

CAN FRANCE STAND IT?

Naval Expenditures of That Country Are Rapidly Exceeding Her Resources.

The naval expenditure of France for 1902 is officially proposed to be \$42,420,000, which at first sight seems to be \$3,100,000 less than in 1901, but if it is taken into account that the cost of maintaining the marine infantry and artillery, amounting to about \$4,400,000, has been transferred from the navy to the ministries of war and the colonies, it is found that the money that France intends to spend upon the navy during 1902 is in reality \$2,300,000 in excess of the naval expenses of the current year.

AN INDIAN PRODIGAL

Scheming Arapahoe Who Has Been a Rapid Redskin and Now Is Poor.

An army officer attached to one of the posts in Oklahoma, on a visit to Chicago, was asked about the reports of a feeling of unrest among the Indians in that section. He replied that the uneasy feeling of an Indian at this time anywhere depended on the probability that he might have to work for a living, says the Chicago Tribune.

PITH AND POINT.

The use of the mosquito is to show us that troubles are not always in proportion to their size.—Chicago Daily News.

"What pretty white flowers they are on that plant." "Yes, but they don't stay on very long." "No?" "No, they're bachelor buttons, you know."—Philadelphia Press.

THE KING KNOWS A HEAP.

United States Ambassador to Italy Calls on Italy's King and Finds Him Wonderfully Intelligent.

George V. L. Meyer, United States ambassador to Italy, stayed a few days in London before sailing for Boston. To a representative of the press Mr. Meyer said:

LEPERS ARE HERE.

Increasing Number of Cases Causing Investigation.

The surgeon general of the marine hospital service is not ready to publish the results thus far obtained under his direction in the attempt to enumerate the known cases of leprosy in the United States, for the returns are far from complete. But, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune, sufficient material has already been secured by the experts who have been investigating for the last two years to indicate that there are at least 1,000 lepers in this country, most of them immigrants from abroad, and to warrant strong recommendations to congress for their segregation. The commission, consisting of Surgeon J. H. White, chairman, and Passed Assistant Surgeons G. T. Vaughan and M. J. Rosenau, have been working under congressional authority since 1899. They sent circular letters to physicians, health officers, hospital superintendents and others in 600 localities, covering the entire country, asking for reports and information regarding leprosy patients. Eight thousand circulars have been sent out and only 2,000 replies have been received. From these 277 lepers have been located and their names and addresses obtained. About 100 are known to live in New Orleans, many of whom are well-to-do persons of good families. In New York seven cases have been reported. In San Francisco 13 cases are known; 12 are confined in the pesthouse. Owing to the fact that three-fourths of the circulars have brought no replies, especially from suspicious districts, the authorities estimate that only about one-fourth of the cases of leprosy have been reported.

PUZZLE AT UNIVERSITY.

Question of Calling Stephen A. Douglas the Founder of Chicago Institution perplexes Trustees.

"Who is the founder of the University of Chicago, John D. Rockefeller or Stephen A. Douglas?" This question at the university is puzzling members of the senior class and board of trustees. The seniors have spent \$300 in having a bronze tablet of Stephen A. Douglas made as a class present to the university on class day. Mr. Douglas was the founder of the old University of Chicago, and just what inscription to put on the tablet is the problem. The matter is so significant that the trustees have had much discussion about it without coming to a definite agreement. They have finally appointed a committee to confer with the students to see what can be done. To call Mr. Douglas the founder of the university, it is thought, would be to trespass on the rights of Mr. Rockefeller. How to do them both justice is the problem. The seniors are determined that they will put the tablet of Mr. Douglas in a prominent place on the campus, while the board of trustees is divided on the matter. The inscription which the students have insisted to be engraved on the tablet, but to which the trustees object, is:

SMALLER COLLEGES IN WEST.

Most Look More Largely in Future for Support from Individuals in Their Own States.

Howard Freeman Doane, professor of Greek language and literature at Doane college, Crete, Neb., is on a visit to New York city, and gave an interview on education in the west. Prof. Doane said: "What I am particularly interested in is the denominational institution as distinguished from the state institution in the west. The state institutions have no difficulty in holding their own at the present time, but the smaller institutions are denominational. They were started by denominational influences, the same as the great institutions in the east, and they are the ones who find difficulty in getting ahead on account of lack of endowment."

WHOLLY UNINTENTIONAL.

A Series of Dinners Follows the Clever Work of the Man with the Hoe.

"When a second avenue man waters his own lawn he does it from choice and enjoys the work as a pastime. The one here referred to was having a particularly good time taking aim at the dandelion tops, training the stream on them and knocking them off, says the Detroit Free Press. His wife came by way of the side of the house to visit with him and cheer him on in the good work. Just as she made the turn by the steps the hose burst through a spot that had been weakened by dragging over the ground, and the gushing water first blinded her for the time, while it proceeded to take the curl out of her crimps. It is unnecessary to prove that she let out a terrific scream or that her husband turned suddenly to see what had happened. In doing so he whirled the nozzle with his body, and this time the water went all over her with impartiality. There were two screams in rapid succession. The cumfuddled woman half threw the stream above her head and it went merrily through the wide-open window of the next door neighbor. That window went down with a slam that sounded like the explosion of a giant firecracker and shook the block. As a perverse fate would have it, the best fellow of the neighborhood was calling just at this time. It is unfortunate that he is excitable and nervous. Even a stoical philosopher will make some sign when banged unexpectedly in the ear with a streak of cold water moving at the rate of 60 miles an hour. He jumped to within a few inches of the ceiling, gave a very fine imitation of a war whoop, and then tried to jam that window through the foundation. He has been told 40 times just how the accident occurred, how unintentional it was and how sorry the perpetrator of the cold douse is, but the girl's eyes twinkle with suppressed mirth whenever they meet, and as long as this is the case he is figuring to get good and even with the man that practiced on him as though his head were a dandelion top.

RATS ON FERRYBOATS.

If Women Passengers Know How Near They Were There Would Be a Stampede.

There were only three men and two women in the women's cabin of the Jersey Central ferryboat on an early trip a few mornings ago. It was just after daybreak and it wasn't very light, but Jersey Central ferryboats are economically managed, so the electric lamps had been turned off and in the cabin it was very dim, not light enough to read the morning paper, says the New York Sun. But from the end of the line of life preservers under the row of seats crept a dim little shadow. It moved about the floor and was having a very good time till one of the male passengers threw a glove at it. Then with a faint squeak it vanished like a flash into the life preservers under the seats. With screams in unison the two women passengers grabbed their skirts and sprang into the middle of the cabin. The only wide-awake man chuckled and the women glared at him. One of them said he was a brute. The other asserted that it was an outrage. A colored porter came to the door to find out who was fighting, and as the women swept by him to the deck, where it was safer, he received the brunt of their indignation. "Lor' bless you, ladies," said the porter. "Dey's lots of dem rats abd' all dese boats. Dey's lookin' fer some'n t' eat, but dey won't eat you." But the women continued to say things about wretched old tubs of ferryboats swarming with vermin, casting frightened glances around till the boat reached the Jersey side and they could hurry ashore. It wasn't comforting, but what the porter said was true. There isn't a ferryboat around New York which hasn't plenty of rats aboard, and when it is quiet their favorite playground is among the life belts under the cabin seats. They don't bother anybody, and nobody but the passengers who travel in the small hours of the morning when traffic is light know that they are there. But they are. They like the cabins because in winter it is warm there and there is a chance of finding a few stray crumbs under the seats. How they manage to live at all is a mystery, for ferryboat commons must be very short, but they look sleek and well fed as any other rats. The living isn't good enough to attract them in any uncomfortable numbers, ad they don't increase very fast, but there are dozens of them for all that. They come aboard when the boats are tied up in their slips, and when the times are very hard they migrate by the same route. There are not enough of the rats to cause the ferry companies to employ a rat catcher, and it would be impossible to keep the boats clear altogether, anyway, so nothing is done about them. They are allowed to stay picking up a living as best they can and so far there has always been enough to eat to secure to all plump and well-fed passengers immunity from attack.

MARRIAGE WAS FOR HEAVEN.

District Court at Salt Lake Decides That Mrs. Hilton Cannot Claim Dower as Widow.

Judge Hall, of the district court at Salt Lake City, Utah, the other day rendered his decision in the celebrated Hinton-Park case, the court holding that the ceremony of "sealing" performed in 1878 was purely a religious ceremony affecting the lives of Mrs. Hilton and Dr. Parke only in the hereafter, and was not a marriage ceremony known to or recognized by the laws of Utah. Mrs. Hilton, claiming by this ceremony to be a widow of Dr. Parke, has sued for part of the estate. It is Mormon church doctrine that a woman dying out of the marriage state does not occupy so high a place in Heaven as a woman who has been married. In 1872, Miss Armitage, afterward Mrs. Hilton, was believed to be dying, and in order to add to her happiness in the hereafter, Dr. John H. Park, a friend of some years' standing, was called to the apparently dying woman's bedside, and the ceremony of sealing for eternity was pronounced over them by President Wells. It was stated in the certificate issued by President Wells that Miss Armitage was supposed to be on her deathbed. The court holds, therefore, that as the ceremony was performed only to provide for the woman's spiritual welfare in the next world, Miss Armitage and Dr. Park were never man and wife.

INCORPORATES ITSELF.

Hyde Family of Plainfield, N. J., Legally Prepares for Handing of a Big Estate.

The Hyde family, of Plainfield, N. J., has incorporated itself. Hereafter the \$3,000,000 estate left by Charles Hyde will be known as the Union County Investment company, with his widow, his four sons and his daughter as the six stockholders. There will be a paid-up capital of \$300,000 the widow owning 565 shares and the five children 47 shares each, each worth \$100 par. Mr. Hyde died on June 12 last. He bequeathed his large estate to his widow, Elizabeth Keppler Hyde; his four sons—Dorsey W. Hyde, Francis Delacy Hyde, Lewis K. Hyde and Charles Hyde, Jr.—and his only daughter, Miss Edith Hyde. Much of the estate is in land around Plainfield, as well as oil wells and building properties at Titusville, Pa., where Mr. Hyde laid the foundations of his fortunes. Besides he owned two tanks in Titusville and numerous railway shares, including practically all of the New Orleans & Northwestern railroad. To charity he left \$100,000. Miss Hyde, who has hitherto devoted herself to society, now becomes a director in this family corporation. It is chartered to deal in stocks, bonds and mortgages, convey real estate and invest in gas, water and railroad securities. Young Francis Delacy Hyde, a graduate of Yale, is named as president of the company, and his brother Louis is secretary.

INDIANS CAPTURE ROOSEVELT.

Startling Surprise Contrived for Vice President After Dinner Near Buffalo Exposition.

After a dinner in honor of Vice President Roosevelt the other night by President Milburn, of the Exposition company at Buffalo, it was suggested that the vice president visit an old log cabin which stands in the rear of the grounds. The walk to the cabin had been protected by a canvas awning and it was contrived to have the vice president lead the party out. As he stooped to enter the cabin door there was a terrific warwhoop and two Indians in full war paint and feathers leaped up from the darkness and seized Col. Roosevelt. Instantly there was a tremendous tumult of warwhoops and the report of many guns. The vice president started as he was seized and shook himself as if preparing to fight, but he realized in a fraction of a second that it was a joke and exclaimed with a laugh: "By Jove, this is a rum on me." The two Indians who had seized him first were American House and Red Cloud, Jr., well-known Sioux chiefs, 20 or 30 other bucks from the Indian congress completing the crowd and doing the whooping and shouting. Only a few of the guests knew what was to happen, including some of the women, who had been warned. Find Some Historic Weapons. Workmen while excavating under the old jail at Juarez, Mexico, the other day unearthed two old-fashioned cannon and smaller weapons used by the Spaniards during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The cannon are of the brass muzzle-loading style used at that time. There are seven muskets of the antiquated type, besides two other firearms known as arquebuses, which weigh so much it was necessary to use a brace to support them when firing at an object. The jail underneath which the relics were found is one of the oldest buildings in the northern part of the Republic of Mexico and was built more than 300 years ago. According to tradition it was used during the time of the Spanish rule as a barrack for the soldiers of the king, but they were forced to flee to escape a fierce outbreak of the aborigines. Leipzig Sells Potatoes in America. According to Consul Wurnen, at Leipzig, potatoes are being exported from that section to the United States for the first time this year. So far, the shipments have been small, but the indications are that the volume will increase. "Orders for next season are heavy," says the consul. "The German potatoes are smaller than ours. Those exported are known to the trade as 'old potatoes,' and are to be used almost entirely by the large hotels for making potato salad. Americans should supply this demand by purchasing seed potatoes here and raising them at home. They could be sold at a greater profit than is made on the potatoes now grown, as the German can afford to raise them, pay freightage and our import duty of 25 cents a bushel, and still find the business remunerative."