



SYRUP OF FIGS NEVER IMITATED IN QUALITY. THE EXCELLENCE OF SYRUP OF FIGS is due not only to the originality and simplicity of the combination, but also to the care and skill with which it is manufactured by scientific processes known to the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP Co. only, and we wish to impress upon all the importance of purchasing the true and original remedy. As the genuine Syrup of Figs is manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP Co. only, a knowledge of that fact will assist one in avoiding the worthless imitations manufactured by other parties. The high standing of the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP Co. with the medical profession, and the satisfaction which the genuine Syrup of Figs has given to millions of families, makes the name of the Company a guaranty of the excellence of its remedy. It is far in advance of all other laxatives, as it acts on the kidneys, liver and bowels without irritating or weakening them, and it does not grip or nauseate. In order to get its beneficial effects, please remember the name of the Company—

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal. LOUISVILLE, Ky. NEW YORK, N. Y.

SYNDICATES COMPETING FOR CONTROL OF HAVANA STREETS

Modern Street Railway Systems to Be Built on All the Principal Streets of the Principal Cuban City.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A special to the Herald from Havana says:

A four cornered contest with rich syndicates is now going on here, with the possession of Havana's streets for rapid transit purposes as the prize. The contest has developed into three against one, the Harvey syndicate having gained so great an advantage that the others have continued.

Should this combination fail there will be organized, under the laws of New Jersey, the Havana Street Railway Company, issuing stock amounting to five millions and bonds for \$3,000,000. In the meantime a prosecution is threatened against representatives of the Harvey syndicate and the officials of the company now owning the Havana street railways, the civil authorities have announced their intention of stopping what they pronounce a bold robbery.

The Havana street railways are owned by the Ferro-Carril Urbano Company, which operates about 25 miles in all. These lines, which are equipped in medieval style, have never been developed. The company has been robbed in various ways and yet it has paid 7 to 8 per cent annual dividends on a capital of \$1,000,000. Tiburcio Castaneda, representing an English syndicate, made a deal in November with the directors of the Urbano Company to take over the property at 35 cents on the dollar. Before the deal was consummated, Percival Farquhar, representing the Harvey syndicate of New York, came to Havana and began so vigorous a fight that the English syndicate proposed consolidation, which was accepted.

After this consolidation it was thought best to raise the offer for Urbano stock from 35 to 50. This offer was accepted and 10 days was given for the money to be paid.

Richard Nargueta, representing the American Indies Company, filed a protest and placed in General Castaneda's hands a guarantee to pay for the Urbano stock. Tom Johnson, the iron manufacturer and former congressman of Cleveland and Brooklyn, who is associated with Chicago capitalists, instructed his representative to raise the bid to 100, with a promise to go higher, if necessary. A Havana banker posted a million dollars to make good any other Johnson makes.

In the meantime Canadian capitalists, headed by the McKenzie Company, Toronto bankers, promise to bid 125 for Urbano stock. In spite of the higher bidding Farquhar seemed to hold the whip hand for the Harvey syndicate.

Then the minority stockholders appealed to civil governor De Castro, who declared the alleged sale invalid and illegal, prohibited its completion and ordered a public sale of the Urbano Company to be held December 30.

Segundo Alvarez, president of the Urbano Company, who is a Spanish senator, defied De Castro and said the sale would be completed. De Castro will issue a proclamation saying that Alvarez's senatorship will not save him from arrest if he signs the papers of sale. Warrants for arrest are held against Alvarez, Secretary Pendas and Corro, the attorney who must complete the sale for the Urbano Company and Castaneda, Farquhar and Zaldio, who will sign for the purchasers. De Castro will advertise for bids for the Urbano Company.

Alvarez and Castaneda have taken the papers in the case and, one to Vedado, where they are not under Spanish jurisdiction. As they must return to Havana to sign the papers December 29, their arrest has been ordered for that date.

If the Harvey syndicate succeeds in acquiring the property the lines will be equipped with a modern electric plant and the lines extended to Marianna Beach, where a pleasure resort will be established. The future earnings are estimated at \$1,000,000 annually. The American Indies Company is also making a fight to secure the independent right to operate electric cars in the down town streets. Opposition to this comes from the Harvey syndicate, which expects to control all rights by means of its purchase of the Urbano Company.

OUR FLAG FLIES OVER PRINCIPE

The Last of the Spanish Forces Has Left and Our Troops Are in Charge.

LITTLE DISEASE THERE

Yellow Fever and Typhoid Are Not in Evidence, Though Malaria Exists—Conditions in Province.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A correspondent at Nautitas, Cuba, who writes to the New York Times, says: The last of the Spanish forces in this province of Puerto Principe, has left and the Fifteenth United States infantry has arrived.

Our flag has been raised with much ceremony by two daughters of the alcalde, a Cuban, formerly of the autonomist government, who was reappointed by General Carpenter, governor of the province.

Yellow fever and typhoid are said not to exist here, though severe malaria prevails. The soldiers are provided with large hospital tents and cots. The tents are being flooded. The extremely dense, impenetrable undergrowth on the hills where the camp is situated was cut down by ex-Cuban soldiers with their machetes, the great quantity of guano, a poisonous plant, closely resembling in appearance the holly, rendering it dangerous for our men to do the work. The Cubans, however, are fearless, although showing the effects of terrible sores on hands and legs. A plant usually found near the guano is claimed to be an antidote for the poison.

Several of the men have been bitten by scorpions, but the insects here do not seem to be as dangerous as elsewhere. A few drops of ammonia applied to the stings removes further trouble. This province is especially valuable as pasturage land for cattle. Most of the animals were killed off during the war.

There are many large sugar plantations, many of them abandoned. The owners, however, are now busy rebuilding machinery and planting the rich soil. With American money, form implements and industry, will very soon show the richest sort of country. Lands are cheap, \$5 being the price of 33-acre lots, but experience is necessary to cultivate them, and the ways of the country must be learned.

The town of Nautitas is old and quiet and dirty, the Spanish garrison giving no attention to sanitation, or, indeed, any cleaning of the streets or barracks. This will be attended to hereafter by the army officers in co-operation with the alcalde, \$1,000 in gold from customs receipts having been allotted by General Carpenter for the needed work. As the American dollar is worth from 35 to 45 per cent premium on Spanish silver and labor is obtainable at \$1 per day in the latter currency, much may be accomplished when there is no waste allowed. Living expenses are high. Eggs cost 5 to 10 cents each; meat, particularly goat, 30 cents a pound; kerosene oil \$2 a gallon; rum, 25 cents a quart. Oranges and limes are cheap and bananas very cheap, but dangerous to our people.

The only style of carriage in town is the ox cart, and a bicycle could not be ridden ten feet.

There is very much suffering among the people of the province from want of food. We are completely cut off from communication with the United States. There is no regular mail and the soldiers have received no letters since leaving Havana December 7. There is no telegraph except to Puerto Principe, 45 miles distant.

DEWEY NOW SENIOR OFFICER



Admiral George Dewey and His Squadron.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Admiral Dewey is now senior officer of the American navy, having reached that position with the operation of the law, and after making him admiral of the navy, provides that he may hold that office in the active service without the age limitation.

when he will go upon the retired list, unless congress exempt him from the operation of the law, and after making him admiral of the navy, provides that he may hold that office in the active service without the age limitation.

we do the next best thing—give you the means to support yourself and children. If you need more, call on us, and be handed her a bag containing \$100 in gold. The plainmen raised their hats, mounted their horses and rode away.

HANNA'S SISTER TO WED. CLEVELAND, Dec. 27.—Local newspapers announce the engagement of Mrs. Seville Pickands, widow of the late Colonel James Pickands, and a sister to Senator M. A. Hanna, to J. Morse, of Chicago, former president of the Illinois Steel Company. The late Colonel Pickands died in 1896, leaving a fortune estimated at about \$7,000,000. Morse was closely associated with Colonel Pickands in business.

IN FAVOR OF FREE PAPER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The American Newspaper Publishers Association has presented to the Anglo-American Joint High Commissioners a carefully prepared argument in favor of free paper and free pulp.

Exquisite

Elite Limoges, French China Decorated in sprays of Pink Roses and Forget-me-nots, with pale green border and gold edge. Romeo shape Fruit Plates. Salad and Relish Dishes. Tea, Chocolate and Moustache Cups. Chocolate Pots, and everything that's graceful. Attractive prices. Great American Importing Tea Co. 371 Commercial Street. Write for Catalogue.

NEW STEEL PLANTS. CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—The Record says: Two new steel plants, one at South Chi-

cago for the manufacture of steel shells and projectiles by a new process, and the other at Kensington for the production of patent hollow steel car axles, will shortly be built by a syndicate of Europeans represented by Carl and Adolph Mannesman, in conjunction with the Federal Steel Company at South Chicago and the Pullman Company at Kensington.

It is positively announced that arrangements between the Titan Steel Company, represented by the Mannesmans and backed by four strong concerns in Europe—two of which is in Berlin, another in Swansea, Wales, one in Austria and one in Italy—and the Federal Steel Company, of which the Illinois Steel Company is the main factor, have been perfected, and that a tract of land has been purchased at South Chicago, where the two concerns will unite on a gigantic scale to produce the armor plate and shells under the secret process of the Mannesmans.

It is announced also that \$3,000,000 worth of projectiles for the federal government will be manufactured by the Mannesmans and the Federal Steel Company jointly. The Federal Steel Company, in addition to the Chicago plant at South Chicago, has plants at Joliet and Milwaukee. Armor plate will constitute one of the main products of the combine at South Chicago.

KILLED THE FATHER AND PROVIDE FOR THE FAMILY.

Cattlemen Who Shot a Sheep Herder Present His Widow With a Surprising Christmas Gift.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—A special to the Herald from Chadron, Neb., says: As a sequel to the court scene at Hot Springs, S. D., last week, in which 22 cattlemen were acquitted of the charge of killing John Ekman, a sheep herder, in Fall river country, S. D., last August, a cavalcade composed of the exonerated cattlemen, rode up to the little cabin occupied by the leader knocked at the door and Mrs. Ekman's family of the dead man. The Ekman responded. Her face grew pale and she trembled.

"Mrs. Ekman," said the leader, "we have come to make you a little Christmas present. We shot your husband, but it was in self-defense. We know you are without food. We would gladly restore your husband, but that is impossible, so

DISHES WASHED GOLD DUST Washing Powder. Gold Dust does it. Morning, noon and night. Makes all dull things bright. Housework's a delight with it. It gives to a humble home or a palace the cleansing touch that both alike require. It's woman's best friend and dirt's worst enemy. THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY, Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Boston, Philadelphia.

R. L. Boyle & Co. Leading Real Estate Dealer of ASTORIA, OREGON. Write for Information and Pamphlets. 535 Commercial Street.

A. V. ALLEN. Fancy and Staple Groceries... Fruit Jars and Jelly Glasses. With the Fruit to go in them. Prices Lower Than Ever...

Victor Rost, Watchmaker and Jeweler. English and Swiss Watches a Specialty. All repairing done by myself. Satisfaction guaranteed. Music Boxes repaired. Marine Chronometers Rated and Repaired.

Closing Out! We will positively close our entire Stock by January 1st, 1899. Any Persons wishing bargains must call before that time, as we positively mean what we say. We have a full line of toys, all kind of fancy and dry goods. Now is your time to buy Holiday Goods.

Chas. Kan & Co. 367 Commercial St.

J. A. Fastabend, General Contractor and Builder. Estimates Given on All Kinds of Work. House-Moving Tools for Rent. Astoria, Oregon.

W. F. SCHEIBE, Manufacturer and Dealer in FINE CIGARS! 474 Commercial St.

BIG FOREIGN ORDERS. CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—One-half of the largest foreign order for finished steel ever sent to this country has been offered the Illinois Steel Company, of this city. The order amounts to \$2,000,000, and is for water pipes to be used by the Australian government. The Carnegie Company, of Pittsburgh, will supply half the amount. The Chicago firm may contribute the balance.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. THE BOYIN CASE CLOSED. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—The defense in the Boyin case has closed and arguments will begin tomorrow, and then the case will go to the jury. Today was occupied with introducing testimony in rebuttal, and gathering up of odds and ends in the testimony.

GIVEN A CHANCE TO WORK. MARLBOROUGH, Mass., Dec. 27.—The eight shoe factories in this city which are involved in the general strike of the shoe-workers were opened today to such an extent as to accept work independent of the unions.

AGAINST EXPANSION. DETROIT, Dec. 27.—Rev. S. R. Fuller, of Boston, spoke against socialism, imperialism before a small audience tonight. Governor Pingree, in introducing Rev. Fuller, took occasion to express his opposition to both the late war and expansion. He deplored the necessity of sending American young men to the Philippines, and said: "Each one should carry a coffin upon his shoulder when he goes."

THE LOUVRE. Seventh and Astor Streets. SHASTA MINERAL WATER, PEPPER, NOBLE, HICKORY AND SHAW'S MALT WHISKIES. ALL OTHER LIQUORS, WINES, BEER AND CIGARS Served Day and Night. AUGUST KRATZ, Manager.

THE RUSSELL. Compound Automatic Engine. Strong and Economical. Write us for particulars. A. H. AVERILL, Manager. RUSSELL & CO., Portland, Oregon.

HOME-MADE Taffies, Caramels, Chocolates and Bonbons fresh every day, at THE SPA.

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THE OCCIDENT. Astoria's Leading Hotel. Megler & Wright, Props.

Pacific Sheet Metal Works. MANUFACTURERS OF SALMON VEGETABLE FRUIT CANS... Spice and Syrup. Lithographing on Tin a Specialty. San Francisco, Cal. Astoria, Ore. Fairhaven, Wash. Write Us for Prices.

The IMPERIAL Hotel. THOS. GUINEAN, Proprietor. Seventh and Washington Sts. Portland, Or.

Kopp's "Best" A DELICIOUS DRINK... AND ABSOLUTELY PURE. The North Pacific Brewery, of which Mr. John Kopp is proprietor, makes beer for domestic and export trade. Bottled beer for family use, or keg beer supplied at any time, delivery in the city free. NORTH PACIFIC BREWERY.

The Pat Market Flour, - Feed - and - Hay. 574 Commercial Street.

Special Sale Wing Lee & Co. Commercial Street near Cooper's Dry Goods Store. Hard to beat. Our line of airtight Stoves and their Prices. Something New. W. J. SCULLY 431 Bond Street.