

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1898.

GREAT CENTRES OF PEOPLE.

In one of the annual for 1898 there is printed a tabular statement of the population of the leading cities of the United States as estimated by the Mayors of the cities enumerated on the 1st day of January, 1898.

Table with 3 columns: City, Estimated Pop. Jan. 1, 1898, Population 1890. Lists cities like Greater New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, etc.

Some of these estimated gains in the period of eight years since the last Government census was taken are hardly warranted when compared with the gains made by the same towns in the full ten years between 1880 and 1890, as it is improbable that agricultural and commercial conditions since 1890 have favored a more rapid increase than prior to that date.

Among the Western cities it seems most likely that St. Louis will more closely approximate to the estimate of her Major than any of the others, but it is not likely that this solid, rapid-growing city will show more than his estimated figures when the census of 1900 is taken.

The estimate for Baltimore is probably excessive, as it claims a gain in eight years of 191,000, whereas Baltimore's gain in the preceding ten years was only 102,126.

Cincinnati is another town in which the Mayor rose high in the clouds when he in his estimate. In the census of 1880, Cincinnati showed a gain of 38,900 for ten years; in that of 1890 the gain was 41,769 a wealthy growth, but not a ratio of increase like that shown by nearly all of our

other large towns. To show 400,000 people in 1900 the Queen City must count a gross gain of 145,000 people or more than three and one half times greater than her gain in 1890. There has been nothing in Cincinnati's progress in the last eight years to warrant any such expectations. Cleveland is set down at 385,000 by her very liberal Mayor. In 1890 Cleveland had 261,353 inhabitants: to reach her Mayor's estimate she must have increased 123,000 in the eight years up to 1898. If Cleveland shows that amount of gain in 1900, she will be the largest city in Ohio in all probability.

The estimate for Philadelphia is also based upon common sense as well as statistics. Philadelphia showed a net gain in 1890 of 199,794. As it is likely her ratio of increase will be considerably greater in the present decade, it is almost certain that the Quaker city will approximate to 1,350,000 population in 1900. The Mayor of Boston thinks there were 550,000 people in that town at the beginning of this year, which indicates a gain of 102,000 in the eight years. It is an overestimate, as Boston gained only 86,000 in the previous ten years. In 1880, however, the gain for ten years was shown to be 112,000, but it is understood this included some adjacent cities taken into the city by legislative act after the previous census. Buffalo's Mayor estimates for a gain of 135,000 in the eight years, which is too high, although it is certain that it will show a surprising increase when the census of 1900 is taken.

I find Washington estimated at 280,000, which includes the entire District of Columbia. That is about the gain the capital city will show in 1900. It is not included in the fifteen cities above tabulated, but I introduce it here for the purpose of comparing it with the capitals of other countries. In 1890 Washington in population was the fourteenth city in the country. If the estimates of the Mayors are anywhere near correct it will be the seventeenth city in 1900.

Among the capitals of all nations numbering fifty seven of autonomous States, Washington stands twenty-sixth. But there is one peculiarity about this matter that, while the capital of the United States is merely one of our fourth-rate cities, the capitals of all the other countries of the world, excepting seven, are the principal cities of those countries in the items of both population and commercial scope.

Table with 3 columns: Nation, Capital City, Population. Lists nations like Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria, Japan, Russia, China, Turkey, British India.

Table with 3 columns: Nation, Capital City, Population. Lists nations like Brazil, Argentina, Belgium, Hungary, Victoria (Australia), Spain, Italy, New South Wales, Egypt, Mexico, Denmark, Portugal, Sweden, Korea, Chili, Roumania, United States, Uruguay, Persia, Siam, Cuba, Netherlands, Philippines, Norway, Morocco, South Australia, Colombia, Greece, Peru, Zanzibar, Ecuador, Venezuela, Guatemala, Cape Colony, Afghanistan, Queensland (Aus.), Canada, Switzerland, Servia, Hayti, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Bulgaria, Dominican Republic, Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Abyssinia, West Australia, South African Rep., Liberia, Orange Free State.

This list is believed to include every autonomous Government in the world; but there are a number in doubt, like Nepal, in India, and Monaco, which are said to be independent principalities. There are, no doubt, still other obscure Governments in the interior of Asia which are independent, but there are no statistics at all trustworthy concerning such.

Although it is the capital of one of the three or four most potent nations that ever existed, it will be noted that Washington takes rather a low station among the capitals of to-day. But aside from the great commercial capitals of Europe, Washington is nevertheless about as promising as any in the list. Its growth is healthy, even without the stimulus and aid of manufactures on interior trade.

FANCY NAMES FOR POISONS.

Danger lurks in many of the so-called Headache Remedies. In his quarterly report on the healthy of the borough of Chorley, Lancashire, Dr. J. A. Harris, the medical officer for the district, calls attention of the indiscriminate sale and purchase of the various so-called headache powders. He states that under his direction the county police obtained six or seven samples from different shops in the town and had them submitted to analysis.

acetanilide or phenylacetamide, phansone and phenacetin or para-acet-phenetidin. Their properties were fully considered in the section of pharmacology and therapeutics at the meeting at Edinburgh where Professor Stockman (Glasgow) opened a discussion on the 'Therapeutic Value of Recent Synthetic Analgesics; There was a general expression of opinion that these drugs required to be handled with the greatest possible care, and that a slight error of judgment with regard to dosage might be followed by disastrous results.

WRECKS AND DERELICTS.

Vesuvius Very Successful in Removing These Menaces to Navigation. A stranded vessel is not a menace to navigation, and is therefore left severely alone; but a wreck sunk in a few fathoms of water, in the track of coastwise shipping is a dangerous obstruction. The large, heavy masts of a sunken coaster might rip up the bottom of a colliding vessel, and a ledge of rock would not be more fatal than the submerged hull. In one year the United States Hydrographic Office, which is a branch of the bureau of Navigation of the Navy Department, has received nearly two thousand reports of wrecks and dangerous obstructions, and ordered the destruction of as many of these as was practicable.

It is impossible to say how much damage has been done by collision with wrecks and derelicts, as ships abandoned at sea are called. Sunken wrecks are hidden dangers. The sky may be clear and the sea-way light; they smite the unsuspecting victim from the depths, and add one more to those disasters which are the more tragic for the awful mystery that surrounds them. During the seven years from 1837 to 1894 forty-five such collisions—nine, or nearly one fourth, resulting in total loss, the others in great damage—were reported to the United States hydrographer. Of the nine fatal collisions, five were with wrecks, and four with derelicts.

The Yantic, the Dispatch and the dynamo-cruiser Vesuvius are among the vessels of the United States navy which have most actively waged war upon sunken wrecks. The U. S. S. San Francisco also has the honor of having destroyed a derelict, in which operation she was, however, obliged to resort to all usual methods of naval attack except boarding—torpedoes, ramming and shelling. Capt. Crowinshield, when commanding the Kearsarge, removed a curious obstruction to navigation off Cape May. A schooner was reported sunk there in twelve fathoms of water. Capt. Crowinshield was surprised, on reaching the spot, to find the heels of two masts—not the upper, but the lower ends—protruding fifteen feet above water. In some inconceivable manner, these masts must have become unstepped from a sunken vessel, and the heels had swung up, the ends of the spars being held down by the rigging. One mast was shattered with torpedoes, and then pulled out by the Kearsarge and destroyed. It was not necessary to break up the hull, as there was enough water above it.

The Vesuvius was very successful as a wreck-destroyer. Some of the obstructions are difficult to locate. The same wreck may be reported in three different positions

by as many different vessels; and with so many clues to follow it is not easy to run the game. The Vesuvius has found a wreck with only two feet of spar protruding above water—and two feet of spar sticking out of the broad Atlantic is rather like the traditional needle in the haystack. St. Nicholas.

GIANT PHILIPPINE BEES.

Honey-makers it is Proposed to Introduce Into the States.

There is one race inhabiting the Philippines which will be a welcome addition to American citizenship and receive every facility and inducement to emigrate to the United States and engage in the skilled labor in which it has no peer. This is the giant East Indian honey bee, whose immense capacity for making honey and wax has interested the department of agriculture in the consideration of an early effort to introduce it into the United States. It is nearly one-half larger than the American native honey bee, and builds a comb, heavy with wax and honey, five or six times as large as those found in American orchards and forests.

In the Philippines Islands their colonies are most numerous in the mountains, as the increasing quest of the native for their honeycombs has driven them from the unprotected flat-lands of the coast to the less thickly inhabited and more heavily wooded mountain regions. The Filipinos find their daily bread a rather easy proposition, but they are very fond of honey on the staff of life. There is also a large demand for wax for use in dyeing.

The big bees build their hives on tall forest trees or on the overhanging ledges of cliffs. When undisturbed branch swarms build near the parent colony, so that in a few years an immense bee settlement often grows up in the forest. The bees build a comb five or six feet long, four feet wide and from seven-eighths to one and one-half inches in thickness. The largest combs of American honey bees are not of more than one-fifth these dimensions. In appearance the giant bee is a smoky, glittering iridescent black wasp-like figure, with orange bands encircling its body. There have been reports that this bee is most ferocious and on account of its great size extremely dangerous, but Prof. Frank Benton of the department of agriculture, Washington, has seen and handled them in their jungle haunts, and he tells a different story. They are such busy and persevering workers, according to Professor Benton's account, that they have lost dexterity with their stinging apparatus, and though they may alight, full of wrath and with evil intent, upon human hand or neck, they do not handle their offensive weapon with skill, and it takes them twenty or thirty seconds to get their sting in working order. They are quiet as compared with American bees.

Petitions have been coming into the department of agriculture for years asking that the government introduce these giant bees into the United States. No attempt at bringing them here has ever been successful. Professor Benton tried to bring to the United States a swarm of these honey-makers which he captured in the jungle. While he was sick in bed, on his way home no one else on the vessel would attend to them and they all died.—New York Sun.

Do Unto Others.

Maiden Aunt: 'What excuse have you for doing such an unwholesome thing as proposing to Jack?' Isabel: 'The golden rule.'

Quite Probable.

Briggs: 'That was a great dance. I hope I made an impression on Miss—.' Griggs: 'I think you did. She has been limping ever since.'

The hair is like a plant. What makes the plant fade and wither? Usually lack of necessary nourishment. The reason why Dr. Ayer's Hair Vigor restores gray or faded hair to its normal color, stops hair from falling, and makes it grow, is because it supplies the nourishment the hair needs. Ayer's Hair Vigor.