

## IN THE DANISH WEST INDIES.

Affairs of Today on the Islands—Chances for the Investment of American Capital.

## Special Correspondence.

Charlotte Amalia, St. Thomas Island, Feb. 6.—One of your first surprises on landing at this port is the cab system. The vehicles are not of the showy order and the horses might be valuable as specimens of anatomy; but the price is in keeping with the outfit. Ten cents a mile is the regular tariff—and nowhere else are miles so short as in the eye-measurement of these St. Thomas cabs. Up hill and down dale you are rattled, regardless of bumps and bruises, at the utmost speed the half-starved animals can make under the incentive of cruel lashings. Whenever we find ourselves compelled to patronize this mode of locomotion, we have the whip and then, of course, the miles are shorter than ever. Most tourists prefer to travel about the country on the little island ponies, which scamper over the mountains with great ease, over the most arduous terrain, and the most inveterate walkers, who have climbed the Alps and tramped over half the world on foot, here grow lazy as the latest and are willing to ride in any fashion.

Though the islands themselves are beautiful beyond compare, their principal city, Charlotte Amalia, has no attractions to boast of. The walls and bastions of its insignificant houses are mostly a haphazard jumble of sheet zinc, boards and shingles. In some of the narrowest streets the low-ceilinged habitations have overhanging balconies that almost touch those on the opposite side—thus forming tunnel-like alleys, through which perspiring black crowds push and surge, each individual unit apparently trying to get the most noise and appear to do most of the work. Many of the young mulattoes are really beautiful, with perfect figures and a natural grace that would well become North American young ladies of fairest complexion. One does not wonder that the blacker great-grandmothers, captivated by the rough bucaniers, or that intermarriages between the races are still common. Today hardly 15 per cent of the population of these islands are white, and the "color line" is very lax, if drawn at all. Some of the blacks are of a superior class, not only by reason of a preponderance of white blood in their veins, but because they have always enjoyed the same rights and privileges as the whites. The descendants of the slaves are another class altogether, as different as the Chinese from the man of the street. Even these are improving with every generation, education being compulsory under Danish rule, the children of white and black going to school together. There is also no distinction of color in the churches, or in business circles. Danes and Englishmen recognize a man for his worth, wealth and education, and never dream of excluding a neighbor from the same social, business or religious privileges they themselves enjoy on account of difference in color. In the colonial council of St. Croix are two black men, and they fill their places with credit to themselves and to the satisfaction of their associates. One clergyman of the islands objects to performing the marriage ceremony between black men and white women. There is a property clause in the franchise, restricting voters to citizens who own property, or have an annual income exceeding five hundred dollars. At present this gives St. Thomas Island less than two hundred voters. Denmark's standing army in her western possessions consists of 220 men. They are volunteers recruited from the veteran corps in the home country and sent to the islands for a term of six years. They have guard and barracks duties to perform but those who have no objection to the work when not on duty—therefore the Danish army in the West Indies looks more like shoemakers, bricklayers, etc., than soldiers. When their term of service is over they receive free transportation home, if they desire to remain, are given positions on the police force.

As to the business possibilities of these islands, under proper development, they are practically unlimited. Last year the imports of St. Thomas alone amounted to nearly \$750,000; and those of St. Croix, the much larger but less populous island, about \$450,000. They consist mainly of food-stuffs and manufactures, most of which ought to be produced on the spot. The export have long been a miscellaneous and shabby lot, hardly worth mentioning. Those from St. Thomas, amounting to about \$35,000 per annum, go to the neighboring island of St. Croix, and \$275,000 dollars worth, or thereabouts, of sugar and other tropical products, chiefly to the United States. Little St. John ("Jan" in Danish)—containing only twenty-one square miles and a population of one thousand—devotes itself to the raising of cattle, to supply passing vessels with fresh meat. The whole island is grazing land and all the inhabitants are black, except half a dozen government officials. There is a Danish judge, who fills several other important offices, such as chief of police, harbor master, postmaster, customs officer and head of the institution situated on the tiny island. His police department consists of two members, besides himself. St. John is only twelve miles off the eastern shore of St. Thomas—a pleasant half hour's sail. Profitable stock farms might be established here with small investments, and the possibilities of fishing and of canning establishments are great. The water about all these islands is in the palms of my hands failed," writes Editor H. N. Lester, of Syracuse, Kan., "then I was wholly cured by Bucklen's Arnica Salve." It's the world's best for Eruptions, Sores and all skin diseases. Only 25c at Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept.

D. CHAITKIN,  
Designer and Ladies' Tailor on  
CLOAKS AND SUITS.

Twenty years' experience in New York and Philadelphia, and last year with Walker Bros. I have opened a ladies' Tailoring establishment in Mrs. Fox's Millinery store at

259 S. MAIN STREET.

And am prepared to make suits to order out of our own or our pattern material in the very latest New York and Paris fashions. First-class workmanship and perfect fit guaranteed at very reasonable prices.

Suits Complete at - \$35.00 up.  
Making Suits - \$20.00 up.  
Making Separate Skirts, \$5.00 up

DR. W. W. TRABUE,  
POSTOFFICE BLOCK, FILLS  
TEETH

At Cost. Read His Offer

Being comparatively a stranger and little acquainted here, and desiring only to meet the people and introduce my work, I will for a limited time put in one or two fillings at about the cost of materials used, for anyone coming to my office, viz:

Silver Filling, worth \$1.00 to \$1.50, 50c.

Gold Filling, worth \$2.00, 50c.

These fillings are not made by a hired assistant, but by myself. The materials used are the best that can be bought. I am not running a dental parlor or advertising office, and never expect to. I make this offer only to aid me in becoming established.

Washing of  
the Stomach

One of the latest methods and most disagreeable. Stop it! Take

## NAU'S DYSPEPSIA CURE

which reaches the seat of the trouble much better. Hundreds have been cured where washing has not been a success. Send for Booklet FREE to Frank Nau, 213 Bway, N.Y.

\$1.00 a bottle; six bottles for \$5.00, express prepaid. Send to: Dr. Nau, Druehl & Frank, and Nau's Drug Store, or Frank Nau, Portland, Ore., or 213 Broadway, New York.

drawn tease the herd. By this primitive method one may be sure of unwatered milk; but there is little danger of that in any event, since water is scarce in the milk in St. Thomas. Even water for drinking purposes has often to be brought from some other island, especially near the close of the dry season; and you may be sure that among hot palms, very little of it is squandered in bathing or the washing of clothes.

Among the sights of Charlotte Amalia is reckoned "Bluebeard's Cave"—a deep, dark hollow running back under the cliffs that environ the harbor—in which, it is said, the notorious bucanier buried much of his treasure. It is doubtful, however, if any of the pirates who frequented these parts in the seventeenth century ever saw the cavern. At any rate, no treasure has been found in it, though 200 years of diligent search, aided by the diving rods of negroes. But odd lots of the freebooters' hidings have come to light in other places, from time to time. Many a copper pot and iron chest, filled with gold doubloons has been unearthed in the neighborhood of ancient landmarks, and scores of lazy negroes have been ruined for life by the finding of Spanish "pieces of eight," such as every schoolboy has read about in "The Pirate's Own Book," and Clark Russell's sea stories. By the way, the island of Aves—the very last stronghold of those seafaring folk of predatory propensities, where Rev. Charles Kingsley wrote his pathetic "Lays of the Last Buccaneer," is some distance farther down, near the South American coast.

It takes the stranger considerable time to get used to the overwhelming majority of black faces in St. Thomas—a black skin being rarely seen on the streets during the heat of the day. You observe, too, that there appears to be a great many more women than men, and that the former make the most noise and appear to do most of the work. Many of the young mulattoes are really beautiful, with perfect figures and a natural grace that would well become North American young ladies of fairest complexion. One does not wonder that the blacker great-grandmothers, captivated by the rough bucaniers, or that intermarriages between the races are still common. Today hardly 15 per cent of the population of these islands are white, and the "color line" is very lax, if drawn at all. Some of the blacks are of a superior class, not only by reason of a preponderance of white blood in their veins, but because they have always enjoyed the same rights and privileges as the whites. The descendants of the slaves are another class altogether, as different as the Chinese from the man of the street. Even these are improving with every generation, education being compulsory under Danish rule, the children of white and black going to school together. There is also no distinction of color in the churches, or in business circles. Danes and Englishmen recognize a man for his worth, wealth and education, and never dream of excluding a neighbor from the same social, business or religious privileges they themselves enjoy on account of difference in color. In the colonial council of St. Croix are two black men, and they fill their places with credit to themselves and to the satisfaction of their associates. One clergyman of the islands objects to performing the marriage ceremony between black men and white women. There is a property clause in the franchise, restricting voters to citizens who own property, or have an annual income exceeding five hundred dollars. At present this gives St. Thomas Island less than two hundred voters. Denmark's standing army in her western possessions consists of 220 men. They are volunteers recruited from the veteran corps in the home country and sent to the islands for a term of six years. They have guard and barracks duties to perform but those who have no objection to the work when not on duty—therefore the Danish army in the West Indies looks more like shoemakers, bricklayers, etc., than soldiers. When their term of service is over they receive free transportation home, if they desire to remain, are given positions on the police force.

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## WALKER'S STORE.



New Foulard Silks of Real Elegance and Style,  
\$1.00 a Yard.

Think of it! Now, at Eastertide, When You Should  
Pay \$1.25 to \$1.75 for them.

Tuesday, March 24th, to Saturday.

IT'S a Walker Storeism. No such Price did you expect to pay for the most beautiful Foulards makers have brought out this Season, nor did we expect to give them to you so, right at the moment of Spring's opening, when you most want them—in time even for making into the Easter gown. But look to the Walker Store always to bring you the best surprises the country can give if conditions make it at all possible. Our buyers must be, are ever wakeful and watchful of your interests—therein lies the store's prosperity; progress. This news for Easter week:

## THOUSANDS OF YARDS, CLOSE A HUNDRED PIECES

mind you—of choicest Foulard silks; very different is the choosing than if from a limited style lot or small gathering. American made; European made; and strange must be the wish that cannot be gratified in such broad variety. Every new pattern design. Every color. Ideal for waist or gown. A phenomenal sale of Foulard silks, Tuesday to Saturday. \$1.25, \$1.40, \$1.50 and \$1.75 a yard kinds at—ONE DOLLAR.

No approvals given, no samples, no exchanges.

## Women's \$18.75 to \$25.00 Suits—\$14.75.

New, and without reason for a reduction except that every day calls for medium price dresses and we have none to give because our maker has been unable to send an order placed long ago. And so to meet the emergency, about twenty-five of these higher cost have part of price taken off.

Made of cheviot, serge and Panama cloth, in black, dark blue, green and tan. The skirts are lined with percale, the jackets, which are stylishly cut, in single, double breasted and tight fitting effects, with taffeta silk of a good quality. All are more or less prettily trimmed or stiffened. Marked down for Monday and the week from \$18.75, \$22.50 and \$25.00 to—\$14.75.

## \$15.00 Black Moire Separate Skirts—\$11.75

And these, too, are new. Women's black moire skirts, with deep flounce, a drop skirt lining of fine percale that has an accordion plaited ruffle of taffeta silk. Handsome skirts and serviceable. Worth every penny of the regular price, \$15.00. Monday and the week—\$11.75.

Women's fine black cheviot skirts in the new serpentine style, with full flare bottom, unlined, handsomely trimmed with moire silk or braid—\$12.50.

Indian Baskets a  
Fourth off Regular  
Price.

Much time and care were spent on the gathering of choicest Alaskan Indian baskets to be found for the holiday selling time. No easy matter, as you know, because the tribe famed for making them is almost extinct. The stock is yet very complete. Odd shapes in unique color combinations and all sizes. Hand baskets, work baskets, spoon baskets, waste paper baskets, etc. Monday and the week—

The \$27.50 baskets—\$20.62.

The \$20.00 baskets—\$15.00.

The \$10.00 baskets—\$7.50.

The \$8.00 baskets—\$6.00.

The \$5.00 baskets—\$3.75.

The \$2.00 baskets—\$1.50.

Small Japanese baskets, kinds

generally used for making tiny

Easter nests, 4c, 5c and 10c each.

A new lot of choice Spanish

and Roman cut work; tea cloths

and scarfs, 50c, 75c and 85c. Center

pieces, 25c. Doilies, 15c to

35c each.

Dainty Swiss dresser scarfs,

ruled borders and three mats to

match, just twelve left from sale

group, while they last—25c.

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New Petticoats,  
Undermuslins,  
Children's Under-  
waists.

A line of women's petticoats that deserve particular mention this week. Made of mercerized black satin, and well made, with two ruffles that have six rows of fancy stitching, seams are all strapped. Priced only \$1.25; others more elaborate with three graduated flounces finished with tiny ruffles—\$2.00.

Dainty corset covers of cambric, made with full fronts—the desired style of now, prettily trimmed in Valenciennes or linen lace insertion and edge, ribbon lacing, at the wee price of—50c.

Women's cambric drawers with deep lawn ruffles, lace edge and insertion or fine embroidery—50c. Children's cambric Pettis

waists, shirred fronts, taped buttons, eyelets for hose supporters, infants' sizes to 12 years. 25c, 50c and 65c.

Fairy lamps, green, yellow, red, pink and other shades, three days, the 25c kind for—15c; the 50c and 65c each—15c.

Perfumes, Talcum Powder, Brushes.

Vera-Violet, Greek Lilac and Royal Mignon—three very choice odors that sell always at \$1.00 an ounce, Monday Tuesday and Wednesday reduced to—50c.

Yellow's Talka-Pura talcum powder, put up in wooden boxes and priced 15c each, three days—5c.

Solid wood back brushes with long handles, 35c regular for—25c. Good wire hair brushes, instead of 15c each—5c.

Children's Kid stocking protectors with adjustable elastic straps, for Monday Tuesday and Wednesday reduced from 25c a pair to—15c.

Large wooden towel rings, white, pink, blue and dark colors, 15c each regular—three days—5c.

Black wood darning balls, 5c each kind, two for 5c.

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Women's New Kid  
Gloves, Fresh from  
Grenoble, France.

Related, but in time yet to make complete the Easter accessories to new gown and hat. The kidskin is exquisitely soft and pliable, as must be with the fresh and new, and of course will give a perfect mould-like fit to the hand. Shades are beautiful; stitings pretty. \$1.50 and \$2.00.

Exquisite Easter  
Neckwear For  
Women.

Can we tell you of each dainty one? No. Not even every other or third particular beauty, so those left untold you may depend are lovely beyond the telling. Silk twice-around, white and all delicate shades have dainty French knots scattered along the turn over part and ends or pretty embroidery; others are effectively hemstitched, beaded, feather bone stitched, tucked or have fanciful finishing touches of some kind to make them airy and pretty. New kinds of soft silk stocks are shown, also, in child and lawn with short ends, bow knots or tie ends, properly decorated; wash ties in piques and lawns of every shape known, trimmed, of course; Persian scarfs, neck ruffles, etc., etc. Prices are not high on any.

Womens' Chate-  
laine and Shop-  
ping Bags.

A group of real seal leather chateaine bags, well made, and originally priced at \$1.25 up to \$2.25 each, for a quick clearance

on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, a choice—50c.

Large size shopping bags made of cloth and leather, the 20c kind for—15c; the 40c for—20c.

Candle Sticks,  
Fairy Lamps.

Gilt and white metal candle sticks that were formerly 35c each. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday—25c.

Fairy lamps, green, yellow, red, pink and other shades, three days, the 25c kind for—15c; the 50c and 65c each—15c.

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## "Chastarfield"

OUR NEW CLOTHING FOR MEN.  
SPRING FASHIONS NOW HERE.

It's for you to say when you want a spring suit. We now have the finest gathering to show you ever brought to the country. "Chastarfield," of course, we keep nothing else, in stylish cloths, attractive new patterns in the light, dark and medium colors of the spring season. The making is superb, indeed it is a conceded fact, among dealers who know that "Chastarfield" ready-made clothing for men is the nearest approach to first class tailor-made now on the market.

Newly arrived—men's camel hair light wool shirts and drawers, a particularly desirable weight for early spring, well made, seams finished with silk tape, a rare value at \$1.00.

Fresh lot of men's madras shirts in the latest color effects of black, blue and red, \$1.50.

New lines of kid gloves for street and dress, the best makes known. \$1.50 to \$2.00.

## The "Meteor"—Our \$3.50 Shoes for Men.

A well shod man is he who wears the "Meteor." Made for us. The leather chosen by us. The making commanded by us. Another such shoe before the price does not come to this part of the country. And they are not here without a thorough testing. A year's selling right from our store has brought information and convincing proof of their excellence. The name withheld until now—the "Meteor," in box calf, patent calf, velvet calf, cordona patent kid and velv kid. All shapes, lasts, widths and sizes. \$3.50.

## "Doris"—\$3.50 Shoes for Women.

Hundreds of pairs of as handsome boots as ever left a shoe shop. Every toe tight, every shape last, every good leather. All sizes and widths. \$3.50.

Monday and Tues-  
day Specials in  
Curtains, Shades,  
Draperies.

15c denims in figured reds, greens, blue and brown, 34 inches wide—10c.

Hope portieres for single doors, many colors, different styles. \$2.00, \$2.25 and \$2.50 regular; two days—one priced at \$1.75.

Choose from all our Nottingham lace curtain sold regularly at \$1.25 and \$1.35 a pair for two days, Monday and Tuesday, at—90c.

Window shade material, three colors only, light and medium yellow and light sage, that can be made into any size up to 36 inches wide and 7 feet long with "Hartshorn" rollers for 45c.