

SANTA CLAUS IN PORTO RICO.

CHRISTMAS in Spain is a religious festival rather than a social one. It was so originally in Porto Rico, but the population has been influenced partly by the spirit of the new world and partly by the many American merchants who reside in the cities and who exert an influence much greater than the numbers would seem to warrant.

The churches welcome the day with chimes which begin at midnight and last until the midnight of the next day. What with one church beginning ten minutes too soon and another ten minutes too late and a third at the right moment, what with bells which ring every fifteen minutes and bell ringers who under some ancient custom would sound the great bells every half hour, the air is filled with music which never seems to end.

If you are near a campanile the effect is not altogether pleasant on account of the volume of sound striking the ear with too much force, but in a public square several hundred yards from the nearest belfry, where trees



A DAUGHTER PLAYS ON THE GUITAR. And buildings break the sound waves, or in salons on the hillside the effect is preeminently delightful.

Most of all it is when you are sitting in the inner court or quadrangle of a Porto Rican home. Around you on four sides the house rises above you, and in the grounds or in great trays and porcelain pots rich flowers, graceful vines and restful trees afford shade, color and perfume. The sound of the bells descends from the air above very much like a benediction. You sit in an easy chair, and servants bring you tea or steaming coffee, sweetmeats and biscuits, confections and cigarettes, while a daughter or son plays ancient songs or dances upon a mandolin or guitar.

The churches are crowded; so are the clubs and most of the places of recreation. Every vehicle is in use, and there can be seen young men and women trying to imitate English models. Some of the people of the mountain districts carry out many of their

early superstitions in regard to Christmas. They hang over the doors of their houses bunches of trees which are supposed to possess charms and often conduct marriage ceremonies under great canopies made of these charmed trees.

A great many wild flowers are in bloom at Christmas, and these are worn by children of the mountain districts in wreaths and garlands about their heads, necks and waists. The Christmas giving is sadly missing in our new possessions. The churches hold no Christmas tree, and there are few charitable societies to give feasts. However, one hospital for old people and orphans in Ponce gives a Christmas feast, and the inmates have a good meal and receive warm clothing, medicines and other useful gifts.

The American occupation has brought extra Christmas cheer to the people of the island. The American residents celebrate the day in good American fashion, and, best of all, they put money into circulation and give zest to industry and business.

When Shepherds Watched by Night. Some historians contend that the shepherds could not have watched by night on the Bethlehem plains in December, it being a period of great inclemency. In answer to this a well-known student says: "Bethlehem is not a cold region. The mercury usually stands all the month of December at 40 degrees. Corn is sown during this time, and grass and herbs spring up after the rains, so that the Arabs drive their flocks down from the mountains into the plains. The most delicate never make fires till about the end of November, and some pass the whole winter without them. From these facts I think it is established without doubt that our Saviour was born on the 25th day of December, the day which the church throughout the world has united to celebrate in honor of Christ's coming in the flesh."—Washington Star.

The Most Popular Christmas Poem. The most popular Christmas poem ever written for children was that familiar to the world's beginning: "Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house—"

The poem was written by a very learned man, Dr. Clement Clarke Moore, a profound Greek and Hebrew scholar. He was a professor in the General Theological seminary in this city. He was born in 1797 and died in 1863.—New York Globe.

The Barber's Joke. Christmas morning and the barber very busy. "I'd rather shave ten Germans than one American."

The misanthropic brewer in the chair smiled nastily through the latter. "Glad," he chuckled. "Did you shave?" "No, sir."

"If Santa Claus has come the same as grandpa," said a wee girl the other day. "I feel he'd be 'traid to come down the chimney over a hot fire for fear his clothes would pop."



If I was only Santa Claus, I'd know of just one stocking I'd put all the presents in!



I know my feet are awful big. Mama says they're shocking. But they're all right just once a year when I hang up my stockings!

The 2nd of the Auto. Mrs. DeWitt's car is being and having a car will give me an auto for Christmas.

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DREADNOUGHT MONEY IS VOTED BY NEW ZEALAND

Australia Asks Admirably to Begin Building Battleship Cruiser

WELLINGTON, New Zealand.—The naval defence bill providing for the construction of the Dreadnought class of battleships, voted by the House of Representatives Thursday. The third reading was carried without division.

MELBOURNE.—The Federal Cabinet has decided asking that the Admiralty immediately commence the construction of a battleship cruiser which is to be the chief vessel of the Australian unit of the Pacific fleet. The government proposes to proceed with the construction of the remaining vessels of unit to all shall be completed simultaneously.

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POSSIBILITIES OF GYROSCOPE UNBOUNDED To be Used to Prevent Automobiles From Skidding and Substitute For Mariners Compass.

The possibilities of the gyroscope seem to be unbounded. Since Louis Brennan's eminently successful demonstration of his gyroscopic aeroplane last week, the same principle has been adapted to an automobile to prevent skidding. This particular automobile is in the form of a gyroscope fitted in a swinging frame attached to the car and driven at a high rate of speed. When the test was made on a thick coating of mud and soft snow, the car never slipped, and the steering was perfect. The latest suggestion is that the gyroscope should be substituted for the mariner's compass. Once started spinning in a plane running north and south it would never deviate until its rate fell below the necessary speed. It would not be affected by magnetic or electrical disturbances.

An interesting speculation is raised as to how the gyroscope principle might be applied to the steering of a ship. The ordinary compass being untrustworthy in aeroplanes or airships because their engines are based on the magnetization system, which deflects the needle hopelessly. Once the gyroscope is perfected as a compass it would be set spinning in the proper plane and the compass by maintaining the indicated direction would make a straight course for its destination, or around from its base in the thickest fog.

To stop any pain in 20 minutes, take one of Dr. Shew's Pink Pain Tablets. See formula on the box. Ask your Doctor or Druggist about this formula. It can be better. Womanly pains, head pains, any pain given you, relief. Box of twenty Pink Pain Tablets, 25c. Sold by all dealers.

SAWDUST FLOUR FROM LUMBER WASTE

"Four from" sawdust is another step in the movement in the conservation of forest resources. The United States consul at Christiania, Norway, has sent to this government a suggestion along this line which may be of value to American lumbermen who are wrestling with the problem of sawdust waste.

The flour in question is an ingredient of dynamite, lignum, xylite, which for the information of the man on the street is a kind of artificial flooring and other things. It is not put forward as a new discovery, for it has been in use for several years in Europe, and to a small extent in this country.

The wood flour is ground in a chisel mill, very similar to those which grind corn and soy. Pine and spruce sawdust is used in Europe, and after passing through the stones and the bolting chest, it is sacked or baled for shipment. It is then worth \$12 to \$14 a ton.

The flour has a number of uses, one of which is in the making of dynamite. It is the absorbent for the nitro-glycerine, which is the explosive ingredient.

Wood flour dynamite is inferior to that made with fibrous earth as an absorbent, but it serves many purposes, and is cheaper. But dynamite is one of the smallest prospective uses for the product. Linoleum makers mix it with linseed oil and give body to the floor covering. It is used for kitchen floors, and in halls, corridors, cafes, restaurants and public rooms. It is impervious to water, and is practically fireproof. It is flour material in some of the German war vessels. It is so used because it is not liable to take fire or splinter if struck by shells.

Many additional uses for wood flour will probably be found. The amount of sawdust to be had in this country is practically unlimited, and millmen will welcome any plan that will lessen the waste at the sawmills. One of the ways to export thousands of tons of this sawdust flour yearly, and the United States takes some of it. Germany is a large manufacturer also, and has been for years. Shipyard in an extensive buyer, and much goes to France.

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In the Probate Court of Restigouche County

To the Sheriff of the County of Restigouche of any Constable within the said County, Greeting:—

Whereas Alexander Cook of the Parish of Dalhousie in the said County of Restigouche, Farmer, hath by his petition bearing date the seventeenth day of September, A. D. 1909, prayed that letters of administration of the estate and effects of John Cook late of the said Parish and County, deceased, may be granted to him in due form of law.

You are therefore required to cite the heirs, next-of-kin, creditors, and all others interested in the estate of the said deceased to appear before me at a Court of Probate to be held at any place in the Town of Campbellton in said County, within and over the said County of Restigouche, on Friday the twenty-first day of December next at two o'clock in the afternoon, to show cause, if any they have, why letters of administration of the estate and effects of the said John Cook, deceased, should not be granted to the said Alexander Cook agreeably to the prayer of his said petition.

Given under my hand and the seal of the said Probate Court this twentieth day of September, A. D. 1909. (Seal) WILLIAM MURRAY, Judge of Probate for the County of Restigouche.

(Seal) JOHN BARRETT, Registrar of Probate for the County of Restigouche.

(Seal) TRUEMAN & MCKENZIE, Solicitors for Probate.

(Seal) H. B. ANSLAW, Local Agent, Campbellton, N. B.

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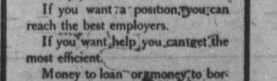
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