REPUBLICS ONLY IN NAME.

Latin-American Countries Are Governed Upon Despotic Lines.

"Only in name does republicanism exist in the countries of South America," says a southern business man who recently returned from a tour of the Latin-American countries. "The Latin republics are the worst apologies for republics in the entire calendar of free states. Affairs in these republics are becoming better of late, but it is the simplest thing in the world to provoke a revolution. We are all familiar with the changes of government that have taken place within the last decade, but few understand how easy it has been, and still is in some of these republics, to precipitate a rebellion, turn a ruler out of office, upset a government, and create general anarchy. I was in one of these republics some years ago, when a revolution, or rather an attempt at revolution, occurred, for it was not a genuine success. I was, with a friend, about to go to breakfast when a party of about twenty men appeared in the street along which we were passing. About the same number of men came into sight from an opposite direction and the fun began. Every man had a cloak over his shoulders, though the weather was oppressively warm, and when they sighted each other the cloaks were thrown aside and more brass medals, rainbow-tinted ribbons, red sashes and other gorgeous insignia of something or other I never saw. They began firing at each other, and soon the street was filled with a multitude of troops and about an equal number of revolutionists. The government troops dispersed the rebels on this occasion, and when we left in the afternoon for our respective locations, the same national flags that were flying at sunrise were still hanging at their staffs. It was on this occasion a bloodless and futile revolution, and people went about their business on the next day with the same composure and contempt for one party or the other as they had on the day before the opera bouffe rebellion."

RIGID CENSORSHIP IN AUSTRIA.

Newspapers in Francis Joseph's Domain Must Not Speak Too Freely.

The editor of a small provincial paper in Austria was in great difficulty to find a fit subject for his leading article, having been too intent upon other business or upon pleasure to provide one. The last moment had come and the editor was in despair. He tortured his brain in vain, when he suddenly was inspired by a happy thought and dashed off the lines: "After carefully perusing the leading article written for the present number by one of the ablest of our contributors, we have arrived at the conclusion that it may be misinterpreted by the authorities and regarded as an attack upon the government. We ourselves consider it to be perfectly innocent, but, as we are unwilling, for our readers' sake, as well as for our own, to have our newspaper confiscated, we have very unwillingly, though, as we think, prudently, resolved to withdraw the article. This must serve as the apology to our readers for the blank space in our present issue." The journal was published in the evening, and the sly editor, after performing this little piece of stratagem, left the office in high humor. As soon as he arrived in the office next morning a clerk came up to him, with a doleful expression, and said, "Herr Redaktor, the paper is confiscated by the police!" "For what reason?" asked the astonished editor. "For malicious ridicule of the institutions of the Austrian empire by the omission of the leading article," replied the man.—New York Press.

WONDERFUL LAKE

Filled With Boiling Acids That Eat Boats to Pieces.

A strange lake exists in the center of Sulphur island, off New Zealand. It is 50 acres in extent, about 12 feet in depth and 15 feet above the level of the sea. The most remarkable characteristic of this lake is that the water contains vast quantities of hydrochloric and sulphuric acids, hissing and bubbling at a temperature of 110 degrees Fahrenheit. The dark green-colored water looks particularly uninviting. Dense clouds of sulphuric fumes constantly roll off this boiling caldron, and care has to be exercised in approaching this lake to avoid the risk of suffocation. On the opposite side of the lake may be seen the tremendous blow-holes, which, when in full blast, present an awe-inspiring sight. The roar of the steam as it rushes forth into the air is deafening, and often huge bowlders and stones are hurled out to a height of several hundred feet by the various internal forces of nature. A boat can be launched on the lake, and, if proper care be observed, the very edges of the blow-holes may be safely explored. Some idea of the strength of the acid-saturated water of this lake may be gathered from the fact that a boat almost dropped to pieces after all the passengers had been landed, as the rivets had corroded under the influence of the acids.

MYSTIC MESSAGE OF SORROW.

Chicago Man Mysteriously Learns of His Brother's Death in Manila.

A mystic message brought sad intelligence to Frank Fay Pratt of Chicago one day last week. It told him of the death of his twin brother, Fred Roe Pratt, which occurred in Manila. Frank was sitting down to dinner in his home in Chicago when suddenly the impression entered his mind that his brother had died. He could not tell whence the knowledge came, all he knew was that his brother was dead. He told his parents of his belief, of his knowledge, of the sad event, and then he hurried into the streets, where he walked up and down for hours, burdened with his grief. Three days later came a cablegram from Manila, telling that Fred Roe Pratt, who had been voyaging around the world, was dead and that his body was on a steamer bound for Japan. Fred left Chicago in December, 1898, in the company of a friend to make a tour of the world. It was their intention to visit nearly all the oriental countries, winding up in Australia. They had already visited China, Japan, Singapore and other places. Fred was born in Chicago and had practiced law with his brother until he started on this trip. The similarity between the twin brothers was so marked and striking that the first thought on seeing them together was to doubt one's eyesight. Not only in features and stature were they counterparts, but in actions, expression and general bearing also.

SHELL-DODGING.

Fine Art Practiced by the Soldiers Now in South Africa.

Frequent mention is made in the dispatches of war correspondents of "shell-dodging," and the average reader is at first at a loss to understand the precise meaning of the words, until their constant repetition leads one to believe that probably it is possible to see shells in their aerial flight, and consequently the soldiers are able to dodge them. A sergeant major of artillery, who has seen some active service all over the world, gives us some information about the true art. In all his long experience he said he had only seen three or four shells actually in the air, and they came from the gun he himself fired. He explained that there are few guns with a somewhat slow muzzle velocity, and the men firing these can sometimes catch a glimpse of the shells in their flight; but it would be impossible for any man to see a shot coming toward himself. Dodging shells is done by getting under cover immediately before a gun is actually fired. "For instance," said the sergeant major, "if I were climbing a hill, at the top of which a gun was directed against me, I could tell exactly when a shell was likely to come bounding along. Before the order is given to fire the men in charge of the piece 'stand clear,' and that is the warning note, so to speak. Keep your weather eye on the gun directed against you, and when the gunners stand clear you dodge the shot."

Tommy Atkin's Regimental Pets.

"Tommy Atkins" would be lost without his regimental pet, and Pietermaritzburg and Cape Town shelter a strange assortment of animals left behind for safe keeping while the more serious work of the campaign is on. The Gordon Highlanders took their parrot to South Africa, and the Welsh regiment was broken-hearted because it was feared that its pet goat was to be left behind. The story is told of how, in an Indian campaign, the commanding officer had commanded that only a certain number of dogs should accompany the regiment. When the men marched out it was noticed that the haversacks of some were strangely bulky and strangely lively. At the end of the day's march every pet dog of the regiment reappeared. Rather than lose their four-footed friends, the men had carried them a long, hot, twenty-mile march in their haversacks.—Indianapolis Press.

A "Don't Speak Evil" Society.

Springfield (Mo.) women have organized a "don't speak evil" society, each member signing this agreement: "I do hereby solemnly pledge my word to speak no evil of any woman, whether such report be true or not. Any violation of this pledge, however, does not release me from its subsequent obligations, which are to continue for all time to come." This is interpreted to mean: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

Iron Mountain Rates.

Special Excursion to Hot Springs Aug. 31

Leave regular train No. 222 at 4:55 p. m. from Pine Bluff; arrive at Hot Springs 11:25 p. m. Returning train leaves Hot Springs 5:50 a. m. Sept. 3; round trip $2. This promises to be the best excursion that has ever been run to Hot Springs and parties desiring a nice pleasant trip should avail themselves of this.

Hamburg, Ark., Aug. 16 to 20, Woman's Missionary Association. Return from Montrose at one-third fare on certificate plan. limit of certificate Aug. 23.

Texarkana, Aug. 20-25, Supreme Lodge K. of H. (colored). Return at one-third fare on certificate plan, limit return Aug. 29.

Dermott, Ark., Aug. 29 to Sept. 3, District Conference. Return at one-third fare on certificate plan, return limit Sept. 6.

Beebe, Ark., Sept. 16 to 24, Camp Meeting Return at one third fare on certificate plan, return limit Sept. 28.

Colorado springs, Aug. 21 to 31. Tickets on sale Aug. 18 and 19 at rate of $30.50 for round trip, Final return limit Sept. 20. For other information call on H. M. Attwood, agent.

Texarkana, August 22 to 25. Return at one-third fare on the certificate plan, Limit of certificate, August 29. Account Supreme Lodge (Knights of Honor) colored.

The I M & S will sell tickets to Colorado and Utah on June 19 and 20, July 3, 9 17 and August 1, 7 and 21. Stopover will be allowed west of Colorado common points within limit of 30 days on going trip. Final limit of all tickets Oct 31st.

Biennial Conclave Knights of Pythias, at Detroit, Michigan, August 27 to Sept. 1, I. M. & S. Ry. will sell round trip tickets from this place at $26.05 on August 25, 26 and 27 with return limit not earlier than August 28 nor later than Sept. 5th except that tickets will be limited to Sept. 14 if presented to Joint agent on or before Sept. 1 and upon payment of Joint agency fee 50c.

Summer Resorts.

From Pine Bluff to Mt. Nebo and return, $7.80
Searcy Springs and return, 4.10
Ravenden " " " 7.75

Tickets on sale now and will continue until close of business, Searcy Sept. 15; Mt. Nebo Oct. 1; Ravenden, Sept. 30. All tickets limited for return passage to Oct 31, 1900. Parties wishing to spend the summer in nice, cool, healthy places should try the above.

Boonville, Arkansas, August 9th to 20th. Arkansas Conference Seventh Day Adventurists. Return from Little Rock at one-third fare on certificate plan, Limit of certificate, August 23rd.

Forrest City, August 14th to 18th. Grand Lodge, Colored Freemans of the State of Arkansas. Round trip tickets $4.25 from Pine Bluff. Days of sale, August 13 and 14. Return limit, August 20.

G. A. R., Chicago, Ill. August 27th to September 1st, 1900. The Iron Mountain Route will sell tickets for the above at one fare for the round trip. Dates of sale August 24th to 27th inclusive. Limit for return September 1st, except by depositing ticket and paying 50 cents joint agency fee, tickets will be extended for return September 30. This is a splendid chance for parties wishing a pleasant and cheap trip. The I. M. & S. will put you in Chicago in less than 24 hours.

CHOCTAW ROUTE.

The following special low rate excursions have been offered by the Choctaw Route:

National Encampment G. A. R., Chicago, Aug 27 to Sept 1, 1900 The Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf Ry offers through its Memphis gateway absolutely the best of service and quickest time to Chicago Tickets on sale August 24 to 27 at very low rates, and limited for return passage to Sept 1

Colored Carnival, Hot Springs, Arkansas, Aug 27 to Sept 1, 1900 For this occasion the Choctaw Route will sell round trip tickets to Hot Springs at extremely low rates on August 29, good for return passage Sept 1

Detroit, Mich--Knights of Pythias Conclave—Tickets on sale August 25, 26 and 27, at one fare plus $2.00 for the round trip, and limited for return passage until September 5, with privilege of extension until Sept. 14

For rates and other information call on nearest railroad agent, or write J. F. Holden, Traffic Manager, Little Rock, Ark.

Cotton Belt Bulletin.

Annual Encampment G. A. R., Chicago, Ill., Aug. 27 to Sept. 1, 1900. The following round trip rates will apply to Chicago for this occasion: From Little Rock, $16.95; From Pine Bluff, $16.05.

Baptist Meeting, McGaughy, Ark., Aug. 15-20, 1900. Rate: Open rate of one and one-third fares for the round trip Dates of sale, Aug. 15-20, Return limit, Aug. 21.

Farmers' National Congress, Colorado Springs, Colo., Aug. 21-31. Rate: One fare plus $2 for the round trip. Dates of sale: August 18th and 19th, Return limit: Sept. 20.

Special excursions to Colorado and Utah points, June, July and August, 1900 Rate of one fare plus $2.00 round trip. Sale June 10-30 July 3-9 and 17, Aug. 7 and 21. Return limit Oct 31.

Biennial Meeting Conclave Knights of Pythias, Detroit, Mich., Aug. 27th to Sept. 1st, 1900. Rate: One fare plus $2 for the round trip. Dates of sale: August 25, 26 and 27, Return limit, September 5, 1900.

Summer Tourists Rates, Season 1900.

TO SEARCY SPRINGS—Rate, $4.10. Date of sale, May 15 to Sept 15, 1900, inclusive. Return limit, Oct 31, 1900.

RAVENDEN SPRINGS—Rate, $7.75. Dates of sale, June 1 to Sept. 30, 1900, Return limit, Oct. 31, 1900.

St. Louis Fair, St. Louis, Mo., Oct, 1-6, 1900, inclusive. Rate, one fare for the round trip, Dates of sale, Sept. 30 to Oct, 5, inclusive and for trains arriving in St. Louis before noon of Oct. 6, Return limit Oct, 8th, 1900.

St. Louis Exposition, St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 17 to Oct. 20, 1900. Rate, open rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip. Dates of sale, Sept. 16, 18, 20, 25, 27; Oct. 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 1000. Return limit five days from date of sale.

Ouachita Valley Fair, Camden, Ark., Oct. 15-20, 1900, Open rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip. Dates of sale, Oct, 14 20, Return limit Oct 21, 1900.

Sovereign Grand Lodge I. O. O. F., Richmond, Va., Sept 17-22, 1900 Rate, one fare plus $2 for the round trip Dates of sale, Sept 14-15 Return limit, Sept 25