

AS OTHERS SEE US

South Americans Do Not Hold Us In High Esteem.

Bassett Staines in the Washington Evening Star.

"Figure it to yourself, señor," exclaimed the excited Columbian, as he sipped his aguardiente in a posada at Cali, a town far in the interior of his country. "You Americans would construct the canal at Panama and you say it would bring much commerce and great riches to our country. Buono! But what then? You would make slaves of our people. You would overrun the country, introducing all manner of vice and crime and disease. You would even—this as a final, unanswerable argument—"build railroads."

"Well!" asked the American, "and wouldn't that be a good thing for you?" "A good thing!" the Columbian grew more excited than ever, and waved his arms frantically! "Why, it would spoil my mule business! What should we all do with our mules when everybody sent goods by the railroad. We should have to eat them!"

FOREIGNERS ARE DISLIKED.

"We do not want you strangers to come here and worry us. You can not make even 5 tents in your own country, so you come to ours to make money out of the honest, trusting, truthful Colombians who know nothing of your scheming ways. We wish to have nothing to do with you. We get along very well by ourselves."

This man expressed the sentiments of his race and of most of Spanish-Americans. Even wealthy and educated Colombians share his views. They dislike and despise foreigners and firmly believe that Colombia is the biggest pebble on the beach. Outside of its borders, they hold there is little or nothing worth counting. Spain is the one foreign country they indorse.

The dwellers on the Isthmus of Panama are the only exceptions to this general rule. They believe in foreigners and foreign institutions, and are naturally anxious to see the canal finished. But then a Panamanian is not reckoned as a Columbian by the other Colombians. He is a despised "gringo," just like an American or an Englishman.

The untraveled South American is absolutely incredulous when he is told about the wonders of foreign lands.

QUEER VIEWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

"When I lived in Cali," said an Englishman who had just come to this country after a residence of several years in Venezuela, "there was a man from Dayton, O., staying there. One evening we were with some Colombians, and he started telling them about the wonderful things in Dayton, O.—the cars that ran without mules, the four-story buildings and the fire engines. They were politely incredulous, so I thought I would strain their faith a bit more by telling them about New York.

"I described the Brooklyn bridge and the twenty-story skyscrapers—I dared not go higher. When I told them there were seven roads on the bridge and that hundreds of thousands of people passed over it every day, they looked at me sadly and reproachfully, and I overheard one of them whisper to another, "Caramba! That man lies much better than the other one."

"Do you have butter and milk in New York?" another Columbian asked an American. "You can't have! You say that the place is nothing but houses closely packed together. Where, then, do you keep the cows?" "Are you married?" the same man inquired. "You can't be. You were not married here, and I know there are no churches in your country. You are all heretics there, although some of you pretend to be Catholics when you come here."

And nothing would persuade him that the United States were not entirely destitute of the means of grace.

In Colombia and other South American countries the people have curious ideas regarding social clubs. They think a club is simply a superior kind of saloon into which any well-dressed man can walk and order up a drink. Their own clubs are conducted on that principle.

When the foreigners resident in a certain Columbian town started a club of their own, they found it necessary to put a notice over the door, "The Strangers' Club is not a public place." That enraged the natives. "How dare they forbid Colombians to enter their club?" one of the local newspapers asked indignantly. "If

they have the insolence to do this now, what will they do when the Yankees build the canal?"

COLOMBIA DEFILES THE WORLD.

Of the power of foreign countries the average South American has no conception. The Colombians, for example, think that their two or three leaky, rusty little gunboats constitute the greatest navy in the world. A few months ago, when irritated by foreign criticisms, the newspapers in Bogotá advocated an immediate declaration of war against Ecuador, Venezuela, the United States and Germany. They put the four countries on a level for military purposes.

"Let us," they said, "show these people that we will not endure the things they say about us. Let us fight them all and show the whole world that Colombia is able to punish those who malign her."

During the last revolution, in the course of which over a hundred thousand Colombians perished, Gen. Bonilla, the Governor of the Cauca department, wanted to transport some troops from Buenaventura to Panama. A British mail steamer happened to be at the former port so he wired from Cali to the officials there to seize her and use her as a transport.

The captain and crew refused to work the ship, and the British consul cabled to Panama and brought down a British cruiser, which trained its guns on the town.

Gov. Bonilla received a telegram telling him about this new development while he was at a public banquet. He scribbled a reply, and then rose and made a flamboyant speech.

"I have ordered the officials at Buenaventura," he said, "to seize the cruiser as well. We shall find it useful in fighting the revolutionists. Colombia will brook no interference in her affairs. If the strangers trouble us any more, we will close the port of Buenaventura, and the United States and Europe will not get any coffee. That will punish them effectually."

THE BARBAROUS FOREIGNER'S FIST.

"What savages you strangers are!" exclaimed a prominent Venezuelan statesman to an English trader when the latter told him that the foreigners' club in Caracas had purchased some sets of boxing gloves and the members were practicing the noble art of self-defense. "Why don't you settle your quarrels with the revolver or the sword or the knife, like gentlemen? Your fighting is most brutal and barbarous."

All South Americans hold that view, and they fear the naked fist as they fear nothing else.

"If you draw a revolver or a knife on a South American," said a man who has traveled right through the continent, "he won't turn a hair, for he is brave enough in mortal combat. But if you double up your fist and threaten to punch his head, he wilts right away. The Colombians are particularly afraid of the fist, for an Englishman once struck a Columbian between the eyes and killed him on the spot. That case created a great sensation throughout Colombia and convinced the people that all foreigners were barbarians.

Southern Pacific Steamships.

Mr. A. B. Weaver, a prominent citizen of Beaumont, is in the city to-day. Mr. Weaver states that Beaumont is thriving and indications for future thrift are very flattering, says the Houston Chronicle. Speaking of the Southern Pacific steamship service, recently inaugurated, Mr. Weaver said he was among the first patrons of this service and would continue as such during the balance of his life.

"There's nothing equal to the Southern Pacific steamship service anywhere," said he. "It not only makes schedule time, but passengers are made to feel like they were guests of honor all the time, and a trip on one of the Southern Pacific's steamships is a rare treat indeed."

The Influence of the Youth's Companion.

The gospel of good cheer brightens every page of THE YOUTH'S COMPANION. Although the paper is nearly seventy-seven years of age, it does not look back on the past as a better period than the present.

THE COMPANION believes that the time most full of promise is

the time we are living in, and every weekly issue reflects this spirit of looking forward and not back.

To more than half a million American families it carries every week its message of cheer. Its stories picture the true characteristics of the young men and women of America. Its articles bring nearly three million readers in touch with the best thought of the most famous of living men and women.

Annual Announcement Number fully describing the principal features of THE COMPANION'S new volume for 1904 will be sent to any address free.

The new subscriber for 1904 will receive all the issues of THE COMPANION for the remaining weeks of 1903 free from the time of subscription, also THE COMPANION Calendar for 1904, lithographed in twelve colors and gold.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION,
144 Berkeley Street,
Boston, Mass.

Pilette Items.

"To follow not to lead; to fulfill not to ordain" has to be the motto of any little place. Therefore, we can not be apparently exemplary in every performance of duty. This week a little leisure was allotted—Christmas came and gladdened every heart, brightened every gloomy-looking face, cheered every frowning countenance, convinced every despondent, encouraged every destitute, soothed every despairing one, sobered all who were intoxicated with loss of hope, revived every one of those who longed for death; thus enthroned general happiness, joy, laughter, brought closer the ties of friendship and love; and dried tears, smoothed hatred and sorrow. But, before I leave this thought I must tell what brought about these few remarks. It was the festivals at every fireside at which the kitchen, a temple so worshipped and inviting at this time of year, showed luxurious eatables proportionate to the splendid harvest of the season.

More attention should be given to the Pin Hook bridge. Patching serves no purpose. Vehicles passing on the bridge shake the whole construction, and the holes are so dangerous sometimes that horses are subject to slip their feet through and suffer serious injury. Those in charge of the bridge should bear in mind that the "safety" and "welfare" of the families of this section of the parish are more "concerned" in that bridge being repaired and well kept than the undesired slam cast upon the whole people of the parish by my friend, "A Countryman" in his unfortunate pessimistic views in the event of the worthy "untried young man" landing in the office of sheriff. I desire to say, also, that the kind proposition made by one of our friends of Lafayette to make Lafayette and Pilette into one, entitled "Greater Lafayette," in purpose, in heart, in spirit and in soul will fail to reach the harmonic impulse of our "Baby-town," unless the bridge is better cared for.

Miss Rochell spent Christmas in Royville with relatives and friends.

Among those who attended the Royville Fair Sunday, were Misses Philomene Bonin, Josephine Broussard, Ella Comeaux, Rita Broussard, and Messrs. Pryn Broussard, Albert A. Meaux, Arthur Comeaux, Cesaire Broussard, Edmond Bonin and Alcee Guidry.

HARMACHIS.

Happy New Year.

We respectfully invite the public to call and inspect our HOLIDAY GOODS before buying.

T. M. BLOSSAT.

\$50,000 Capital Stock.

The Merchants' Grocer Company, Ltd.

Lafayette, La.

Staple and Fancy Groceries.

FLOUR, MEAT, SALT.

Wooden and Willow Ware.

GRAIN and FEED STUFF.

We solicit business on the basis of STANDARD GOODS AT LOWEST RULING PRICES.

Strictly Wholesale.

Felix Demande, J. R. Jeanmard, G. A. DeBlanc.
Pres. and Mgr. Vice-President. Sec. and Treas.

The Voice of Wisdom!

"Is not marriage an open question, when it is alleged, from the beginning of the world, that such as are in the institution wish to get out, and such as are out wish to get in?"—Montaigne.

Red Hair Preferred.

This is a bona fide advertisement in a paper: "Stenographer; typewriter; no beginners; with red hair preferred; permanent." (And red hair has just been barred from the stage!)

Holds Record for Arrests.

A prominent Cleveland (O.) motorist holds a unique record. He has been arrested thirty-seven times for exceeding the speed limits of various cities and towns.

A writer in a Detroit paper speaks of love as "a beautiful and wonderful thing." What that writer needs is to wake up.

Colored Societies and Lodges.

(Advertisement.)
There are quite a number of organizations among the colored population of Lafayette, several of them being benevolent societies for the purpose of affording assistance to their members in sickness and trouble. Among these societies are those of St. John and the True Friends. The other organizations are fraternal lodges, three of which are the Tabernacle, the Ladies' K. of H. of the World and the K. of P. On Friday night, Nov. 20, another lodge was added, when J. B. Jackson, G. M. of the Masons of the State of Louisiana, and his deputies organized Silver Ark Lodge No. 13, A. U. F. and A. M., with the following officers: Wm. Brinkley, W. M.; Matt Allen, S. W.; Jos. Dugas, J. W.; L. G. Warner, Secretary; Rufus Mouton, Treasurer; Harry City, S. D.; Jacob Dorsey, J. D.; Ernest Bernard, T.

Notice.

There will be a meeting of the stockholders of the Vordenbaumen Lumber Co., Ltd., at the office of the Company in the town of Lafayette at 4 p. m. Monday, Jan. 4, 1904, to transact such business as may come before them.
O. B. HOPKINS,
Secretary.

Notice.

There will be a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Vordenbaumen Lumber Co., Ltd., at their office in the town of Lafayette, at 2 p. m. Monday, Jan. 4, 1904.
O. B. HOPKINS,
Secretary.

Bank Dividend Notice.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank, held Dec. 15, a semi-annual dividend of ten per cent was declared, and made payable Jan. 1, 1904.
S. R. PARKERSON, Cashier.
Lafayette, La., Dec. 21, 1903. 2t

Notice.

The regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Lafayette to elect a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, will be held at the banking house Tuesday, January 12, 1904, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m.
S. R. PARKERSON, Cashier.
Lafayette, La., Dec. 7, 1903.

Notice!

Public notice is hereby given that the undersigned Street Committee of the town of Lafayette, La., in accordance with an ordinance adopted by the City Council of said town on December 7, 1903, is authorized to receive bids for the following work:

Starting from Grant Avenue at its intersection with Lincoln Avenue, on the North West side of said Lincoln Avenue, thence along the North West side of Lincoln Avenue to Pierce Street, thence along the North western side of Pierce Street to Jefferson Street, thence along the Western side of Jefferson Street to Vermillion Street.

All of said work to be done at the expense of the owners of the real estate abutting said walks, as provided by Act No. 147 of the acts of the Legislature of 1903 and of the ordinance adopted by the City Council of Lafayette thereunder. Contracts will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder who can give security in the sum of (25 per cent) twenty-five per cent of contract for faithful performance of contract. Copies of specifications of said work can be had from chairman street committee. Bids will be received up to January 1, 1904; right is reserved to reject all bids.

FELIX DEMANADE,
M. ROSENFELD,
H. L. FONTENOT,
Street Committee.
Lafayette, La., Dec. 11, 1903.

We Cure Morphine Habit.

We Have Discovered a Marvelous Remedy for Drug Habits

And We Give it To You Free.

We have found a marvelous remedy for restoring to perfect health, men and women suffering from the awful curse of drug habit. It matters not how long you have had it, how or when you got it. This is no ordinary drug or method of treatment. We are constantly curing the worst cases of drug habit known and give an unqualified guarantee to cure any case undertaken by us or refund your money. We urge every person suffering from this terrible disease to write us and we will send free a bottle of our marvelous remedy. We urge physicians having refractory cases and all who want to be cured of this awful curse to write us to-day. All correspondence confidential in plain envelopes. Address, MANHATTAN THERAPEUTIC ASSOCIATION, Dep't B., 1135 Broadway, New York, City.