

TRADE OF PHILIPPINES.

Figures of the Imports and Exports For Last Year.

COUNTRIES THAT HOLD THE TRADE

High Prices of American Machinery Has Kept It Out of the Market—Spanish Merchants Get the Bulk of the Import Trade Because of Tariff Discriminations. Exports of Three Products Amounted to \$45,000,000—Spain Leads in Print Goods—The Harbor Improvements.

"The Trade of the Philippine Islands in 1897" is the title of an interesting document which recently reached the bureau of statistics. It is a report of the British consul at Manila, Rayson Walker, and as it was received at the British consular office on May 31, 1898, it is probably the latest and most accurate picture of commercial conditions in the Philippines which has been presented since Admiral Dewey intensified American interest in that island group.

Consul Walker estimates the 1897 imports into Manila at \$16,000,000, of which about one-half were of Spanish origin, the imports from other countries having materially fallen off in 1897, while those from Spain increased largely. The exports from Manila have, he says, increased in the last year in several trading articles, notably tobacco, hemp, copra and the dried kernel of the coconut, the value of which alone he estimates at \$45,000,000, while he estimates the sugar crop at \$43,000,000 and hemp at \$14,000,000. He makes no estimate of the tobacco exports, but says they were larger in 1897 than in former years.

Consul Walker describes local trade conditions in a way which will greatly interest merchants and manufacturers in the United States, prefacing his statements by saying that this information is mostly obtained from British merchants, since the Spanish statistics are not available until too old to be of any value. He says:

A decidedly bad year for importers generally has just closed. What with the upset of business owing to the insurrection or rebellion in the islands, the heavy decline in the value of silver and consequent drop in exchange and the imposition of a further 6 per cent ad valorem duty on all imports, merchants may be said to have a truly rough time to contend with.

In printed cambrics during the year just closed the importation of English goods has shown a decided decrease, while imports from the peninsula have, on the other hand, shown an increase. This is due chiefly to the advantage the Catalan manufacturer enjoys with protective duties, as such allow him to give a better cloth than his heavily mulcted competitors can possibly give, and now that he has proved his ability to produce as good and fast colors as his foreign competitors it is expected that each year will see an increase of prints from Spain. Glasgow manufacturers hold the printed jacquet trade and appear to be able to keep it. Barcelona manufacturers cannot compete, as they cannot manufacture the cloth in the first place, and even if they had that they could not give the required finish. Linen goods are now almost things of the past, as the high duties have put them out of the reach of the ordinary consumer. Jute sacks come from Barcelona in very large quantities, as no other country can compete, owing to the protective duties. Needless to mention, Germany continues to hold her own against all comers in the hardware department, and the finer prices have to be cut the firmer hold she gets on this trade. American machinery has been tried from time to time on this market, but has proved in the main expensive. Iron forged in bar rods, etc., also corrugated sheet iron, owing to the unsettled state of the country, has not enjoyed the sale it did last year, but to all appearances the demand is reviving, and the near future should see more horse building in progress. Since I transmitted my last report the better English marks have a firmer stand against the continental marks. Carriage builders again inquire for qualities from Belgium. Enameled iron goods meet with a very fair demand. The price of fuel here calls for a thin make of cooking utensils.

Small articles (sundry) all come from Germany and are of the cheapest description so suit the native consumer's pocket. Earthen and glass ware demand calls for steady supplies, the commoner quality emanating from Germany and the better class from the United Kingdom. The total imports of paints and oils this year show a decrease; well known English marks are conspicuous by their absence, owing to the fact that English manufacturers do not care to ship low qualities as find consumption. Paper—cartridge, packing and cigarette—comes from Spain, France and Germany, and receipts show an increase for 1897. In cigarette paper Spain divides the honors with France and Austria, and supplies must of necessity be steady. The last year shows a large increase both in raw and tinned comestibles.

England, Germany and Spain providing nearly all. The American products are too expensive and are therefore not in great demand. Wines in bulk also show an increase, but supplies of beer have diminished considerably.

Consul Walker also reports some interesting facts about harbor improvements which were under way at Manila when he wrote. He says:

I inclose with this report a plan of the new harbor works at this port, which have been under construction now for some years. I am indebted for the plan to the courtesy of the superintending engineer, Senor Don Eduardo Lopez Navarro. The work, when completed, will be a great boon to shipping in general that have now to ride outside

in the roadstead or lay some two to three miles from Manila. Steamers drawing little water and small craft can enter the river Pasig. Those engaged in the China trade and running between Hongkong and Manila under the British flag discharge the bulk of their cargoes in lighters in the bay and then enter the river Pasig to continue discharging the remainder. The same plan has to be carried out in loading the steamers for Hongkong—viz, a certain bulk of cargo is put on board in the river before mentioned, and then the steamers have to steam outside in the bay to take the remainder of the cargo on board.

Of course, loading or unloading in the bay cannot go on many days during the typhoon season, and when the notice of three balls is hoisted as a signal by the harbor master that a gale is impending then the vessels have to heave up their anchors and make a run across the bay to Cavite, which is three miles distant, where there is a naval and marine dockyard as well as shelter. When the works are concluded at the port of Manila, there will be an abundance of room not only for men-of-war, but for all kinds of mercantile craft seeking to discharge their cargoes or coming in ballast seeking freight. The government is also expecting a floating naval dock from Europe to be placed in the bay at Subic, some 12 hours' steam from the port of Manila. British engineers have already arrived from England to superintend the placing of this huge floating dock or pontoon in position when it arrives from Glasgow, where it has been constructed. When this work is completed, the vessels comprising the Spanish-China squadron will be able to be docked and repaired at Subic instead of having to go over to Hongkong, where they have often to wait weeks for their turn to enter the drydock.

The writer closes his interesting report with the following statement:

The only other work or improvement that has taken place since I wrote my last report is the enlargement of the Luneta, or public promenade, which is the fashionable rendezvous of the Spanish military and civil authorities, who drive in their carriages or sit down by the seashore to hear one of the military bands play, which takes place every evening. Several monuments of the illustrious dead who distinguished themselves in the military history of Spain are to decorate this enlarged promenade, the marble having arrived for that purpose from Europe, and when the whole of the improvements now under progress of being carried out are completed the Manila promenade will be able to vie with any at home or in the far east for size, picturesqueness and public convenience.—New York Tribune.

WHISKY FOR THE ARMY.

Kentucky Distillers Propose to Send Fifty Thousand One Drink Bottles to Cuba.

The Kentucky distillers propose to send 50,000 bottles of whisky to Cuba for the American soldiers when they occupy the island. Whisky will also be forwarded to the army of occupation in Puerto Rico and perhaps to Manila if it can be transported.

Some time ago Colonel Thomas H. Shirley, after years of experimenting, made a small bottle which holds one drink. It is bottles of this kind, filled with the best product of the state, that will be presented to the soldiers. In the hot countries to be invaded, Kentuckians argue, the soldiers will need small doses of bourbon to make them fight. The old story of Grant and Lincoln and the whisky is recited in support of the plan.

The plan has not yet been put into operation, but whisky men out in the state are pushing it. The plan is for each distillery to contribute a barrel of its best make. This will furnish whisky for medical and fighting purposes for the entire army.—Exchange.

The Raw Material of Heroes.

When Americans beg for a private's place in the army and for an opportunity to face almost certain death in the navy, we have little fear from all Europe. We have an abundance of Hobsons, and we may have many Deweys.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Klondike or Cuba.

The United States is a country big enough and varied enough to furnish volunteers for any climate.—Washington Post.

In Santiago Channel.

Cheers for the tars of the lost Merrimack! Eyes to the channel, they never looked back.

Vertrees & Co.,

—WHOLESALE—

Hay, Grain, Flour, Meal, Grits, Papers, Paper Bags, Building Material, Orange Boxes, FERTILIZERS, Etc.

Livery, Feed and Sale Stables. - Wagon Repository.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN.....

Groceries, Crockery, China, Glassware, Tinware, Wood and Willow Ware, Paper and Paper Bags

16 Lemon Street,

Palatka, Florida.

Successful Recruiting Officers.

Recruiting officers Gay and Wright returned here on Saturday from Jasper, where they spent a week securing recruits for the Florida regiment. Since these gentlemen have been out they have gotten nearly a hundred men, which is more than double the number secured by the other committees from the regiment. Messrs Gay and Wright will now visit South Florida, and hope to get men enough to bring the regiment up to its full strength.

To Cleanse the System

Effectually, yet gently, when costive or bilious, to permanently overcome habitual constipation, to awaken the kidneys and liver to a healthy activity, without irritating or weakening them, to dispel headaches, colds, or fevers, use Syrup of Figs, made by the California Fig Syrup Co.

Lawn Party at Eville's.

The lawn party at Mrs. Eville's, on the shell road, Wednesday evening was liberally patronized by Palatkans, some seventy-five or more having gone out. In addition to these, there were a number of people present from Francis, Peniel, and the adjacent country. The affair was for the benefit of the shell road fund, and quite a handsome sum was raised.

Spot Cash for Moss

Highest market price paid for Black and Gray Moss by JEFFERIES & STEARNS, Fruitland, Florida.

SPECIAL MASTER'S SALE.

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE OF FORECLOSURE and sale, rendered in the Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida, for Putnam County, by the Hon. W. A. Hoeker, Judge of said Court, dated the 19th day of July, A. D. 1898, wherein Mary A. Moragne is Complainant, and John P. Duane, et al., are Defendants, I will sell at public auction, for cash, to the highest and best bidder, at the front door of the Court House, in Palatka, in said County of Putnam, on the FIRST MONDAY IN SEPTEMBER, A. D. 1898, the same being the 5th day of said month, during the legal hours of sale on that day, all of the following described real estate, situated, lying and being in the County of Putnam, and State of Florida, to wit: Being Lot No. Seven (7) of "Jackson's" subdivision of west half of southwest quarter of southwest quarter of Section One (1), Township Ten (10) south, of Range Twenty-six (26) east, containing three and three-tenths (3 3/10) acres more or less, map of same being recorded in Book "Y" of conveyances of land records in Putnam County.

J. N. BLACKWELL, Special Master.

F. E. Haskell, Complainant's Solicitor. Palatka, Fla., Aug. 5, 1898.—td.

ROBT. W. DAVIS S. J. HILBURN DAVIS & HILBURN, LAWYERS

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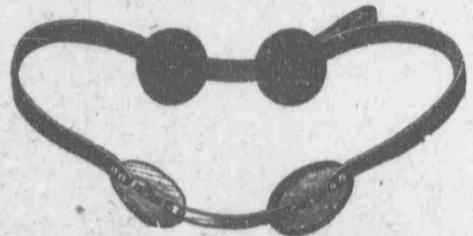
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PRICKLY ASH BITTERS
CLEANSES THE LIVER AND BOWELS
AND FORTIFIES THE SYSTEM TO RESIST PREVAILING DISEASES.
PRICE \$1.00 PER BOTTLE. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.



RUPTURE

A Universal Complaint.

To those who know nothing of the affliction of hernia (commonly called rupture) it will be a surprising statement that one-tenth of the human family are afflicted with this complaint. This is true, and the forms of treatment are numerous and in most cases unsuccessful. There is a method of retaining hernia, however, that is universally accepted as being perfect. It not only retains the hernia, but is the most comfortable and economical appliance in existence.

NO. 99 TRUSS. As is well known most of the appliances for this malady are not satisfactory to the wearer, often doing more harm than good, and failing entirely to retain the hernia. Thousands of people are suffering from ill-fitting trusses, or doing without entirely, thus endangering their lives, because the trusses they have tried to wear have given them undurable pain and inconvenience.

WE CARRY A FULL LINE OF H. R. and Elastic Trusses, Suspensory Bandages, Pessaries and all kinds of Rubber Goods.

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lence. It is to these many unfortunate being who suffer often unsuspected and in silence, that we extend a cordial invitation to come and be examined free of charge. We also agree to fit truss and allow patient to wear it for one week, at the expiration of which time we will refund the money if found not satisfactory.

FITTING A TRUSS. To think about it is easy, but it is only easy to those who thoroughly understand hernia. There are several kinds of hernia and each has to be reduced and retained with a truss fitted according to its own peculiarity. During ten years of practical experience in fitting trusses we have not found a single case that we could not retain. It costs nothing to be convinced but to come and see.

THERE ARE OTHER TRUSSES. Many of which might be good if they could only be made to fit; but experience proves that almost every individual requires a different shaped truss—one peculiarity of our truss is that it can be fitted to any shape.

CAUTION. Beware of hard rubber trusses that cannot be shaped without heating, as they will not hold.