

CURRENT EVENTS.

The National Fishery Congress met at Tampa Fla., last week.

Anti-semitic riots are reported in Paris and the French colony in Algiers.

Japan evidently proposes to take a hand in the disposal of China's affairs, having sent nine warships to the scene.

John W. Griggs, governor of New Jersey, has been nominated by the president to succeed McKenna as attorney-general.

The executive committee of the Mull Spinners' Union has ordered a strike of the spinners of Lowell and New Bedford, Mass.

McKenna's nomination as associate justice of the United States supreme court vice Stephen J. Field resigned, has been confirmed.

A bill has been introduced into Congress providing for a subsidy of \$125,000 per year for 20 years for a cable to Hawaii. After that time the services will cost the government nothing.

According to statistics at the treasury department the value of exports by the United States for the calendar year of 1897 aggregated \$1,100,000,000, an increase of \$93,000,000 over any preceding year.

The Senate decided to proceed at once to the consideration of the resolution introduced a few days ago by Teller, providing for the payment of the bonds of the United States in silver at the option of the government.

It is now the intention of the government to start the Yukon relief expedition to Skagway on the steamer Elder, which will sail from Portland, Or., on February 1st. The supplies will follow a week later by the steamer Oregon.

Blanco, the third general sent by Spain to put down the Cuban rebellion, is proving himself no more successful than were his predecessors. "Down with Blanco," is the cry, and even Cubans loyal to Spain demand his withdrawal.

Cuba continues to be the paramount question in congress, and in the debates the McKinley administration is severely censured for its inactivity in the matter. The administration claims to be waiting to see how the autonomous plan inaugurated, January 1st will work.

The fight between the Denver newspapers and the fourteen large department stores of the city regarding advertising rates ended with the unconditional surrender of the merchants' association. The fight was precipitated by the demand, by the advertisers, for a re-

duction of about 20 per cent in the rates for advertising and the withdrawal of all patronage when the demand was denied.

Six cases of yellow fever are reported at Edwards, Miss.

The Ohio legislative committee to investigate the charges of bribery against Mark Hanna, met on the 22d, with a big crowd of prominent men present.

Forty-five Klondikers arrived at Seattle on the 22d. They report that Fort Yukon has been under martial law for some time, and rations are dealt out daily, those who have no money being required to saw wood in payment.

REFLECTED RAYS.

The acquisition of knowledge is so solid a good in itself that it can never be lost.—[Epicurus.

If some Christians we know are going to heaven, the angelic choir will get some pretty hard criticism before it has sung more than two hymns.—[Investigator.

When ministers appeal to the police power, or seek to have laws enacted or enforced, it shows the lack of faith in the power of that God whose servants they profess to be.—[Commoner.

The more mystical a religious belief is, so it would seem, the better chance it has for obtaining a considerable following. Many seem to reason in regard to religion that the less you understand of it the surer it is to be profoundly true.—[New York Voice.

During one year the missionaries in the vicinity of Cesarea, Turkey, gave medical treatment to about 9,000 natives. Christ said that his followers could always be identified by their possession of the power to cure diseases by the laying on of hands. Evidently these missionaries are not true followers of their pretended Lord and Master, for they surely would not have resorted to medical treatment when a mere touch would have accomplished the desired result just as well.—[Investigator.

A Trenton, N. J., preacher couldn't hold his crowd of dupes otherwise so he got a lot of pretty girl ushers and had them pass the contribution boxes. The girls drew not only a crowd but dollars as well. The parson admonished the audience that "the Lord loves a cheerful giver," and sent the sirens forth after the dollars. The first assault on the parishioners' purses netted \$300. If the preacher keeps up that gait very long he will soon be able to capitalize the proceeds and start other kinds of confidence games.—[Free Society.

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