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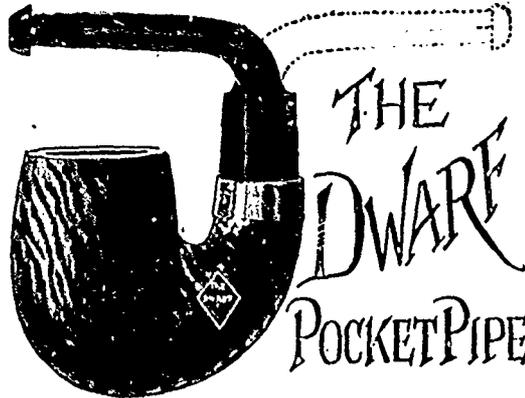
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The Quarterlies.

For one who is interested in the events and questions of the day, no more positively helpful publication is issued than the *Cyclopedic Review of Current History*, formerly the *Quarterly Register of Current History*, a reliable, concise and readable summary of the important movements transpiring in all countries of the world every three months. It is much more than a mere record of disconnected facts, inasmuch as facts are intelligently arranged and presented in their relations to each other and to the movements in which they are factors; causes and results are traced; and in other ways side lights are thrown upon questions, so that the reader's mind is not left confused, as is often the case after reading the daily press, but is furnished with clear ideas, and an intelligent grasp of affairs. The current number (2nd quarter, 1893), the second issued since the advent of the magazine to Buffalo, more than carries out the promise of the publishers. Its 223 pages of reading matter are a veritable cyclopedia of the history and biography of the day. Each successive number shows improvement; and the present number, in arrangement and quality of contents, in convenience of size, and in typographical appearance, is perfection. The present financial crisis is fully reviewed. The monetary systems of the different countries are described, the situation that has led to the closing of the Indian mints, and its bearing upon the crisis in the United States, interesting and timely statistics on gold exportation, the general depression of values, the currency stringency, the state of the gold reserve, and the special session of congress—all are carefully and clearly reviewed. The reader will next find given summaries of the arguments of counsel before the Behring Sea court, and an account of the trial and suspension of Dr. Briggs. It would be impossible to review here the entire contents of the number. A bare mention of some of the headings will have to suffice: the Hawaiian question (with map), the Russian Extradition Treaty, Religion and Politics in Europe and America, the crises in Egypt and Central Asia, the Siamese question, Presidential appointments in the United States (with biographies), Chinese Exclusion, the recent trust failures, pardon of the Chicago Anarchists, the Ford's Theatre disaster, Columbian Naval Review and World's Fair items, the Liquor law in South Carolina, Canadian Liberal Convention, progress of Irish Home Rule, strength of Socialism and Anarchy in Europe, the Hull strike, loss of the *Victoria*, the German Army bill and elections, anti Jewish movement in Europe, Scandinavian question, suffrage riots in Belgium, *coup d'etat* in Servia, cabinet crisis in Greece; banking crisis in Australia. The department of science is enlarged. The recent total solar eclipse is specially treated (with map); new inventions and applications of scientific principles are re-

corded. The book review is especially full and accurate, the progress made in the fine arts, new musical and dramatic productions, recent archaeological discoveries, and important ecclesiastical items, are also reviewed. The necrological record is very valuable; and the book closes with a full biographical sketch of John Ruskin, to accompany the excellent frontispiece portrait. The work is also embellished with a fine half-tone view of the new parliament buildings in Toronto, and portraits of Sir Charles Russell, Hon. E. J. Phelps, Hon. J. H. Blount, Attorney-General Olney, Col. D. S. Lamont, Admiral Ghorardi, Duke of Veragua, Princess Eulalie, Earl of Aberdeen, Sir R. Cartwright, Duke of Abercorn, Earl Spencer, Eugene Richter, M. Dupuy, M. Zola, King Alexander of Servia, King George of Greece, Senator Leland Stanford, and others. (Garretson, Cox & Co., Publishers, Buffalo, N. Y., \$1 50 a year; single copies 40 cents).

Fish Guano in British Columbia.

H. C. Beston, Agent-General for British Columbia in London, under the date of August 14, addressed the following letter to all interested in the fishing industry in British Columbia:—

"GENTLEMEN,—Since I have had the honor to represent British Columbia in London, the question of how to best utilize the fish offal of our canneries has occupied a prominent position in my mind. Whilst engaged upon this difficult question some six years ago, I had the pleasure to meet a scientific gentleman who has successfully solved several difficult chemical problems. He at once showed me that salmon offal could easily be converted into an excellent fish guano, and conducted an experiment, at which I was present, the result of which obtained a gold medal at the Fishery exhibition held in London in the year 1883. I found that there were several difficulties to be overcome before this discovery could be of any practical benefit to our province: 1st. The difficulty of preserving and collecting the offal until after the rush of work caused by the fish run. 2nd. The question whether the fish offal could be converted into fish guano in such quantities and of such a quality as to warrant investors to risk their capital. 3rd. To improve, if possible, the old process of burning the offal, which in itself is a nuisance, and very seldom produces a uniform quality of guano, from a chemical point of view, and by which the oil contained in the offal is lost, and only partly destroyed, to the detriment of the guano.

"These are the problems which have been successfully solved after years of patient and persevering experimenting. The inventor of this valuable discovery, to make assurance doubly sure, placed the matter in the hands of an independent and eminent analytical chemist. This gentleman's report, together

with three samples obtained from the result of working out this new discovery from fish offal, i. e., 1st, fish offal preserved for six months; 2nd, fish guano; 3rd, fish oil, I have already had the honor to lay before the Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster Boards of Trade. I understand that you are willing to grant a bonus to anyone who will help you to dispose of what is now a nuisance, and that you will also willingly give the offal to anyone who will carry it away for you. To enable the gentlemen interested in this discovery to raise the necessary capital for the manufacture of guano and fish-oil, a bonus of £40 per annum from each cannery on the Fraser river will be required, as for the present it is contemplated only to use the offal collected from the canneries of the Fraser river, where the factory will be established. There being, I understand, 21 canneries on the Fraser, this will yield an annual subsidy of £340, which sum, at 4 per cent, will provide a capital of £21,000.

"If you will guarantee this bonus to your respective municipalities, and the municipalities will guarantee same to the Guano Co., I am of the opinion that the necessary capital to place the plant and machinery and to commence operation can be raised on this side. In return for this subsidy, an arrangement will be made by the patentee with the company to be formed—1st, the canners will incur no expense in getting rid of their offal; 2nd, they will receive a certain interest in the profits of the company, either a royalty of 5 per cent. per annum interest on the net profits of the company, or 5s per ton of guano and 10s per ton of fish oil. It is calculated that the annual supply of salmon and other fish offal will yield an annual output of guano of 960 tons, and 480 tons of fish oil. The royalty above mentioned would, therefore, be £180 per annum, which no doubt will be greatly augmented when, in the course of a year or two, the offal from the Skeena and other places will be supplied. But in order that the province may reap the benefit of this valuable discovery by next season, it is necessary that no time should be lost in arranging necessary preliminaries.

Shipping Alabama Iron to England.

The *Manufacturers' Record* of Baltimore states that "The Louisville & Nashville Railroad will be the first in New Orleans to bring pig iron in any quantity to that city for export. Arrangements have been made with the road's representative at Birmingham, Ala., as to the rate the steamship lines from New Orleans to England would give on pig iron, and this being satisfactory the shipment will be made. Through bills of lading have been issued from Anniston, Ala., to Derby, England. The shipments will be made from New Orleans. The shipment is a trial one, the furnacemen in the Birmingham district being desirous of securing a cheaper and more accessible line of export if it can be accomplished."