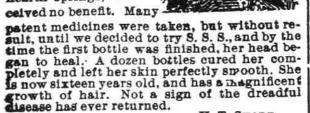
Eczema! The Only Cure.

Eczema is more than a skin disease and no skin remedies can cure it. The doctors are unable to effect a cure, and their mineral mixtures are damaging to the most powerful constitution. The whole trouble is in the blood, and Swift's Specific is the only remedy which can reach such deep-seated blood

Eczema broke out on my daughter, and continued to spread until her head was entirely covered. She was treated

by several good doctors. but grew worse, and the dreadful disease spread to her face. She was taken to two celebrated health springs, but re-



H. T. SHORE, 270: Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Don't expect local applications of soaps and salves to cure Eczema. They reach only the surface, while the disease comes from within. Swift's Specific

is the only cure and will reach the most obstinate case. It is far ahead of all similar remedies, because it cures cases which are beyond their reach. S. S. is purely vegetable, and is the only blood medy guaranteed to contain no pot-

Books mailed free by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Georgia.

Slow Going China.

China, in many respects the greatest country in the world, is without any of the modern means of transportation and exchange. Its immense traffic is still handled in the most primitive mannerstrings of camels that reach from the city gate to the horizon carry the tons of coal for the people's fuel. Pack mules from western provinces laden with dried fruits, silks and rugs return with salt fish and seaweeds. Heavy carts groan beneath casks of fragrant wines. Towboats are dragged along the canals and rivers by dozens of straining men.

The traveling merchant may make his trip by cart, boat or sedan chair if the weather be mild, but if it be winter the mule litter will carry him over the rougher country, or he may skim along the waterways on a light sled propelled by human arms and legs.-Leslie's Weekly.

Rev. W. E. Sitzer, W. Caton, N. Y. writes, "I had dyspepsia for over twenty years, and trieu medicines and doctors without benefit. I was persuaded to use Kodol Dyspepsia Cure and it helped me from the start. I believe it to be a panacea for all forms of indigestion." It digests what you eat. Dr. T. C. Smith.

SPECIAL EXCURSION TICKETS OFFERED BY THE SOUTHERN

RAILWAY COMPANY. Account Musical Festival, Asheville, N. C., March 21-22, 1900, tickets on sale Knoxville, Sailsbury, Murphy, Spartanburg and intermediate stations, to Asheville, March 21 and 22, final limit March 23.

Account Annual State Convention Y. M. C. A. of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C., March 8-11, 1900, tickets on sale March 7-10 inclusive, final limit 13 Rate from Asheville, \$7.75 for the round trip. Account meeting N. C. State Sunday School Association, Charlotte, N. C. March 14-16, 1900, tickets on sale March 12-14 inclusive, final limit 19. Rates from Asheville \$7.60 via Salisbury, \$6.85 via Statesville and \$6.50 via Spartanburg, for the round trip.

For full information call on ticket agent or address, F. R. Darby, C. P. & T. A., Asheville,

R. L. Vernon, T. P. A., Charlotte,

To secure the original witch hazel salve, ask for DeWi't's Witch Hazel Salve, well known as a certain cure for pil s and skin diseases. Beware of worthless ounterfets. They are dangerous. Dr. T. C. Smith.

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tana, Washington, Puget Sound via the short Billings Route-50 to .00 miles saved from St. Louis or Kansas City. Tourist sleepers Tuesdays and Thursdays, Kansas City to Seattle. NORTH AND NORTHWEST:

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THE ISLAND OF MARTINIQUE.

The Spirit of Unrest Pervades the Beautiful Country South of us Which France Loves so Well.

The spirit of unrest and dissention which has so often, within the last few years, brought the Republic of France to the verge of another revolution, seems to have transmigrated from the mother country to the most favored of her colonies-Martinique.

Great Britain may boast of the tropical luxuriance of her Bermudas, enriched with the most beautiful lily gardens in the world; Denmark may glory in the sugar refineries and distilleries which yield her millions annually in revenue; and even our own America may look with pardonable pride upon the riches of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines; but France loves Martinique not less for its pecuniary advantages, but more for the historic interests that cluster around the little island, for it is here that the beautiful and immortalized Empress Josephine

was born. Being the northernmost of the Windward group of the Caribbees. Martinique may be described as a verdant mountain mass lying between the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, for the island is a veritable chainwork of small mountain ranges covered with vines and shrubbery whose beauty is unsurpassed in any quarter of the

It was discovered in 1493 by the Spanish explorers who embarked with Columbus the previous year to discover the western hemisphere.

For a long time after its discovery the island was held by its primitive inhabitants, the Indians, but after many fierce struggles the Spanish succeeded in driving the natives into the interior, taking subsequent possession. EARLY HISTORY.

Early in the seventeenth century French buccaners and sea-rovers, attracted by the fertility and beauty of the island, decided to capture it from the Spanish, and after a protracted period of fighting Martinique became a French possession in 1635. The conquerors invaded the country, and after establishing themselves upon individual estates set to work cultivating the splendid fruit trees and vegetables which grew naturally in the soil.

The work of cultivation has descended from generation to generation, and to-day coffee, sugar cane, fruits and rum are the principal products raised and exported.

While Fort de France is the most historic of the cities of Martinique, having been the birthplace of the Empress Josephine. St. Pierre is the principal city from a commercial standpoint. In fact, these are the only cities of any consequence in Martinique. There are many dense forests and woods upon the island that, while inhabitable, are not as yet habited.

In spite of this fact, however, Martinique is one of the most thickly populated islands in the world. It has an area of over 180 square miles, and its greatest breadth is variously recorded at thirty-five and forty miles. The last census showed that the population consisted of nearly five hundred souls to the square mile in proportion to the inhabited area of the island.

St. Pierre is a beautiful city, and the thrift and industry of its citizens are exemplified in the cleanliness of its streets as well as by the number of stores and places of business which line them. The principal avenue is the Rue Victor Hugo, named in honor of the great author and poet, whose memory is most sacredly cherished by the people of Martinique.

The streets, owing to the hilly surface of the island, are very slanting, and on either side there are gutters which act as public scavengers. Into these gutters all the bits of paper and refuse are thrown, and the streams from the mountains rush them down to the seashore and into the ocean. The gutters are kept clear by laborers who act in the same capacity as do the street cleaners of our American cities. THEIR LIFE:

Owing to the volcanic construction and geographical situation of Martinigue, it is subject to violent hurricanes which visit the coast at sometimes frequent intervals between the months of June and December.

To protect themselves from these disastrous visitations the people of the island have originated a unique method of covering their homes with roofs made of corrugated bands of iron to take the place of the picturesque red tiles used many years ago. In fact, among those who cannot afford the iron roofs the tiled coverings are still em-

Although there are excellent schools on the Island of Martinique, many of the children of well-to-do parents are sent to France to be educated, most of them going directly to Paris. The constant travel from colony to mother country occasioned by this custom is said to account for the strange appearance of the Martinican streets, which are a queer combination of the tropics and the Champs Elysee. The women of the poorer classes affect a strange costume consisting of a loose hanging skirt and waist, completed by an odd bit of headgear formed of a large figured handkerchief tied about the head. They are also inordinately fond of jewelry, and it is quite a frequent sight to see some of the females emerge from the churches, burdened with massive earrings, bracelets and necklaces, and shod only with the shoes with which generous nature provided them.

Besides the customary government buildings there are lovely churches, a public library and places devoted to the entertainment and instruction of

HOME OF JOSEPHINE. Almost the same habits prevail in Fort de France that characterize St. Pierre, and the most important feature of the city to sight-seers, and the one most cheristed by the inhabitants, is a lovely statue of Empress Josephine which stands in the most prominent section of the city.

The recent riots which occurred in Martinique were said, on the best of t was claimed, reduced the rate of exchange from twenty to twenty-five per cent. The reduction, while it would have proved beneficial to the island as a whole, would have been detrimental to the interests of the employers who have relations with France, and against the military officers who receive their

salaries from France. The allegations that the disturbances were prompted by Americans who are desirous of obtaining possession of the Island of Martinique are declared by officials of the department at Washington as infamous, but should such a condition of affairs ever come about, America could not find a more magnificent colony to add to her possessions than this crescent-shaped spot which lies between an ocean of storms and a sea of calms—the beautiful Martinique



"Overwork and loss of necessary sleep made me very nervous and it was with the greatest difficulty that I could execute my solos. A friend advised me to give Dr. Miles' Nervine a trial, which I did and received immediate benefit. In a few days I was entirely relieved. I recommend it to all musicians who suffer from overworked and disordered nerves."

> Otto H. Shemmer. 2316 State St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Dr. Miles' **Nervine**

is sold by all druggists on guarantee, first bottle benefits or money back. Book on heart and nerves sent free. Dr. Miles Medical Company, Elkhart, Ind.

Plural Mothers.

Under the title of "Plural Mothers" a writer in the Madras Law Journal discusses the question whether "betw en two females, both of whom are entitled to claim as mothers, primogeniture depends on priority of marriage or upon seniority of age."

This brings to mind the anecdote of a supposed lunatic in an insane asylum who claimed to be Napoleon for Julius Cæsar, perhaps it was) and when told that he had not long before claimed to be Alexander the Great dexterously replied, "Ah, but that was by another mother."

This alleged plurality of mothers is somewhat startling. In India, however, the problem arises on the adoption of a child by a man who has several wives, each of whom thereby becomes a mother of the child.

A. R. De Fluent, editor of the Journal, Doylestown, Ohio, suffered for a number of years from rheumatism in his right shoulder and side. He says: "My right arm at times was entirely useless. I tried Chamberlain's Pain Balm and was surprised to receive relief almost immediately. The Pain Balm has been a constant companion of mine ever since, and it never fails." For sale by C. A. Raysor, Druggist.

Parlor Pets.

Perhaps the most adventurous addition to the house menagerie in London is that of a hive of bees which live in a sitting room and fly out to gather honey in Hyde park among the flowers and the blossoms of the London lime trees. The bees are reported to be as industrious and exemplary as bees should be and not to be demoralized by such intimate association with less industrious human beings. The practical difficulty in the way of keeping bees in the house arises when the cold weather comes in, because they are tempted to carry on "work" in the house when it is too chilly for them to be abroad, and when bees are anxious to be busy with no work to hand their temper is always uncertain.-Spectator.

M. B. Smith, Butternut, Mi h., says, "DeWitt's Little Early Risers are the very best pills I ever used for costiveness, liver and bowel troubles. Dr. T. C. Smith.

NOTICE.

State of North Carolina, County of Buncombe: In the Superior Court. Jesse R. Starnes, Admr. of E. C. Starnes

dec'd, vs. Geo. H. Starnes et al-Notice By virtue of an order of Marcus Erwin, he Clerk of the Superior Court of Buncombe County, North Carolina, on the 27th day of February, 1900, in the above entitled special proceeding then and now pending in said Superior Court I will, on Monday, the 2nd day of April 1900, between the hours of 12 m. and 2 o'clock p. m., it being the first Monday in April of said year, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the land herein mentioned, upon the terms mentioned in said order of sale, the land described in the complaint in said special proceeding, consisting of ten acres of land, which Dr. E. C. Starnes, deceased, seized, and described as follows:

Lying and being in the county of Buncombe and Asheville township, adjoini g the lands of Larkin Smith, Marcus Williams and a s hool house lot, bounded and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a stake in the south side f a branch, the corner of the school house lot in Marcus Williams' line, and runs south 56 de rees 15 minutes west 206 feet to small sassafras tree, Williams' and Smith's corner; thence with Williams' and Larkin Smith's line south 26 degrees 15 minutes east 579 feet to stake in an old road; thence with said road south 85 degrees 45 minutes west 306 feet to stake; thence south 18 degrees 30 minutes west 65 feet to a stake with white o. : pointers; thence north 12 degrees west 875 feet, crossing authority, to be due to hostility of a small branch to a stake in the center manufacturers, planters and laborers of the New Found road; thence with generally, against the Governor, who, said road north 84 degrees east 339 feet; thence south 75 degrees east 260 feet to the center of the second bridge, from the old New Found; then down said branch 28 degrees 15 minutes east 131 feet to the beginning, being the same ten acres of land conveyed by S. M. Starnes to Dr. E. C. Starnes on the 26th day of April, 1899. Said sale will be made in order to create assets with which to pay the debts of E. C. Starnes, deceased, and the costs and charges of admini tration of the estate of said E. C. Surnes deceased, and the remainder, if any, to be divided among the heirs-at-

> will be resold immediately, upon the same terms as heretofore stated. This the 28th day of February, 1900. JESSE R. STARNES, Administrator of E. C. Starnes, dec'd.

> law. The purchaser of said land will

be required to pay cash to the amount

of his bid at time of sale, or the land

WANTED-To purchase for spot cash a business that will stare investigation. Give full particulars. Address B. B., Gazette.

PRUDENCE S. DRESSER. GRADUATE, wit honor, in Piano, Harmony, and Theory, of New England Conservatory of Music. Boston. Advanced piano pupils a specialty. Beginners on violin received. Terms low. 69 Charlotte St.

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LOST.-Mink fur collar on Pearson's Hill or the River Road, March 13. Reward if returned to Gazette Office. 29-2t

LOST-Handsome black ostrich feather boa, one yard long, either on Merrimon avenue or Cherry street. Liberal reward if returned to MRS. J. Y. JOR-DAN, 89 Chestnut.

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ROOMS-nicely furnished for light housekeeping. Call at 139 Bailey St.

BOARDERS DESIRED-Persons desiring a quiet, homelike boarding place, where tubercular patients are not taken, can find the same at 58 Orang street. Halls, as well as rooms, comfortably heated. Good fare and pleasant service guaranteed. Call and examine rooms and ascertain terms.

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Cottage on Sunset Drive. Among the pines, 90 feet above Battery Park. Hack at frequent int rvals to and from the city. Terms reasonable.

PRIVATE BOARD Rock Ledge, Haywood str et, central. Well warmed high elevation. One front room, one single room vacant. MRS. L. V.

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FOR RENT.—Number 3 Gray Gables, 9-room brick, all modern improvements. Walnut street between Haywood and Penland. A. D. Cooper. 32 South Main street.

FOR RENT.-New four room cottage. Apply at 48 Flint street.

FOR RENT-Newly furnished room in new house, with private family, centrally located. No sick people. Address, L. B., Box 702, Asheville, N. C.

FOR RENT-A flat of four pleasant unfurnished rooms, with modern conveniences; also two unfurnished rooms.-38 South French Broad ave-

FOR RENT.—One completely furnished apartment, containing three rooms, kitchen, dining, and parlor; lovely sunny place, all modern improvements. Also one ten-room house, \$25 per month, one seven-room cottage \$16 per month; one unfurnished flat and a few furnished rooms. O. D. Revell, 31 Temple Court, 3rd floor.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.-A gentleman returning to Brooklyn, N. Y., to live, has left his saddle horse with me for sale. Price \$100. He is six years old, single footer but trots in harness. Address, Gazette

1 good road wagon, 1 2-horse delivery wagon, 1 good double set harness. Apply to A. D. Cooper, 32 South Main street.

FOR SALE-1 p ir good young mules,

FOR SALE.—An established good, paying business in Asheville; only a few hours pleasant work required each paper for busy people. day to make from \$40 to \$60 per month. An excellent opportunity for person with small capital. Address "Mephisto," care Gazette. 27-3t

FOR SALE-Two horses (not matches) two sets single harness and whips .- A. M. Field, corner Church street and Patton avenue.

FOR SALE-Or exchange-town lots and land in Florida. Address Z. L., care of Gazette.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE .- Lo at Pinebluff, N. C. Address N. S. M care Gazette.



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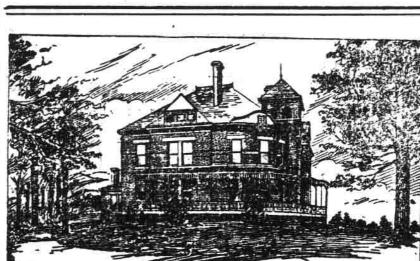
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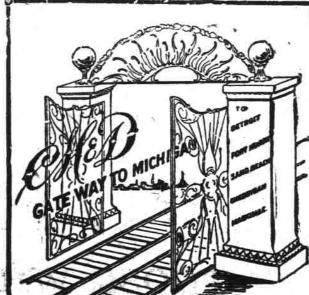
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