading in San Francisco September 10 with merchandise for this port.

Tug Magic towed the barkentine Eureka and the schooner Mary Russ to Tacoma yesterday, arriving at daylight.

Steamer State of Washington, at Fidalgo City, yesterday morning cracked her shaft and was delayed there for the day. She will be towed in by the tug Magic.

Tug Discovery towed the bark Enoch Talbott from sea to Port Angeles for orders, arriving yesterday morning. The Discovery then went to Departure Bay for the bark Forest Queen, coal laden for Honolulu.

W. L. Gritman, wharfinger of the Colman dock, has accepted the position of purser of the steamer Bay City and began his new duties last evening. Mr. Gritman has gained a large acquaintance among the traveling public on the down Sound routes and has won many friends.

Steamer Brick of New Whatcom was in port yesterday. She is a well-known vessel of eight years' jobbing upon the Sound but when she steamed into port yesterday morning she was hardly known by any of the old-timers upon the water front, as she has been rebuilt from the guard rail up.

The San Francisco board of supervisors have fixed the tax levy for city and county purposes at $1.53 on each $100 valuation of property. With the state levy this makes a total of $2.22.

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JOY'S VEGETABLE SARSAPARILLA.

is made from herbs, and contains no mineral drugs or deadly poison. Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla robs the blood of all its impurities, and courses all these impurities through nature's own proper channels. Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla cures Dyspepsia, Chronic Constipation, Liver Complaints and Kidney Affections.

DR. DARRIN'S PLACE OF BUSINESS.

Dr. Darrin can be consulted at his permanent head office, 942½ Pacific avenue, Tacoma, Wash.

He makes a specialty of all chronic, nervous and private diseases of whatever nature. Consultation free. Charges low and reasonable. Office hours: 10 a. m. to 8 p. m. daily. Correspondence solicited. Inquiries answered. Circulars and question blanks sent free. All business relations with Dr. Darrin strictly confidential. No names published without consent.

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The Puget Sound & Central American Steamship Co.

Will dispatch on or about Sept. 15 the A1 steel steamship TRANSIT, 1,333 tons, for principal ports in Central America.

For freight or passage apply at office of the company.

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This is the sign and seal of the BEST 5c Cigar on earth. Few better at 10c. Many smokers in the habit of using Clear Havanas lighter at 2 for a quarter, need a milder smoke between meals. La Florida fills the bill, and you can test it at a cost of 5c. Demand this cigar from your dealer and refuse substitutes, as there is nothing equal made. It is a blend of imported and seed Havana tobacco, and is made only at TAMPA, FLORIDA, by THE FLORIDA CIGAR CO.

N. B.—A 6-in Stuffed Alligator Ash Receiver like above cut will be forwarded on receipt of $1 and this ad.

Chichester's English Diamond Brand.

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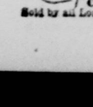

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