

LAST HOURS IN SEVILLE.

A Royal Monopoly on Tobacco—The Government Getting Down at the Heel of Want of the Heavily-Taxed Product of Cuba—Where Six Thousand Carmens Gossip, Giggle and Intrigue White Rolling Cigarettes With Marvelous Dexterity—What Gay Grisettes are to Paris, the Cigarettes are to Spain—They are Much Addicted to Mate'nity and as Full of Mischief as the Carmen of Long Ago.

Seville, Spain, Feb. 16.—The day is at hand when we must bid adieu to Seville and move on to another scene—where sorrow be it confessed, for there is not another city on the face of the earth which possesses so potent though intangible a charm. Just what it is that thus fascinates the stranger and seems to bind him closer the longer he stays, nobody attempts to explain. It cannot be the climate, delightful though it is, because there are many other places where the bright, brief southern winter presents greater perfection of weather. Perhaps it is the savor of antiquity, the glimmer of departed greatness, the romance and tragedy of Goths and Romans. Moors and Spaniards, who have successfully played their two-century parts and passed into the land of shadows, each leaving traces behind so plain that he who runs may read them, and mayhap the spice of peril in daily life, especially to hated Americans, adds to the attraction.

By the way, the best time to visit southern Spain is in the early spring, because in summer the heat is intense, in autumn floods are liable to be troublesome, and in winter the marble floors and absence of fires sometimes render the great rooms damp and comfortable. But it is infinitely better to come at any season than not to come at all. Whatever time of year you inevitably visit to the Paris exposition occurs, you will be well repaid for continuing your journey down through the Iberian peninsula, though to do so you must curtail "ray farce" by half. In this part of Spain, February is like New England May, roses are

BLOOMING EVERYWHERE.

orange trees bearing flowers and fruit on the same stem; bananas, dates and figs hang temptingly within reach, and such grapes as no northern sun can ripen may be had for the gathering. The Spanish peasant is very poor and unthrifty indeed, who does not contrive to own a few feet of soil in which to grow a choice Malaga grape-vine. He refrigerates his crop, so to say, by erecting over the vines a cane-stalk arbor, upon which he suspends the picked clusters for winter use. Hanging for months in the current of cool wind, the pale-green bunches remain as plump and full of flavor as when they hung up, until grapes ripen again. In this simple manner they are preserved for the winter market, so that in Spain there is never an "off season" for grapes.

It is easy to see why Seville is so intensely hot in mid-summer. The immediate surroundings are flat and marshy, and the encircling mountains, though wonderfully effective in the landscape, with their lights and shadows and blue, blue blending with the horizon, are too far off to benefit the city by their breezes. It is said to be an actual fact that the rays of the sun, cooking an omelet in Seville is to expose it a few minutes to the noon-day rays of the summer sun. But then, the houses are built on purpose for this kind of weather, and the convenience of the heat, if he takes life easily, as the natives do. The old Moors were wise in their generation and prepared for hot weather; and though it is more than six hundred years since Seville was taken from them, their style of architecture is still faithfully copied. Of all the sights of the town, the Moorish palaces are most interesting. You find immense specimens of them farther north—at Grenada, Toledo and even Madrid—but Seville is pre-eminently the place where the patio is at its best. Even the ordinary houses are Oriental in plan and admirably fitted to resist the scorching heats of summer. There are patios of all sizes and

DEGREES OF SPLENDOR.

from the several marble-paved courtyards of the newest hotel, to the meanest and dirtiest in the old Jewish quarter. Each shows something of the individual taste of its owner, and one never tires of peering into them when walking along the streets. That is easily done, though the tall gate opening from the saguano—or short, paved hall leading from the sidewalk to the patio—is always closed and locked, for the lace-work of its elegantly wrought and gilded iron is not much hindrance to the view. In the older houses the kitchens are situated close to the front doors, just off the saguano, giving passers-by the full benefit of garlic, grease and saffron odors, but preventing the diffusion of the same through the patios and sleeping rooms. The finest courtyards are paved with marble, usually of various colors and laid in patterns, the walls are inlaid with elegant mosaic, and marble columns on every side support the inner projections of the super-story. In the center is a fountain, surrounded by flower beds; blossoming vines twine around the columns, scores of bright winged birds sing in wicker cages, hammocks swing lazily in the

shade, and the murmur of the fountain mingles all day with the family talk and the drone of guitars; for in these patios the people spend most of their waking hours. The courtyard is always open to the sky at night; but in the day time, when the sun is hot, an awning is stretched over and frequently sprinkled with water, thus tempering the burning atmosphere. The sleeping apartments, in the upper story, have many windows looking into the patio, but the street walls are as blank as the habit of doing so enormously high and the sleeping rooms that looking from one's bed, one feels as if down in the bottom of a well. The floors are usually of white marble, and walls ornamented with brilliant azulejos, but the partitions are only a little way above one's head and the ceiling is of canvas or painted boards.

CLOSE HIS WINDOWS

and sleep like a salamander, or wrap himself in a sheet and retreat to the roof, as the Sevillians have a funny habit of doing. So enormously high are the sleeping rooms that looking from one's bed, one feels as if down in the bottom of a well. The floors are usually of white marble, and walls ornamented with brilliant azulejos, but the partitions are only a little way above one's head and the ceiling is of canvas or painted boards.

The uninitiated stranger must content himself with only passing glimpses of these luxurious dwellings, for the proud grandee guards his home with true Oriental jealousy. There are, however, two or three palaces in Seville which are open to the public, under the restrictions. They are splendid representatives of their class, so far as form and furnishings go, but being unoccupied, are like a beautiful wreck, which the soul has departed. One of these is San Telmo, the hereditary seat of the duke of Montpensier, standing just back of the Golden Tower, on the bank of the Guadalquivir. Here the late son of Louis Philippe, who married the sister of ex-Queen Isabella, lived in regal state, his halls filled with elegant furniture, costly paintings and bronzes, and his grounds containing acres of orange groves and rare collections of tropical plants. The palace was built for a naval school, by the companions of Columbus, and dedicated to the mariner's saint in gratitude for having been saved from a tempest. Isabella gave it to her sister, the duchesse de Montpensier, and after the revolution of 1818 she and her husband made it their principal residence. They were exceedingly popular in Seville, where they did a great deal of good by careful and discriminating charity and skill in the encouragement of art and architecture. San Telmo's marble courts and halls, embellished with arabesques and verses from the Koran, a fountain playing in each chamber, are beautiful beyond description; but being utterly without fire-places, are altogether too chilly in winter to meet one's ideas of home comfort. The walls are completely covered with family portraits and souvenirs, evidently greatly prized and cared for. There are dozens of portraits of Louis Philippe, Sister Isabella, Marie Amalie and Mme. Adelaide, and less distinguished members of the two families; in the salons of events in their careers, such as the

BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE

of the Comte de Paris, Louis Philippe and his five sons on horseback, and Princess Alexandra, Victoria represented as an angel of mercy visiting a starving family. In one of the patios are copies of the tombs of two of Louis' dead children. The first child of the Comte de Paris, who died in the cathedral. When the second died, the parents naturally wished to lay it there also; but it was not allowed. The greatest insult which the revolution offered them was this refusal to bury their words, "You are no longer royal; the royal chapel is not for your offspring." The nearest that poor Louis Philippe ever got to the throne, though he more than once figured in the role of Pretender, was when his daughter Mercedes was married to the king (she was the first wife of the late Alfonso); on which occasion it is said that he fell upon his knees before his own little girl and kissed her hand—so exalted was his idea of royalty and so thorough a Spaniard had the French prince become.

The palace of the dukes of Alba, in the Calle de Duenas, is semi-Moorish and beautiful beyond compare; but being in a now unfashionable neighborhood, was long ago deserted by its aristocratic owners, who contains eleven patios, a score of fountains and a thousand marble pillars, besides a wonderful garden and a forest of myrtles and orange trees. Over its magnificent gateway the arms of the house of Alba are emblazoned in colored tiles, encircled by flags taken in many hard-fought battles; together with the insignia of the Golden Fleece and the significant motto, "Tu in ego pio es." The crest—an angel holding in one hand the globe and cross, in the other a flaming sword, is supposed to typify the king's duty to defend the faith of the monarchy, the oppressor of the Nether-

lands and champion of the faith, maintained to the last in the affections of his suspicious and bigoted monarch.

More interesting than either of these show-places is the poverty lane and stately building facing the Botanical Garden, which the stranger at first supposes to be at least a royal residence. It is the government Fabrique de Tabacos from which Spain derived such magnificent revenues while she controlled the crops of Cuba, Puerto Rico and other western possessions. It still employs several thousand hands, but the sound of its grinding is low, as compared to those golden days before the war, when Spain was at liberty to squeeze from her colonists the ultimate centavo. The building covers more ground than the Great Pyramid, and is surrounded with a moat, like a fortress, so that it can be guarded on every side, giving no chance for smugglers to sneak in by some hidden way and carry off the precious weed on which depends so much of Spain's wealth. The vast quadrangle has twenty-eight interior patios, large and small, and even in this year of poverty upwards of two million pounds of tobacco will be worked up into snuff, cigarettes and cigars. Passing through the endless corridors, we find them crowded with working women, six thousand all told, mostly young, all

GIGGLING AND GABBLING

as only Spanish women can. And all the while their fingers are flying with inconceivable rapidity. Many of them boast of being able to make from seven to ten cigars a minute, and I am told that a few can do even better—but do not believe it. They work by the piece, and hence the hurry, which would never be seen if wages were paid by the day. Your head swims as you watch a woman select a strip of tobacco known as "dilling" from a pile upon her table; then down she draws a "wrapper," moistens it with a sponge, smooths it with one lightning-like stroke, dexterously rolls it around the filling, brings one end to a point and snips the other end with a pair of shears—all in the twinkling of an eye. Quick as thought, she tosses it upon a pile and tackles another, till fifty cigars are finished; then they must be tied in a bundle, with yellow ribbon, stamped with the brand of the manufacturer. Fast as her fingers fly, her tongue flies faster, singing, or joking with her neighbors, or screaming at somebody farther down the row, and the cigars, garraeras, to which that charming reprobate, Carmen, belonged, and this is the very place where she worked and intrigued and finally came to grief.

This class is to Seville what the grisettes are to Paris, pet, say, "with the manners of a kitten and the morals of a cat," but bubbling over with mischief and gaiety, and always picturesque, though seldom pretty. Perhaps a thorough face-washing, hair-brushing and repairing of dilapidated raiment might bring out some beauty; but at present if any exists it is in total eclipse under general dirt and frowziness. But most of them have expressive eyes, very large and black, and all show at least one womanly trait—the love of flowers. The ugliest slattern wears a cluster of jacinths. All are daintily powdered above the dirt, and every desk shows a chinky rag, to be hastily dabbed on nose, chin, cheeks and ears whenever a possible subject for flirtation, viz: anything in male attire, is seen passing by. They are clothed in the great number of cradles in this work-shop, and of small children tumbling about the inconceivably dirty floors. The cigareras are very much addicted to maternalism, and have the factory itself as of too common occurrence to excite comment. Unmarried mothers are not subjects of scandal among this class of Sevillians, the worst of which is that they have "eaten of the lily which is sacred to the Blessed Virgin."

FANNIE B. WARD.

THE PROFESSION OF FORESTRY.

Some interesting facts regarding the attitude of the various colleges toward the comparatively new profession of forestry in the United States are shown by the applications for the position of student-assistant in the division of forestry. This grade, which was created last summer, is an innovation in departmental work. A number of young men, who have decided to make forestry their vocation, are employed during the summer at \$25 a month and their expenses. They work under experts and receive practical instruction, while the government secures intelligent assistance at little cost.

Last summer there were but thirty-five applications for this position. This year, although three months remain before field work will begin, over 150 have already applied. Forty of these are Yale men, mostly undergraduates; Cornell and the University of Minnesota have each 11, Harvard 23, and the Baltimore Forest school 3. The remainder of the applicants represent several different schools and some are not college men. Timbered parts of the United States, singularly, do not furnish as many forest students as the more thickly settled districts. There are but three applicants from west of the Mississippi. On the other hand, the interest at Yale is so great that a school of forestry probably will be established there this fall.

THE PLACE FULL.

It was at an East Side theater, The play was "Faust," and the gentleman who undertook the role of Mephistopheles was either too stout or the trapdoor was too small to permit his complete disappearance when about to make his descent into the infernal regions. Be that as it may, a good full half of him remained visible above the stage. One of the gallery boys, noticing his disappearance, called out: "Harry Chee, the place is full!"—Collier's Weekly.

JAPAN'S DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES.



Here is a snap-shot, taken last week, at the Japanese legation, Washington. The threatened clash between Japan and Russia and the possible attitude which the United States would assume makes these busy days for the Japanese minister and his corps of assistants.

ANNUAL STATEMENTS OF Fire Insurance Companies

REPRESENTED BY

H. J. GRANT & CO.,

THE LEADING INSURANCE AGENTS OF UTAH,
AND GENERAL AGENTS OF THE

Home Fire Insurance Co. of Utah.

The Only Local Insurance Company of the Rocky Mountain Region.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Home Fire Insurance Co. of Utah.

The Name and Location of the Company, Home Fire Insurance Company, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Name of President, Heber J. Grant.
Name of Secretary, H. J. Grant.
The amount of its capital stock, \$20,000 00
The amount of its capital stock paid up is, \$20,000 00
The amount of its assets is, \$23,279 18
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$23,279 18
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$4,242 94
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$6,283 65
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$6,080 87
The amount of risks written during the year, \$4,211,192 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$8,094,139 60

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State, I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Utah, this 15th day of February, A. D. 1900.

JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Hartford Fire Insurance Company

The Name and Location of the Company, Hartford Fire Insurance Company, 53 Grinnell Street, Hartford, Conn.
Name of President, George L. Chase.
Name of Secretary, R. C. Brown.
The amount of its capital stock, \$3,000,000 00
The amount of its capital stock paid up is, \$2,500,000 00
The amount of its assets is, \$1,002,588 02
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$1,002,588 02
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$6,880,655 91
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$7,133,085 82
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$4,113,095 42
The amount of risks written during the year, \$94,749,063 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$92,000,070 00

STATE OF UTAH.

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JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Fire Association of Philadelphia.

The Name and Location of the Company, Fire Association of Philadelphia.
Name of President, E. C. Irvin.
Name of Secretary, J. H. Larkins.
The amount of its capital stock, \$300,000 00
The amount of its capital stock paid up is, \$200,000 00
The amount of its assets is, \$4,147,166 02
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$4,147,166 02
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$2,830,331 87
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$1,102,565 19
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$1,806,862 43
The amount of risks written during the year, \$28,750,929 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$63,353,707 00

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JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

EUTONIA INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Name and Location of the Company, Eutonia Insurance Company of Louisiana.
Name of President, Albert P. Noll.
Name of Secretary, George Noll.
The amount of its capital stock, \$20,000 00
The amount of its capital stock paid up is, \$20,000 00
The amount of its assets is, \$77,966 93
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$77,966 93
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$4,242 94
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$6,283 65
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$6,080 87
The amount of risks written during the year, \$4,211,192 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$8,094,139 60

STATE OF UTAH.

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JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Northern Assurance Company

The Name and Location of the Company, Northern Assurance Company, London, England.
The amount of its capital stock, \$15,000,000 00
The amount of its capital stock paid up is, \$12,000,000 00
The amount of its assets is, \$1,002,588 02
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$1,002,588 02
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$6,880,655 91
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$7,133,085 82
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$4,113,095 42
The amount of risks written during the year, \$94,749,063 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$92,000,070 00

STATE OF UTAH.

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In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Utah, this 15th day of February, A. D. 1900.

JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company.

The Name and Location of the Company, Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company, 510 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Penn.
Name of President, R. Dale Benson.
Name of Secretary, J. Gardner Frowell.
The amount of its capital stock, \$400,000 00
The amount of its capital stock paid up is, \$300,000 00
The amount of its assets is, \$1,002,588 02
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$1,002,588 02
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$6,880,655 91
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$7,133,085 82
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$4,113,095 42
The amount of risks written during the year, \$94,749,063 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$92,000,070 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State, I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Utah, this 15th day of February, A. D. 1900.

JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

North British and Mercantile Insurance Co.

The Name and Location of the Company, North British and Mercantile Insurance Company of Great Britain, U. S. Office, Williams St., N. Y. City.
Name of U. S. Manager, E. O. Richards.
The amount of its capital stock, \$4,937,624 99
The amount of its assets is, \$2,245,780 02
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$2,245,780 02
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$4,485,943 74
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$2,635,954 23
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$1,660,129 27
The amount of risks written during the year, \$308,186,252 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$381,085,999 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State, I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Utah, this 22nd day of February, A. D. 1900.

JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

German American Insurance Company.

The Name and Location of the Company, German American Insurance Company, Liberty and Nassau Street, New York City.
Name of President, William N. Kremer.
Name of Secretary, Chas. G. Smith.
The amount of its capital stock, \$1,000,000 00
The amount of its capital stock paid up is, \$1,000,000 00
The amount of its assets is, \$1,002,588 02
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$1,002,588 02
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$6,880,655 91
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$7,133,085 82
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$4,113,095 42
The amount of risks written during the year, \$94,749,063 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$92,000,070 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State, I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Utah, this 27th day of February, A. D. 1900.

JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.

Annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1899, of the condition of the

Orient Insurance Co.

The Name and Location of the Company, Orient Insurance Company of Constantinople.
Name of President, Charles B. Whitcomb.
Name of Secretary, James T. Hammond.
The amount of its capital stock, \$2,000,000 00
The amount of its capital stock paid up is, \$500,000 00
The amount of its assets is, \$2,481,118 13
The amount of its liabilities (including Capital) is, \$1,227,257 37
The amount of its income during the preceding calendar year, \$1,412,102 01
The amount of its expenditures during the preceding calendar year, \$1,538,624 24
The amount of losses paid during the preceding calendar year, \$60,627 04
The amount of risks written during the year, \$121,406,487 00
The amount of risks in force at the end of the year, \$174,075,899 00

STATE OF UTAH.

Office of the Secretary of State, I, James T. Hammond, Secretary of State of the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the above named Insurance Company has filed in my office a detailed statement of its condition, from which the foregoing statement has been prepared, and that the said company has in all other respects complied with the laws of the State relating to insurance.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Utah, this 12th day of February, A. D. 1900.

JAMES T. HAMMOND, Secretary of State.