

of them have done, in making the general tax as low as is consistent with the actual needs of the municipality. The chief trouble is that most city councils figure on the highest amount they can get from the people without causing a popular uprising, instead of trying to get along with as little as they reasonably can in giving an effective administration. The retiring Bountiful officers, and those of some other of the smaller cities of Utah, are entitled to the gratitude of their constituency for doing excellent work and setting a commendable example to many larger municipalities, in wise and economical administration.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

From Heber, Navajo county, Arizona, comes the following request made by HADE NIELSEN:

To the Editor:

Please give us poor, ignorant folks some information through your columns in regard to the Monroe doctrine and the interpretation thereof.

The doctrine referred to was enunciated by President Monroe in his message to Congress December 2, 1823. He was making direct reference to the intention of Spain and Portugal to subdue the Spanish American colonies which had gained their independence. Regarding the European powers, President Monroe said:

The citizens of the United States cherish sentiments the most friendly in favor of the liberty and happiness of their fellowmen on that side of the Atlantic. In the wars of the European powers, in matters relating to themselves, we have never taken any part, nor does it comport with our policy to do so. It is only when rights are invaded or seriously menaced that we resent injuries or make preparations for our defense.

With the movements in this hemisphere we are of necessity more immediately connected, and by causes which must be obvious to all enlightened and impartial observers. The political system of the allied powers is essentially different in this respect from that of America. This difference proceeds from that which exists in their respective governments. And to the defense of our own, which has been achieved by the loss of so much blood and treasure, and matured by the wisdom of their most enlightened citizens, and under which we have enjoyed unexampled felicity, this nation is devoted.

We owe it, therefore, to candor and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and these powers to declare that we should consider an attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety.

With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered and shall not interfere. But with the governments which have declared independence and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration and on just principles, acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them or controlling in any other manner their destiny by any European power in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States.

In the war between these new governments and Spain we declared our neutrality at the time of their recognition,

and to this we have adhered, and shall continue to adhere, provided no change shall occur which, in the judgment of the competent authorities of this government, shall make a corresponding change on the part of the United States indispensable to their security.

The President then made reference to the fact that the allied powers had "interposed by force in the internal affairs of Spain," reasserting that the United States policy was not to interfere with the internal concerns of any European power, and added:

But in regard to these continents circumstances are eminently and conspicuously different. It is impossible that the allied powers should extend their political system to any portion of either continent without endangering our peace and happiness; nor can anyone believe that our southern brethren, if left to themselves, would adopt it of their own accord. It is equally impossible, therefore, that we should behold such interposition in any form with indifference.

The President closed his reference to the subject with the admonition to European governments that "it is still the true policy of the United States to leave the parties to themselves, in the hope that other parties will pursue the same course." With this view the British government heartily concurred at the time, probably because the doctrine was directed at Spain and Portugal, and its enforcement under conditions then existing gave a commercial advantage to Great Britain. One position of Britain at present is that the Monroe doctrine never was recognized as international law—a claim not entirely borne out by expressions of the British diplomats at the time, the doctrine was promulgated; in fact it is said to have been inspired by Lord Canning. Another claim of Great Britain is that the Venezuela boundary question does not involve the Monroe platform, while the American position is that an attempt is being made to extend the English political system over a portion of the continent belonging to Venezuela, and therefore brings the doctrine directly in issue. The enforcement of the Monroe doctrine does not interfere with the American colonies of any European power, but forbids territorial aggrandizement by such power at the expense of any nation or government established by the people on this continent, and is distinctly in favor of republicanism against monarchical institutions.

WILL SOME ONE TELL?

Much has been said and written of the value of canaigre as a tanning agent, and in places where it is shipped to, the material is successfully applied in the manufacture of leather. A very important matter for this section of country is to know how to make this practical application. There is the canaigre and there are the hides; but no one hereabouts seems to know how to get the two together and produce leather—at least there is no one magnanimous enough to furnish the information asked for some time since to enable Arizona people who would do something to proceed in the business. After patient waiting for a reply to his former inquiry on the subject, Christopher I. Kempe, Esq.,

head of the Concho, Apache county, Arizona, mercantile company, heavy dealers in hides, repeats his question as follows:

A while ago I wrote inquiring how to use canaigre. I see our very enterprising Brother C. A. Madsen, of Gunnison, is also recommending it, but why will no one tell us how to use it? We can furnish car loads, but none here have an idea of what quantity or how to prepare it.

Here is an opportunity for doing good that should not be missed, if there is any one who can embrace it. Brother Kempe and his Arizona associates are practical home industry men, who are never backward in opening new avenues for the employment of local talent and resources. The interests of their Territory are closely connected with those of Utah; and if any one in this State can tell them how to use the canaigre in tanning, they will make the experiment, and Utah may profit by the experience that follows the outlay of their capital and labor. If there is any one here who has the information, and who has patriotism sufficient to yield up the knowledge for the general good, now is his chance. If it be not desirable to publish the information in detail, the fact of its possession at least should be made known, with an expression of willingness to impart it to others anxious to apply it in practical efforts to start the new industry. Will some one answer Mr. Kempe's question?

THE McSHEE EXPEDITION.

The extended report of the United States bureau of ethnology expedition to Tiburon island, referred to in the dispatches a few days ago, ought to contain some information of more than ordinary interest to people here who give attention to archeological matters in America. The expedition reached Hermosillo, Mexico, from where a brief report was telegraphed. From this it would seem that special importance attaches to the visit of the party to northwestern Sonora rather than to the island which was the chief objective point. A month was spent in Sonora, where the explorations resulted in discovering remains of a prehistoric race never before recognized by archeologists. Among the discoveries made were two mountains covered with fortifications and entrenchments, and other evidences of a great population distinct from either the Zuni, farther north, or Tara Puma cave dwellers, farther south.

There is one important conclusion arrived at in connection with this expedition's work, namely, that the features of a higher civilization than that of later centuries among the natives indicate a distinct class of people who have disappeared before their more savage neighbors. The prehistoric civilization of this country is not the work of the ancestors of the present Indians, except so far as some of these may have been associated with a destroyed branch of the ancient Americans who, while they existed as a nation, were antagonists of the savage tribes. This more enlightened branch maintained the Christian religion and a high order of enlightenment until its people drifted