HELP THE ISLANDS

Position of Foraker Respecting the Philippines.

WANTED DUTIES STILL LOWER

Ought to Treat Them as Our Own, Not as Foreigners—If We Can't Do That, He Would Move for Absolute Free Trade.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 22.—No man in the Senate is more sincere in his advocacy of legislation tending to upbuild the industries of the Philippine Islands than is Senator Foraker, of Ohio. When a recent attempt was made by Senator Lodge to pass the Philippine tariff bill, Senator Foraker stoutly opposed a reduction to only 50 per cent of the Dingley rates. He contended for a still greater reduction to 25 per cent of the Dingley rates on all goods imported into the United States from the islands, and in advocacy of this reduction, said:

"It is now perfectly apparent to everybody that we have a condition of distress in the Philippine Islands that is largely due to the fact that for the products of those islands they have no market, and we owe it to that people—our own, as they are—to give them a market.

"When the bill was passed providing that the tariff should be 75 per cent of the Dingley rates on products coming into this country from the Philippine Islands, I then wanted to put it down to 25 per cent. I wanted to put it down to 25 per cent because the information I then had as to the situation in the Philippine Islands led me to believe that there could not be any prosperity in those islands unless the people there were given a market for their products, and this is the only country which can give them a market for their products.

"What was then predicted has come to pass. They have poverty and suffering and need help. If we put the duty at 50 per cent we do it in the face of the recommendations of Governor Taft, and of everybody else who is charged with the responsibility of government in the Philippine Islands. Our experiment of government there will be an absolute failure, in my judgment, unless we make conditions there which will admit of prosperity.

"If we are going out into the sea to take in acquisitions of territory of this character, we must do it with the understanding that they become our possessions, and that we become responsible not only for their government, but for their prosperity as well, and that we must treat them accordingly.

"I believe we ought to treat them as our own; not as foreigners. I have looked into this matter enough to satisfy me that there is no danger to any interest in this country from opening our markets to the Filipinos; and if there were it would be only from the competition of one part of our country with another part. If we were to admit all of their sugar and all of their tobacco here absolutely free of duty, in my judgment, we would not be doing anything more than we ought to do.

"If it comes to the point where, on account of these objecting industries, we cannot treat our own as our own should be treated, I shall move that we have absolute free trade between the United States and the Philippine Islands.

Philippine Sugar Production.

Senator Foraker stated that the Philippines this year would produce not over 10,000 tons of sugar. Senator Patterson, of Colorado, at once interposed a few remarks, prophesying that if the rate on sugar should be reduced to 25 per cent, in ten years the sugar industry of the islands would be built up to such proportions that they would be able to supply the whole demand of the United States, to the extermination of the beet and cane-sugar industry of this country. Senator Teller argued on the same line, and pointed out grave danger ahead for the American sugar industry when it came in competition with sugar of the Philippines produced by cheap labor. Both Colorado Democrats, however, were forced to admit that they wanted a duty on Philippine sugar because of the "protection" it afforded the industries of their state, admissions that brought smiles to the faces of a number of Republican Senators. To the arguments of Patterson and Teller, Senator Foraker said:

"If we are going to hold the Philippine Islands, I want the Philippine Islands to have prosperity. What is produced in the Philippine Islands is an American production, and we should protect and develop it the same as any other production of any other part of our country. We should not bar them out of our markets as to their natural products and drive them into something that is not natural to them as an industry. They must live; and they must prosper, or all we do is failure.

"When Senators talk about sugar, they should remember that we consume in this country 2,500,000 tons per annum. Of that amount we produce in this country and in all our possessions less than 1000 tons. We must have 1,500,000 tons from some place; and why not have this 1,500,000 tons from our own people, instead of getting it from Germany or from some other country, as we are doing today?

"I believe in giving to the people of the Philippine Islands—who are today in distress more than for any other reason because they have no market in which to sell their products—the American market on reasonable terms.

"I would not favor putting any duty on their products coming into this country, except only to furnish revenue for the support of their government. It is because their government needs revenue that I am willing that we may impose some duty on goods coming into this country, which duty is to be collected for the benefit of that government. Otherwise I should be in favor of treating their products just as we treat the products of any other part of our country. The policy of protection has been protection against the products of foreign countries. We have never had protection against the products of our own country—one state or section against another—and I hope we never shall."

Public Land Commission.

Toward the close of every short session of Congress numerous resolutions are proposed authorizing the appointment of commissions for various purposes, to hold sessions during the recess. Some are for Congressional commissions, and others are for the appointment of civilians for one purpose or another. The most important commission proposed to be created this session is one to make inquiry and report respecting the present operation of several of the public land laws, with a view to recommending such modifications as may be deemed necessary. It is suggested that this commission be made up of persons having special knowledge of the public land laws, who would, if appointed, be required to make a careful inquiry regarding the operation of the timber and stone act, the desert land law, the commutation clause of the homestead act, and also report on some feasible method whereby the Government could sell timber from unreserved public lands, and to devise a practical means of regulating grazing on the arid and semiarid public lands not susceptible of irrigation. While no doubt the creation of such a commission would be theoretically advisable, yet it would be a waste of good Government funds. The commission would have no authority whatever. It could merely make a report to Congress, and its report would not change a single vote in either the Senate or House. Senators and members today know how they regard the laws referred to, and would vote after the report of this commission, exactly as they would vote today were they given an opportunity to support or condemn the standing laws. There is considerable doubt whether the pending resolution will pass.

Delay on Big Guns.

It has become apparent that the naval gun factory in Washington, which turns out most of the big guns used on the battleships and cruisers of the American Navy, is not of sufficient capacity to supply the increasing demand of the service. As many of the vessels near completion it is found that their armament is not completed. This is partly due to the delay in supplying material to the gun factories, and partly because of the limited capacity of the great plant. The Navy Department is now considering the advisability of contracting with the big steel companies for the construction of certain classes of guns, and it is quite likely that such a step may soon be taken. The gun factory at Washington is the largest in the United States today, but it has not been kept abreast of the increases authorized in the Navy, and while three shifts of men are now at work here, and the shops running 24 hours to the day, the work is still behind. The enormous and unprecedented demand for structural steel for general building purposes has been a severe strain on the steel factories, and it is believed that in many instances commercial orders are given precedence to those from the Government. There is less delay about the procurement of armor for the ships. The greatest delay is as to steel tubing, with which the great guns are built.

More About Clarks.

Major William Hancock Clark, of this city, descendant of the famous explorer, recently entertained as his guest a Mr. Wilson, of Lexington, Mo., whose brother, Joseph A. Wilson, commanded one gun in the Confederate Battery of Captain Churchill Clark, the Major's brother. The visit recalled several incidents in the lives of the elder Clarks and the Wilsons.

In the retreat from the battlefield of Elk Horn Tavern (Pea Ridge), as Clark was giving Wilson an order, a round shot cut Clark's head off just at the eyes, and as Wilson lifted him from the ground where he fell from his plunging charger, his clothes and hands were covered with Clark's blood. At West Point their fathers, Merriwether Lewis Clark and George Wilson, were roommates. They were chosen out of the class for their fine figures and soldierly bearing to be sergeants of the color guard. The illustrations of the solar compass, theodolite, etc., in Professor Davies' textbook of surveying were drawn by Cadet Clark, and are marvels of beauty and accuracy. Clark was graduated first and Wilson fourth in drawing, and Wilson would hold the instruments in the proper positions for Clark to draw them. Major Clark has a picture of his father drawn by Wilson. Clark, the explorer, and grandfather of the Major, was a friend to General Street, the maternal grandfather of Mr. Wilson now here. An uncle, Mr. Waddy Street, a member of the Florida Legislature, has letters from Governor Clark to his father, General Joseph Montfort Street.

Cadet Wilson was appointed to West Point as a compliment to his mother's father, Captain Thomas Stokeley, of the George Rogers Clark campaign.

Cadets Clark and Wilson had two other roommates at West Point, one of whom (later on a Federal General) had a special horror of getting his trousers baggy at the knees, and as a cure for it habitually wore them in quarters "hind part before." He made such a ridiculous appearance that Clark and Wilson continually made fun of him, from which, when tired of, he would threaten as a relief to get down his fiddle, which was always an effective protection, as it was so green and squeaky and he so crude a performer that it was exquisite torture to hear it.

The Clarks through the Merriwethers, of Virginia, are distantly connected with the younger Wilson, of whose kindred three brothers Thornton married the three daughters of Mildred Washington, aunt and godmother of George Washington, also connected with the Merriwethers.

Sad Case of Littlefield.

No man in Congress today is more disappointed than Representative Littlefield, of Maine. The treatment accorded his anti-trust bill has greatly disheartened him, for his expectations had been built high. Ever since the announcement went forth from Oyster Bay last Summer that Littlefield was the "official champion of anti-trust legislation," the big man from Maine has been earnestly engaged in formulating legislation which he believed would successfully curb the trusts. His efforts have been sincere, but he finds they have gone for naught, as other bills have been passed, and his is to be allowed to slumber until the end of the session, when it will die. This incident is quite a set-back in the remarkable progress that had been made by Littlefield since he entered Congress four years ago. He rose rapidly to prominence, and early established himself as an able Constitutional lawyer. By taking the unpopular side of the Roberts controversy and later breaking with his party on the Porto Rican tariff bill, he had attained some little notoriety. The older Republicans were jealous of his progress and his success, and when opportunity arose where they could enjoy a laugh at his expense, they were quick to avail themselves of it. When Littlefield recently visited the White House to invoke Presidential aid for his anti-trust bill, and was told in plain language that the Administration preferred the bills subsequently passed, he was sore distressed. His embarrassment was heralded with glee by the older Republicans, for they have at last seen a halt in the rapid progress of this comparatively new man. He will now have to go back to the foot of the ladder and climb again. His prestige has been largely destroyed.

Post Check Notes.

Among the apparently meritorious bills pending in Congress which must go down to defeat because of lack of time for its consideration is the so-called post-check currency bill, which in effect proposes to change the form of existing and future paper currency issued by the United States of the denominations of $1, $2 and $5, except National bank notes, so that they may, at the option of any holder, be made payable to a named payee. In other words it is proposed to issue a new series of notes of the denominations named, each of which shall bear two blanks, in one of which the person desiring to send money through the mails may write the name of the party to whom the funds are to be sent, and in the other space the recipient is to affix his signature, by way of indorsement. The sender in each case would be required to affix a 2-cent postage stamp to each bill so transmitted. This system, it is contended, would more readily permit the safe transmission through the mails of money, providing a means at every one's command, and obviating many of the delays incident to the present money-order system. The bill has been indorsed very generally in business circles, having the unqualified indorsement of the Association of American Newspaper Publishers, as it will render more convenient the sending in of subscriptions. Notwithstanding its merit, the bill is one that would lead to considerable debate, and such measures cannot now be considered in the Senate.

Wealth of Central Alaska.

After an investigation extending over five years, Mr. Alfred B. Iles, formerly a newspaper man of this city, returns to his home with an interesting account of conditions as they really exist in Central Alaska. Summing up his comments, Mr. Iles says:

"Without transportation, the vast ore deposits of the interior of Alaska are without value. The country is absolutely virgin, and without doubt is the richest agricultural as well as mineral region in Alaska. Great ledges of quartz, bearing gold, silver, copper and iron, are to be seen above the surrounding rocks of the Alaskan range. The gulches are loaded with float, and prospecting is an easy matter. But until railway transportation to the Coast is provided and cheap methods of mining are introduced these ledges are worthless.

"The agricultural and stockraising possibilities of the country are such as to make the region prosperous were there no minerals to attract people from the outside. The broad table lands are covered with rich bunch grass, and the valleys and hillsides have a soil that is remarkable for its richness. The climate has none of the rigors of that along the Coast. During the three months that we were in the interior at the head of the White and Tanana Rivers, there were but a few showers of rain; the days were warm, the nights cool, and it seemed to us more like a Summer in the mountains of Colorado than one almost within the Arctic circle. Scarcely a human being was to be seen on all the trip.

"The Government trail should have followed the bank of the Copper River instead of pursuing a straight line through the country. In this way a good dry road might have been secured during the seasons of the year when it was most needed. Now the greater part of it is almost impassable, and in places it is necessary to take the old Indian trails. Captain Wilson has a few men at work upon the road, but unless Congress is more liberal in this respect henceforth the Alaskan military highway will be a thing to be avoided."

"Between the Tanana and the White Rivers game is more plentiful," Mr. Iles said, "than in any other country I know of. There were cariboo in great herds, big horn sheep by the hundreds, black and gray fox, moose and fawn-colored bear. These bear are known in Alaska as the glacier grizzly. Pheasants, grouse and other birds are plentiful, and the fish in the streams are so numerous that they can be taken without hook or line. Our party saw no Indians, though some huts were found deserted for the time by the inhabitants, who were down the Tanana fishing. There are no Indians on the Upper White River, and it is only occasionally that they penetrate so far into the mountains to hunt."

Mr. Iles does not take much stock in the Cushman Alaska delegate bill. Of this measure he says:

"I do not think the bill now before Congress would afford the necessary relief for the present unsatisfactory condition of that country. It is unreasonable to suppose that a delegate who has never been north of Juneau would know anything about the wants of the Leeward Peninsula, and it would be equally wrong to suppose a delegate from Nome could voice the wishes of the people of Valdes. I would suggest that a board of commissioners, composed of one member from each of these three districts, be selected by local election, with a view of sessions at one of the points alternating, to represent their various districts and formulate their recommendations to Congress."

British Columbia Coal Discoveries.

In a recent report to the State Department, Consul L. E. Dudley, of Vancouver, has the following to say:

"It is reported upon reliable authority that anthracite coal has been discovered at Cumberland, on Vancouver Island, upon the property of the Union Coal Mines Company, which is the largest shipper of coal from the western portion of this province. It is said that this anthracite coal has $9 per cent fixed carbon."

In a later report the Consul notes that the coal field is estimated to cover 1000 acres. The anthracite merges as it gains depth into a bituminous coal. Work on the seam is being pushed, and it is thought that coal will be shipped by next Fall.

Drank Wood Alcohol and Died.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Feb. 22.—Mrs. George Stave, aged 52, and her daughter, Mrs. Lemuel Davis, aged 27, died today from drinking wood alcohol. They had been accustomed to drink small quantities of hot, diluted grain alcohol to relieve illness and during the night, neither one being well, they prepared by mistake, wood alcohol and drank it. They survived several hours and died within an hour of each other.

Francis Busy in London.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—D. R. Francis, president of the St. Louis Exposition, spent a busy day here conferring with the St. Louis Fair commissioners to the various countries who have come to London to see him. A private dinner was given in his honor at the Carlton Hotel tonight, at which Ambassador Choate, Prince Radziwill, Lord Grey and others were among the guests.

Olds, Wortman & King

GREAT REDUCTIONS ON

Jewelry, Opera Glasses and Fancy Toilet Articles

Gold, Silver, Antique and Oxydized, French Gray, Enamel and Settings.

Shirtwaist sets, fancy belt buckles and pins, watch fobs and chains, stick, ribbon, brooch and hat pins, cuff links, chatelaine chain purses, opera glasses, shoe horns, curling irons, button hooks, pocket and cuticle knives.

AT EXCEEDINGLY LOW PRICES

Silk Taffeta Bargains

Splendid values in fresh and glossy black silks.

36-in. width, $1.25 grade, for **$1.00**

36-in. width, $1.35 grade, for **$1.19**

27-in. width, 85c grade, for **69c**

SPECIAL SALE

Silverware

The best plated goods made. Prices:

Teaspoons, set of 6 ..... 50c
Dessertspoons, set of 6 ... .88c
Tablespoons, set of 6 .... $1.00
Table knives and forks, set of 6 ..... $2.00

Closes This Week

Sale W. L. & CO. Gold Filled Rings

Come in and see them while you have advantage of this demonstration sale. Prices:

25c, 50c, $1.00 and $1.50

Every One Guaranteed for Five Years.

Great Sale Embroideries

Swiss, Nainsook and Cambric . . .

Flouncings, edgings and bands. Extra fine qualities. Prices per yard only:

8c, 10c, 20c, 25c

Ladies' Undermuslins

Underpriced

LADIES' GOWNS, good muslin trimmed with tucks and lawn ruffles **69c**

LADIES' DRAWERS, fine cambric, trimmed with umbrella flounce and tucks **69c**

LADIES' SKIRTS, good heavy muslin, with hemstitched flounce **69c**

All Are the Regular $1.00 Grade.

Hygienic Shoes

Solid Comfort for Tender Feet . . .

With felt cushion insoles, heavy flexible soles, soft pliable leather, specially selected, and extra broad lasts, they are the best shoe made for tender feet. Price.. **$4.00**

COULD NOT KILL COYOTE

MISSOURI MAN'S UNIQUE TRIBUTE TO OREGON IN COURT.

But His Admission Killed the Effect of the Rest of His Expert Testimony.

A dispatch to the St. Louis Republic from Macon, Mo., of a recent date says: A case was argued in the Circuit Court here the other day, in which the main issue was the deceptiveness of Western scenery. The defendants' counsel contended that the court should not take into consideration the testimony of a "Missouri tenderfoot" regarding a certain section of Oregon land because "he is not qualified by experience to testify intelligently about the country out there."

The style of the case was Mary Jane Shipley and John Shipley (wife and husband) vs. Joseph F. Rice and Marion Williams. The plaintiffs, who are old people, owned a farm in Macon County in April, 1899. They claim the defendants, by misleading representations, induced them to trade their Missouri farm for a much larger but a comparatively worthless tract of land in Lincoln County, Oregon. The suit was to have the deeds set aside on the ground of fraud.

The plaintiffs were never on the Oregon land, but Mr. Shipley went to the nearest town, became very much dissatisfied with the country, decided he had been swindled and returned home. The principal objection raised was that the Oregon land was mostly in the mountains and was uncultivatable.

In arguing in support of the fairness of the deal, as counsel for defendants, Attorney Joseph Park said:

"The main trouble with this case, your honor, is that the old gentleman, Mr. Shipley, went out there and saw the mountains about where he thought his land was and concluded he had swapped for them. As he didn't contemplate running a Summer resort, he naturally became dissatisfied. He wasn't hunting mountain scenery, he says.

"The truth is those mountains are miles and miles the other side of the farm my clients sold him. His farm nestles in one of the most fertile valleys of the State of Oregon, is well watered, and intensely picturesque, and had he made a closer inspection he would have gone into raptures over his trade. He had no reason to apprehend any danger from the mountains. They merely served to form a beautiful background to his possessions. Why, they weren't even in the same county his land was.

"What reliance could you put in the testimony of a man—no matter how honest—and Mr. Shipley is certainly honest—who had never visited Oregon before? Your honor has been West, and I am glad of it, for he will be in a better position to accept as true the following incident in my own experience, when I was doing the West as a 'tenderfoot':

"Some months ago I was riding in a car between Baker City and Huntington, Or., looking out of the window, of course. I observed a coyote jogging along, keeping pace with the train, and it rather astonished me to see how easily he did it. He looked to be about 60 or 70 yards from us—possibly a trifle further. Next to the joy of shooting a real live Indian, I thirsted for the scalp of a Western coyote.

"I remarked to a native that I wished I had a gun to take a crack at him. The native smiled ironically, as if doubting my marksmanship, but said he thought he could find me one. He ran across a cowboy or a trainrobber in the smoker and borrowed his Winchester. The trainrobber brought his friend and several others to see me shoot. We went to the rear platform.

"I'm something of a hunter, as your honor knows, and the thing looked easy. The animal, for some peculiar reason, was not watchful, nor paying any attention to me, but kept along at the same old gait. One of the men on the platform said something about doubting a Missourian's ability to shoot straight. I thought I would show him. Well, I emptied the magazine at the beast, and I don't thing he batted an eyelash—if he had any. I never saw anything as cool under fire. I got hot and nervous.

"The trainrobber courteously loaded the gun up again, and I braced myself against the end of the car. The conductor said he would have the train stopped if I preferred a steadier rest. One of the boys fanned me with his wide-brimmed hat, and another brought out a glass of water. I ignored them as ill-mannered plainsmen. When I had shot 16 more holes in the air without result, I observed my audience smiling. I sa...:

"'You fellows seem to think you are such fine shots—suppose one of you take a whack at him. I don't believe your old gun will shoot straight, anyway, and I handed it back to its owner.

"'Stranger,' he said, 'the gun's all right, and you're all right, but that 'ere coyote is over in the next county, and you couldn't hit him from here with a cannon. You see, we are running catacornered from him, and that's why he seems to be keeping up. When a Missourian comes out here we always let him go after what he wants without telling him how far off it is, so as to keep him from calling us names.'

"A homely illustration, you honor, but a true one, and it fits the facts in this case."

THE CHOICE OF ABSALOM

Who Will Prove to the Boy That He Hasn't the Right of It?

New York Sun.

An anxious parent does us the honor of consulting us in regard to an important topic of household economy:

"To the Editor of the Sun—Sir: My eldest son (20) is infatuated with baseball. I have told him time and time again that he is foolish and throwing away a career. It is my wish that he enter the service of some great corporation and work up to a big salary. Can you suggest any way of influencing his choice?—Father, Cincinnati."

No man begins to know his business as a father until he acquires a little diplomacy. What is the use of telling a boy that he's foolish? He won't believe you. You only stiffen his resolve into pigheadedness and convince him that you're a fool yourself. Fathers need to be meek. Since the world began they have been browbeating their progeny. It is generally admitted that civilization is increasing. Each generation is better than its predecessor. Consequently a son knows, or ought to know, more than his father. Q. E. D.

The boy may be right. Boys are numerous and their number is somewhat in excess of that of the big salaries. A Nantucket fisherman once explained to us that "everybody orter have $50,000 and not a cent more." We are willing to admit that every salary ought to be not less than $50,000 a year; but there are difficulties in the way of immediate realization of the theory. The young Cincinnatian might fail to "work up to a big salary." Besides, how do we know that corporations are to be permitted to continue their wicked and soulless existence? Consider what a wealth of wind is now blowing against them; and then consider the remarkable financial possibilities of the baseball profession. Consider the case of the Hon. P. J. Donovan, who may be known personally to the young Cincinnatian. Mr. Donovan had about made up his mind to give up baseball for commerce, but he seems to have reconsidered his resolution. According to dispatches from St. Louis, he will "continue to manage the St. Louis National League baseball team during the coming season at a salary of $8000, a contract for that amount having been signed with the Robisons." Now, $8000 for a season, just a part of the year, seems a fair compensation. There is no reason why Mr. Donovan shouldn't engage in commerce the rest of the year if he wants to.

There is money in baseball, papa, and your Absalom is no fool.

Tablet on a Boulder.

Brooklyn Times.

It has been practically decided to erect near the flower garden in Prospect Park a tablet to the memory of the late Henry W. Maxwell, whose benefactions were the means of endearing him probably to more residents of this borough than any other man. Mr. Maxwell's nature was so simple and unostentatious that though many would like to show their love of him by some magnificent tribute, it is believed that something on a quiet, modest scale would be more in harmony with what Mr. Maxwell himself would have desired.

A red granite boulder has been unearthed by workmen who have been engaged in constructing the big retaining wall around Sunset Park, and it is proposed to use this boulder on which to place the tablet that it may be permanent and conspicuous. The boulder weighs about 60 tons. The inscription to go on the boulder will be simple, in accordance with the life of Mr. Maxwell.

Though this memorial tablet will perpetuate the memory of one of Brooklyn's greatest benefactors, it is thought that a further step might be well taken. It is proposed to name the new park, which has been authorized in the Fourth Ward, after the late philanthropist. This plan has met with universal favor. Already a commission has been appointed to condemn the property for park purposes.

Lipman, Wolfe & Co.

TODAY

Great Sale of Plated Ware

Rogers Bros. 1847 Al Plated Ware

AT SPECIAL PRICES For Three Days Only

Tea Spoons	Set of 6,	Special	$ .95
Dessert Spoons	Set of 6,	Special	1.69
Table Spoons	Set of 6,	Special	1.92
Dessert Forks	Set of 6,	Special	1.69
Table Forks	Set of 6,	Special	1.92
Dessert Knives	Set of 6,	Special	1.70
Medium Knives	Set of 6,	Special	1.75
Butter Knives		Special	.45
Sugar Shell		Special	.45
Cold-Meat Forks, gilt		Special	.80
Pie Knife, plain		Special	1.10
Pie Knife, gilt		Special	1.35

Also Ladles, Berry Spoons, Coffee Spoons Oyster Forks, etc., All at Special Prices

33 Express Packages For the Cloak Room

New Pongee Silk Long Coats
Silk Empire Jackets
Black Silk Monte Carlo Jackets
Black Silk Blouses
Novelty Tailor-made Suits

Sale of Silk Petticoats

Additional Silk Petticoat bargains are added to the already great assortment of special attractions in Silk Petticoats.

More New Goods

Novelty Black and Colored Dress Goods
New White, Creme and Colored Silks
New White and Colored Wash Goods
New Art Denims, Burlaps, Tickings
Hungarian Cloths, Silkalines, etc.
New Spring Walking Hats
New Embroideries and Laces
New Turnover Collars for Ladies
New Fancy Hosiery
New Wool Waistings

SYRIAN WEDDING SERVICES

Peculiar Ceremonies Observed in Brooklyn House of Worship.

New York Times.

It is worth while to visit the Syrian orthodox church in Pacific street, Brooklyn, while a wedding is in progress. The ceremonies are the same as those that have been practiced in the Syrian provinces since the sixth century, and are extremely pretty.

As instrumental music is not permitted in this orthodox church, the strains of a wedding march are never heard, but upon the entrance of the bride and her attendants a group of chanters intone sacred songs, which are continued at intervals throughout the service. When the bridal procession moves up the aisle the officiating priest emerges from behind the screen which separates the sanctum sanctorum and holy table from the nave. He wears sumptuous robes of bright-hued brocade covered with embroidery and bespangled with gems. On his head is a helmet of gold, studded with precious stones, and around his neck are hung the heavy gold chain and jeweled cross pertaining to his sacred office. Beside him walk acolytes in trailing gowns, and an old man in a robe of yellow brocade, who acts as master of ceremonies.

The bride and bridegroom bow before the priest and kiss his hand. He leads them to a platform in the middle of the nave, on which stands a table containing a picture of the Madonna and Child, a missal, two silver crowns and a cup of wine. He hands the young couple a lighted candle each, and reads prayers over them in the Syriac tongue. The bridesmaid and best man tender him two gold rings with which he touches three times the forehead, breast and left shoulder of the bride and bridegroom. He then asks the usual questions as to whether they desire to be united in the bonds of matrimony, and slips a ring on the finger of each. The gospel is read, and one of the chanters intones the epistle, after which the priest takes the crowns, which have been twined with white rosebuds and floating ends of satin ribbons, and, placing them on the heads of the newly wedded pair, prays fervently for a few moments.

This ceremony indicates that the husband is now king of his household and supreme ruler over his wife, and that she is to be queen of his heart, home, and prospective family. As a covenant they are then given three sips each from the wine cup. The bridesmaid and best man are given only one sip. The bridal party march three times around the platform preceded by the priest. Their progress is slow, and much difficulty is experienced by the attendants in holding the crowns in place on the heads of the bride and bridgroom, who walk along hand in hand. When they take their stand again on the platform the priest waves a golden censer before them, and clouds of incense obscure them from view. The best man recites the Lord's Prayer, and the chanters intone it after him.

As a finale the priest gives the couple advice as to the duties of the married state and prays that they may be happy. Then he raises his cross above their heads and pronounces the blessing. They kiss the cross and his hands, and the ceremony is completed. It lasts about three-quarters of an hour, and neither the principals nor the audience are allowed to sit down until it is over. The rich dress of the priest, the hundreds of wax lights and lamps, the odor of incense, the vocal music with its weird, wailing notes, and the appearance of the dark-eyed, olive-skinned people make it difficult to believe that one is not within walking distance of Lebanon, the early home of many of the Syrians who now reside in Brooklyn.

The bridegroom does not kiss the bride in public, as this is not the custom of the country, and her veil is not lifted before, during, or after the church ceremony, except when the wine cup is held to her lips.

As the wedding party leaves the platform the spectators shout with one accord in Arabic, their vernacular tongue, "May it be pleasant," and the invited guests adjourn to the home of the bride's family, where they enjoy Syrian sweetmeats and wine, and dance to the sound of the lute and the violin.

Railroads at Fault.

Baltimore American.

Railroad men are now willing to confess that the business of this country has outgrown its transportation facilities, and that a majority of the roads are utterly unable to handle all the business offered them with anything like promptness. This has been shown by repeated congestions of freight traffic at Pittsburg and other points by the slowness with which coal, but a comparatively short distance away, was hauled to Eastern cities that sadly needed it, by the failure of wheat and corn to reach the seaboard, and now by the inability of the roads to handle flour. The Eastern supply of this prime essential in every home has run very short, and some cities, after having passed through a fuel famine, are now threatened with a flour famine. While the railroads may not be entirely responsible for these conditions, it is their duty to do all in their power to relieve them. They must get more cars and more locomotives, must have more employed and then be prepared to meet such an emergency. They must keep pace with the growth of the country.

Pears'

Is there any soap but Pears' which has been sold in two centuries and is selling in the third?

Sold all over the world.

Presto (better than flour) devises dainty dumplings