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intered at the Postoffice as second class matter

THE DISPENSARY WINS.

By a small majority the temperance forces won the dispensary election that was held here yesterday. Quite a number of voters did not avail themselves of their privilege. The election was quiet and orderly. The dispensary which was authorized will be established on Jan. 1, 1904.

Now that the question has been decided nothing is left for the people of Kinston to do but to settle down to a realization of the new condition of affairs that will soon be inaugurated, and as some of our contemporaries have said, "make it a success." However, the financial "success" is only a secondary matter, merely incidental to the principal object in view. It is, of course, the intention of the dispensary people to restrict the consumption of liquor to the minimum, and this intention necessarily leaves out the financial aspect.

The dispensary will be an experiment in our midst for at least two years. At the expiration of that time our people can vote it out if it does not come up to their expectations as an instrument of reform. Whether it will do this or not depends upon the way in which the dispensary is operated, and this alone.

THE FREE PRESS has the faith in our people to believe that the new or-«ler of things can and will be successfully managed, and that the end sought in the change will be largely, if not wholly attained.

United States Treasurer Roberts closed the American Bankers' Association at San Francisco with an address in which he makes some interesting statements. Last year we produced \$80,000,000 of gold, almost a hundred times as much as we produced before the great discoveries on the Pacific coast. We are now producing about 30 per cent. of the entire yearly output of the civilized world. In addition to this gold supply the use of credit has multiplied "to at least four simes the amount of cash added to our supply." While this increase of credit has led to some wild speculation, it has also increased the activity of industry, created a demand for labor. increased the purchasing ability of the mass of the people, and promoted general prosperity.

The race question has got no place in national politics, neither Senator Gorman nor President Roosevelt need try to give it a place. In section where the purity of the ballot is threatened by an avalanche of ignorance and cluding eight battle ships of the first depravity, it is well enough to make class, two of the second class, six huge an issue of an ignorant suffrage. That armored cruisers and fourteen protectis a matter that should be discussed ed cruisers, besides a large fleet of and settled by the communities affected, and by them alone.

Alexand CAUSE OF THE ILL IG BETWEE

THE TWO NATIONS.

How They Comp re in Nav Strength in the Paride-Wonderf. Military Development of the i. land Empire in Recent Years.

The possibility of an armed clash be tween Russia and Japan has reawak ened interest in the political conditionwhich for neveral years have disturbethe far east and suggests a comparison of the relative fighting strength of the two nations.

Eight years ago Japan, as the prize of her victory over China, demanded and obtained by treaty the control of Manchuria, which Russia subsequently took from her and holds at the present time. Russia also prevented Japan from taking possession of Korea, and for that the Japanese bave never for given the ezar. The want of a suffi ciently strong fleet prevented Japan from retaining the fruits of her vie tory, but the government at once set to work to create a navy adequate to cope with her mighty rival, and the result is now seen in the splendid squadrons which foony she is note to assemble and which menace the continuance of the rule of the giant of the porth in the far east.

To Admiral Gombel Yamamoto, min ister of marine, is due much of the



PREMIER KATSURA OF JAPAN

credit of the rapid unval armament of Japan. He has been unremitting in his endeavors to make his country powerful on the sea and has rapidly brought Japan to the front as a naval power. Field Marshal Viscount Taro Kat sura, premier of Japan, has been equally persistent and successful in improving and strengthening the army. He is a trained soldier as well as statesman and acquired his military education in a German war college. He entered the Japanese army in 1867 and saw his first real fighting in the war of restoration in Japan. He served with distinction in the Chino-Japanese war as commander in chief of the Third division and is mainly responsible for the military reform in Japan which inabled her soldiers to easily vanquish the Chinese. General Katsura was war minister before becoming head of

the cabinet in 1901. Japan's army on a peace footing is about 140,000, and her total war strength slightly over 450,000 men. Her navy consists of nearly 100 vessels, ingunboats and tornedo vessels. All these are of modern build and equipment and are along the very finest in the world. Her three navy yards at Sasseto. Kure and Yokosuka are rich in mod in resources, and she has a body of trained wathen numbering 20,000, with a sent mercantile marine to TOW TOP:

CUITIN' CORN.

Folks may hanker all they keer to Fer th' country in th' fall; They may rave about th' beauty Of th' autumn leaves an' all; They may talk about th' glory Of th' sunshine an' th' hase: They may gush about th' grandeur Of th' gold an purple days, But they's just one reckollection Makes me glad, as sure's you're bornt Gee, I'm glad 'at I'm not out there Cuttin' corn!

Spanish needles in yer jumper An' yer threadbare overalls; Cockleburs as thick as hops that's Growin' on th' garden walls; Dead ole blades that keeps a-sawin' At yer blistered neck an' ears; I recall it jest as easy, Though it's been a heap o years Sence I ust t' take my cutter An' go growlin' out at morn To put in a whole long day at Cuttin' corn!

Heap o' things a man don't fancy In this city life o' ours, Where ye've got t' keep a-spurrin' At yer mind's an' body's powers; lleep don't find yer eyes so easy As it did when ye was tired With the long day's tug an' rustle That th' farmin' work required, But ye'll never catch me frettin' a-pinin' round. forlorn. While I realize I'm safe frum

Cuttin' corn! -8. W. Gillian in Baltimore American



"I am. All the people in this neighborhood are getting to be vegetarians, and they've ouit raising chickens."-Chicago American.

Not Inviting.

She had heard a great deal about heaven, and she had also heard considerable about the other place. As usual, her idea of the other place was much less hazy than her idea of heaven. People are not very specific when they speak about heaven.

"Heaven isn't like the bad place." she remarked inquiringly on one occa-

"No, my dear," her mother replied. It's just the reverse of it."

The little one was silent for some time while she figured out what the reverse would be.

"I don't believe I want to go there." she announced at last. "I never-did like cold weather."-Chleago Post.

Confidence.



The senator and president might as well leave it alone when it comes to national politics.

Something of the profitableness of our fisheries is seen in the fact, according to the Morehead City Coaster, that the Bank of Carteret paid out fifty thousand dollars last week to fishermen. That is quite a sum to be turned loose in one week, and it but emphasizes the variety of productive industries in which our people may engage.

Lawsuits In Siam.

They have sometimes a curious way of deciding lawsuits in north Siam. Both parties are put under cold water and the one staying under the longer wins the suit.

Fatherly Criticium.

Rhoda Broughton's Erst work, pubgreat sensation of account of its vigorous unconventionality. She asked her father his opinion of the work, and be, ignorant of his daughter's authorship, replied that it was an unfit book for her to read.

Alien Landlords.

Rent from American property owned by foreigners or Americans living ad is believed to amount annually to not less than \$25,000,000.

Coffee Drunkarda.

There are coffee inebriates in Paris. Usually they are laundresses, a class women who are specially devoted to the fragrant beverage. The coffee inebriste comes at last to such a state that he or she lives almost exclusively on an efficien of the beloved berry, with the addition of a little bread sonked in it.

Chemient Union.

Chemical union is the result of the attraction of unsatisfied electric charges on different atoms for one apother.

When Flows Ware invented. During the reign in China of King Shen Nung She (2737 to 2096 B. C.) he not only discovered the cumtive vir-ture of plants, but also first fashioned timber into plows and tanght the peo-ple the art of hunbandry and insti-tuted the practice of holding markets for exchange of commodities.

The data are buttle ships are not only large than the Russian ships of

ADMIRAL BABON GOMBRI YAMAMOTO. that class in eastern waters, but have much heavier batteries. A comparison of the weight of projectiles that can be thrown by the respective fleets. would, it is said by experts, show a

great superiority for Japan. The Japanese also handle their ships well and have learned rapidly how to profit by the good points in European navies. The enlisted men are recruit ed by voluntary enlistment, by conscription from the fishing fleets and by transfers from the army. The offcers are educated in the naval colleges. of which there are several in the eru pire, and are in every way competent

As to the outcome of a war between Russia and Japan, naval author besitate to predict. as Russia has had hesitate to prodict, as Russis has had no recent haval experience worth men-tioning. Japan's war with China proved her to be infinitely superior to the Celestials, but only a conflict with Russis would prove anything of the relative ability of the two nations. That a clash is bound to occur sooner or later seems to be the opinion of those who have made a study of condi-tions in the far east.

and efficient.

Willie and To youngsters who are pugilistically inclined. The other day the following conversation took place between them: "Aw," said Willie tauntingly, "you're afraid t' fight-that's wot it is." "Naw, I ain't," protested Tommy stoutly, "But if I fight my ma 'll find it out an' lick me."

"How 'll she find it out, ch?" "She'll see the doctor goin' t' your house."-Lyre.

His Experience. "It's funny what mistakes dese newspapers make," said Meandering Mike, "What's de matter?" asked Plodding Pete.

"Here's one dat keeps talkin' 'bout de prisoner at de bar. My observation is that you don't have to keep a man prisoner at no bar. Mos' likely de only way to git him loose is to tell 'im it's 12 o'clock an' put out de lights."+ Washington Star.

Favorite of Providence.

"I declar'," said Brother Dickey, "I got ter be mo' keerful in future-1 sho has!"

"What's the trouble now?" "Well, suh, I whirled in en prayed for rain dea two hours en a half, en dey come a regular deluge dat come mighty nigh drownin' de bes' mule I had. Providence is so partial ter me!" -Atlanta Constitution.

A Feminine Exception. Yes, Mrs. Dimbleton has a delightfully generous disposition."

"Indeed?" "Yes, Indeed, She'd share her crust with a friend." "Would she?"

"She would. She'd give him anything she possessed except the last word."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Show For Place. "Your friend Orpheus Sieker is very sequious to Senator Key these days." said the political observer. "I suppose he's playing him to win." "More likely." replied the sporting man. "he's playing him for a place."-Philadel-phia Record.

Biz Girls. He's just an ordinary man. His clothes are rather old all His hat is worn and shabby, and his shoes have been resoled. He doesn't put on any st make a put on any st

- make a show: He
- strin, you know.

They're all sweet, lovely creatures, and they cost an awful lot! They're always in the fashion, although, dear pairs is not. And he yourns to see them married, though he hates to have them go. For a man has not in heater when he have as girls, you know!

DIXON & HOOKER

We guerantee this Paint to be all right.