

What Venezuela Is.

Something About Our Neighbor to the South Whom We May Have to Fight.

Venezuela is a federal republic and includes an area of 632,877 square miles embraced between 57 deg. and 73 deg. 30m. west longitude and 1 deg. 4m. and 12 deg. 26m. north latitude. On the southwest it claims territory which is also claimed by Colombia and Ecuador and on the east is the land which is claimed both by Venezuela and Great Britain, which holds that it is a part of British Guiana.

The total population of the republic is 2,198,320. The pure white population is estimated to be only 1 per cent. of the whole. The religion is Roman Catholic and the number of the pupils in the schools of the republic is 99,466.

The total value of imports of Venezuela in 1895-6 was 2,498,135 pounds sterling and the exports amounted to 3,292,171 pounds. The principal exports are coffee, cocoa, tobacco, cotton, sugar, hides and animals. The foreign commerce of the country are principally with the United States, Germany, France and England. The chief seaports are Laguayra, Puerto Cabello, Maracaibo, Trinidad, Bolivar, Puerto Sucre, Puerto Guzman Blanco, La Vela and Gutria. Caracas the capital city, is an inland town with a population of 70,509 in 1883.

The total length of the railways of the republic in 1886 was 144 miles but since that time about several hundred miles of new roads have been built. These lines connect the principal seaports with the nearest inland towns and seats of mineral production. There are several thousands of miles of telegraph wires connecting the principal cities of the republic.

The republic of Venezuela is made up of eight states, eight federal territories, the federal district and two colonies.

The states are Carabobo, Guzman Blanco, Lara, Los Andes, Zamora, Falcon, Bolivar and Burmudez. These names of the territories are Alto Orinoco, Amazonas, Yururari, Coura, Goojira, Celon, Armistio and Delia. The colonies are Guzman Blanco and Bolivar.

Armistio, Alto Orinoco, Yururari and Delta include all of the disputed territory.

The revenue of the republic derived chiefly from customs duties, amounted in 1885-86 to 1,083,644 pounds and the expenditures of the government were 1,239,400 pounds. The public debt at the end of 1886 was 2,680,850 pounds. The debt bears interest at 4 per cent.

The constitution of the republic is modelled closely after that of the United States. The president is assisted by eight ministers and a federal council. The law-making authority is vested in a congress of two houses—a senate with twenty-four members and a chamber of deputies of fifty-two members. The deputies are elected every four years directly by the electors of the states and districts and the senators are elected by the legislative bodies of the different states. Congress elects the federal council and the federal council chooses the president. The term of the federal council and the president is two years.

The Venezuelan republic declared its independence of Spain in 1811 and was at warfare with the mother country for nearly ten years thereafter. Bolivar, a native of Caracas, was the leading spirit of the revolt. The independence of the republic was not recognized by Spain till 1845. In 1846 there began a series of civil revolutions which lasted till 1850. During these struggles, in 1854, all the slaves held in the republic were liberated. In December, 1857, Guzman Blanco was declared provisional dictator and acted as dictator till 1873, when he was elected constitutional president for four years. Since the election of Blanco several presidents have administered the affairs of the republic. The sitting president is Ferdinand Crespo.—Charlotte Democrat.

Hood's pills have won high praise for their prompt and efficient yet easy action.

Chairman Dingley Explains.

Chairman Dingley, of the Ways and Means Committee, makes the following statement:

"The revenue bill is not intended to be a tariff revision, but simply an exigency bill to raise about \$40,000,000 of revenue to meet the deficiency. The main object is revenue, although incidentally the increases will help American industries to some extent. The bill is limited to two and a half years, the expectation being that by that time the Republicans will be in full power and able to revise the tariff on their own lines. Wools are taken from the free list and clothing wools given a duty of 6 to 10 cent (60 per cent of the duty provided by the act of 1890) and woolen goods are given a specific compensatory duty of 60 per cent of what they had under the act of 1890, in addition to the ad valorem duty of the present law. Carpet wools are placed where they were under the act of 1890, and the same specific duty given to carpets as under the act of 1890, in addition to the ad valorem duties of present law. The articles of lumber placed on the free list of the tariff of 1890 are transferred to the dutiable list with 60 per cent of the duty that they had under the act of 1890. Then all the other dutiable schedules (except sugar, which is not touched) have all the duties raised 15 per cent. The committee had not the time to treat the articles separately, and hence a horizontal increase became necessary as to all articles now on the free list.

"The bond bill," added Mr. Dingley, "gives the Secretary of the Treasury authority to issue a 3 per cent, five-year coin bond to maintain the redemption fund, in addition to the authority he now possesses, but provides that the proceeds of all bonds sold under this act and under the resumption act shall be used only for redemption purposes. It also provides that all bonds shall be offered to the people of this country. The bill also authorizes certificates of indebtedness bearing 3 per cent interest and payable within three years to be issued to meet any temporary deficiency of revenue. The only object of the bond bill is to reduce the rate of interest and the time they run, as the bonds which the Secretary is not authorized to issue bear four or five per cent interest. The bill practically separates the redemption fund from the cash in the Treasury, and is intended to put a stop to the practical use of proceeds of bonds to meet the deficiency in the Treasury."

[These bills have passed the House and are now in the Senate under consideration. They will likely fail.—Ed.]

A Million in Sight.

North Carolina steps to the front today and announces that she is ready when running her full capacity to spin her own product of cotton.

From the carefully collected and collated facts and figures, the following table is made up.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Value. Includes Cotton mills (184), Spindles (989,093), Looms (24,624), Operatives (24,825), Cotton consumed (bales per annum) (374,220), Money invested (\$1,710,600).

This arrangement of figures is news to our own people and especially to the public at large.

These 184 mills are located in different sections of the state from the mountains to the sea.

These twenty four thousand operatives—ninety seven per cent of them are North Carolinians.

The cotton consumed—ninety per cent of it, is grown in the fields adjoining and adjacent to the mills.

The money invested—ninety three per cent of it is North Carolina money.

Facts About Utah.

Utah may be considered a part of the American Union now, the forty fifth State, it having fulfilled all the conditions required by Congress.

The report of the Governor and the Utah Commissioners are now published. Under the "enabling act" as it is called, 107 delegates to a Constitutional Convention were chosen, divided into 21,000 Republicans, 19,000 Democrats and 6,500 Populists. This was the vote, however, for a delegate to the Congress. The 107 delegates to the Convention were divided into 59 Republicans and 48 Democrats. In property valuation the increase was \$23,289,190 in 1875 to \$99,503,243 in 1894. The increase in population for the last decade was 44 per cent—total population in 1894 is estimated to be 247,000. The capital invested is estimated at \$14,551,345; sales at \$32,865,794, and the number of concerns at 1,947, with 5,023 employed. In its bank statement it places the aggregate capital at \$5,011,890, and the deposits at \$9,689,267.—Wilmington Messenger.

The Little Country Paper.

The morning papers lay on the seat beside him in the elevated train. He was reading with eagerness an awkward, crumpled little sheet. The printing of the paper was uncouth, for it looked as though half the letters were smudged. The impression of the type was dull and blurred.

It was the weekly paper, printed in the town where this prosperous, well-dressed New Yorker had been born and bred. Many a man who has carved his fortune in this city, hails the little country paper every week as a welcome messenger. It tells how the crops are flourishing, how the fences are being whitewashed every spring, and and, perhaps once in a while there is a paragraph about the dear old mother who has got into print by entertaining the sewing circle.

And the prosperous New Yorker reads it entire, while the metropolitan sheets lay beside him unheeded.—New York Herald.

A Preacher Cussed Cleveland.

HAGERSTOWN, Md., Dec. 26.—The Rev. Henry Evans Cotton rector of St. John's Episcopal church, in his sermon yesterday morning, made a violent attack upon President Cleveland, for whom he had voted for the presidency, though the pastor is a Republican.

"Hour by hour," he said, "the President's utterance stands publicly impeached by the honest common sense of the people. Bitter disappointment has come to many who felt that, with his great gifts, he might have lifted the nation to higher, surer planes of action; but he has been dragged from his place as a statesman down to the level of the political leeches that surround him. By one breath of his mouth he threw millions of the people's money into the maelstrom of financial ruin; in another breath he pitilessly invokes his Congress to avert the crash he has called down upon our heads, and millions of lives are disturbed by the horrible possibilities—God grant the impossible possibilities—of cruel war."

The pastor's words created a great stir in the congregation.

Christmas Festivities—Dances.

An impromptu dance was given at Dr. Crouse's on the evening of Dec. 21, '95. The ladies present were Misses Alice Grigg and Jennie Wrenshall; the gentlemen were Messrs Finley and Justice. The Misses Crouse also took part in the dance. The Lincolnton string band furnished the music.

The following attended another dance given by Miss Prue Crouse on the evening of December 24, 1895: Miss Josie Pharr, Charlotte; Miss Hodges, Hedges, S. C.; Dr. Connor and daughter, Cokesbury, S. C.; Mr. Connor, S. C.; Miss Eva Sumner and Miss Alice Grigg, Lincolnton. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs Justice, Finley, R. E. Ogstner, Lawing, Ward and Sumner, all of this place. A nice time is reported. The Lincolnton string band furnished music.

A Christmas Present.

On Xmas day the Democrat received the following communication, which explains itself:

ED DEMOCRAT:—Please at my subscription to your paper and send me my bill.

Respectfully,
D. SCHENCK
Greensboro, N. C.,
Dec. 21, 1895.

We wish the ex-Judge a merry time. We hope he will not bring a suit to destroy the Democrat. In the meantime our friends can find us at the old stand ready to accommodate them.

North State Hotel Changes Hands.

Mr. J. M. Kincaid, who has conducted the North State Hotel for the past year has left Lincolnton. The Directors of the Hotel have leased it to Mr. P. D. Hinson, who took charge on Jan. 1, 1896. Mr. Kincaid made many friends during his stay here, and Lincolnton is sorry to lose him. Mr. Hinson has had considerable experience in the Hotel business and the public may expect the North State to continue well up to its former standard of excellence under his management.

Reepsville to Have a New Store.

We learn that Messrs H. S. Robinson and Clarence Coon of H. S. Robinson & Co. of this place, and Dr. W. C. Kiser, of Reepsville, will soon erect a store room at Reepsville, Howard's Creek township. They will do a general mercantile business.

Left for Texas.

Messrs Early Edwards and Burton Dellinger left Iron Station, this county, for Texas on Dec. 23, 1895. Mr. Dellinger is a brother of Mr. John Dellinger who clerks for Robinson & Co. Mr. Edwards is a nephew of Capt. W. R. Edwards of this home.

A Bee Swarm on Christmas Day.

Mr. D. A. Coon, who lives four miles from town, informs us that he had a hive of bees which "swarmed" on Xmas day. The day was very warm for the time of the year. The bees seemed to think it was summer.

Christmas Visitors.

A. G. Mangum, Esq., of Gastonia, was here during the holidays. He is a lawyer, and a nephew of Rev. Dr. A. W. Mangum, late of the State University.

Messrs W. C. and A. L. Quickel, of Crouse, were here Christmas day on a visit to their parents.

Mr. Thos. Quickel, who teaches at McAdenville, was here during the Xmas holidays.

Misses Mary and Lizzie Bynum spent the holidays at Wilmington, visiting Mrs. Thos. H. McKoy. Master Curtis went to Stokes county to see his grandfather, ex-Judge W. P. Bynum.

Mr. A. M. Harrill and family, of Newton, and Mr. R. E. Harrill, of Chicago, Ill., spent the holidays with Esq. A. G. Harrill near town. Mr. R. E. Harrill is now with the Sprague Collecting Agency.

Lee Robinson, (colored), formerly a porter at the North State Hotel, but now of Madison, N. J., was here during the holidays. Lee is a Democrat and voted that ticket at the late elections. He was still wearing a campaign button while here last week.

Dr. W. M. Reedy, formerly of this place but now of Marlborough S. C., was here during the holidays. He is a brother of Messrs A. W. and Jno. Reedy of this place.

Mr. L. D. Miller, of the Democrat, spent the holidays with his family at Rutherfordton, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Herndon, of Cokesbury, S. C., were at Mrs. Lawing's during Christmas holidays.

Miss Mattie McLean, who attends the State Normal at Greensboro, was here during the Xmas holidays.

Miss Carrie McLean, a teacher in the Charlotte Graded Schools, was at home during the holidays.

Mr. Burgin Wilkie, one of Collector Rogers force, was here Xmas day. He is a son of Mr. J. L. Wilkie.

Mr. J. E. Love, who works in the Seaboard Air Line Shops at Abbeville, S. C., visited his family here during the holidays.

Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Owenby were at Mr. Jno. R. Dettler's during the holidays. They live at Shelby, N. C.

Dr. Shields, an eminent physician of Tennessee, says: "I regard Ayer's Sarsaparilla as the best blood-medicine on earth, and I know of many wonderful cures effected by its use." Physicians all over the land have made similar statements.

Mr. Daniel Runk, of Radisill, Catawba county, gets the Caucasoid for nothing. He is a subscriber to the Democrat.

Wesley Huffstetler who runs a government distillery in Howard's Creek township, has purchased some land from county commissioner W. L. Baker, of North Brook. Mr. Huffstetler will erect another distillery on the land just purchased.

"Buck" Stroud, the Congressman from the Raleigh District, who claims residence in Chatham county, is, by a recent decision regarding a disputed county line, and is consequently a non-resident of the district he now represents.

The Cuban Insurgents seem to be making things lively for Gen. Campos and the Spanish soldiers who are trying to quell the Cuban Rebellion.

Jeremiah Prophet Elijah Smith, Noble Festus Smith, Sir Walter Scott Bart Smith, Juan Fernandez Smith, and Terradel Fuego Smith are the names of a family of Smiths out in Ohio.

The Central Hotel, Charlotte, N. C. has changed hands. Mr. Eccles, who has had charge of the Central for 23 years, retires from the Central and takes charge of the Buford Hotel. Mr. Eccles is a very successful hotel man.

The Atlantic Coast Line has put on a Vestibule train to run from New York City to Jacksonville, Florida.

Hall's Hair Renewer enjoys the confidence and patronage of people all over the civilized world, who use it to restore and keep the hair a natural color.

The Ideal Panacea.

James I. Francis, Alderman, Chicago says: "I regard Dr. King's New Discovery as an ideal Panacea for coughs, colds and lung complaints, having used it in my family for the last five years, to the exclusion of physicians or other preparations."

Rev. John Burgess, Keokuk, Iowa, writes: "I have been a Minister of the Methodist church for 36 years or more, and have never found anything so beneficial, or that gave me such speedy relief as Dr. King's New Discovery. Try this great cough remedy now. Trial bottles free of charge."

Credit to Hood's

It Cured All My Afflictions.



"For ten years I have suffered terribly from general debility, and last winter was attacked so bad with kidney trouble, enlargement of spleen and heart disease, suffering great pain in my back, hips and legs. I read about Hood's Sarsaparilla. I bought one bottle and began taking it. It decided to continue and have taken over six bottles. Today my health is better than it has been for more than a decade. I have no kidney, heart or spleen difficulty, and am in duty bound to give Hood's Sarsaparilla the credit of curing my afflictions." JOSEPH FORD, Ridge Church, Virginia.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures After the first bottle I felt a much better that I decided to continue and have taken over six bottles. Today my health is better than it has been for more than a decade. I have no kidney, heart or spleen difficulty, and am in duty bound to give Hood's Sarsaparilla the credit of curing my afflictions. JOSEPH FORD, Ridge Church, Virginia.

Hood's Pills act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla and are gentle, mild and effective.

Corn

is a vigorous feeder and responds well to liberal fertilization. On corn lands the yield increases and the soil improves if properly treated with fertilizers containing not under 7% actual

Potash.

A trial of this plan costs but little and is sure to lead to profitable culture.

A Valuable Prescription. Editor Morrison of Worthington, Ind. "You have a valuable prescription in Electric Bitters, and I can effectively recommend it for Constipation, sick headache, and as a general system tonic it has no equal." Mrs. Annie Steile, 2225 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, was 21 run down, could not eat for 4 days, had a headache which never left her and felt tired and weary, but six bottles of Electric Bitters restored her health and renewed her strength. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Get a bottle at any drug store.

OVERWORK INDUCED Nervous Prostration

Complete Recovery by the Use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla

"Some years ago, as a result of too close attention to business, my health failed. I became weak, nervous, was unable to look after my interests, and manifested all the symptoms of a decline. I took three bottles of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, began to improve at once,



and gradually increased my weight from one hundred and twenty-five to two hundred pounds. Since then, I and my family have used this medicine when needed, and we are all in the best of health, a fact which we attribute to Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I believe my children would have been fatherless today had it not been for Ayer's Sarsaparilla, of which preparation I cannot say too much."—H. O. HENSON, Postmaster and Planter, Kinard's, S. C.

Ayer's THE ONLY Sarsaparilla RECEIVING MEDAL AT WORLD'S FAIR. AYER'S PILLS SAVE DOCTOR'S BILLS.

Sea Board Air Line.

Table with columns: Local ft. and passenger, Daily except Sunday, Local ft. and passenger, Daily except Sunday. Includes stations like New York, N. Y., Philadelphia, Pa., Baltimore, Md., Washington, D. C., Richmond, Va., Petersburg, Va., Portsmouth, Va., Norfolk, Va., Raleigh, N. C., Charlotte, N. C., Atlanta, Ga., Jacksonville, Fla., and others.

Trains Nos. 42 and 43, "The Atlanta Specials" hold vestibule limited trains with sleepers and coaches. Trains Nos. 38 and 39, "A. L. Express" hold trains of Pullman sleepers and day coaches.

E. S. JONES, Vice President. J. H. WILSON, General Manager. J. J. PATE, Ticket Agent, Lincolnton, N. C.

R. A. HOUSER,

Practical Tinner AND Dealer In—

Time-worn Sewing Machine Needles and Oil, Sewing Machine and Stove Repairs, TIN HOODING and GUTTERING, and all kinds of

COPPER WORK,

Done to Order at Lowest Prices. Just received a new supply of STOVES. Call and see them. 6-11-96-lyr.

CHESTER AND LENOIR RAILROAD.

Table with columns: Local ft. and passenger, Daily except Sunday, Local ft. and passenger, Daily except Sunday. Includes stations like Lenoir, N. C., and others.

L. T. NICHOLS, Superintendent, Chester, S. C.

What is

CASTORIA

Castoria is Dr. Samuel Pitcher's prescription for Infants and Children. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It is a harmless substitute for Paregoric, Drops, Soothing Syrup, and Castor Oil. It is Pleasant. Its guarantee is thirty years' use by Millions of Mothers. Castoria destroys Worms and allays feverishness. Castoria prevents vomiting Sour Curd, cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. Castoria relieves teething troubles, cures constipation and flatulency. Castoria assimilates the food, regulates the stomach and bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. Castoria is the Children's Panacea—the Mother's Friend.

Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children. Dr. G. C. Osmond, Lowell, Mass.

Castoria is the best remedy for children of which I am acquainted. I hope the day is not far distant when mothers will consider the real interest of their children, and use Castoria instead of the various quack nostrums which are destroying their loved ones, by forcing opium, morphine, soothing syrup and other hurtful agents down their throats, thereby sending them to premature graves. Dr. J. F. Kennebec, Conway, Ark.

Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as an superior remedy known to me. H. A. Auman, M. D., 111 St. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Our physicians in the children's department have spoken highly of their experience in their outside practice with Castoria, and although we only have among our medical supplies what is known as regular product, yet we are free to confess that the merits of Castoria has won us to look with favor upon it. C. W. Hooper and Dr. J. F. Kennebec, Boston, Mass.

The Castor Company, 77 Murray Street, New York City.