

GOLDEN CIRCLE.

of the Golden Circle appear to have organized about the same time. The Golden Circle had its centre at Havana, Cuba, and with a radius of sixteen degrees (about 1,200 miles) its circumference took in Baltimore, St. Louis, about half of Mexico, all of Central America, and the best portions of the coast along the Caribbean Sea. The project was to establish an empire with this circle for its territory, and by controlling four great staples—rice, tobacco, sugar, and cotton—practically govern the commercial world. Just how great a part this secret organization played in the scheme of secession, nobody that was not in its counsels can say; but it is certain that it boasted, probably with truth, a membership of many thousands."—Rossiter Johnson, *Short Hist. of the War of Secession*, p. 24.—During the American Civil War, the Order of the Knights of the Golden Circle was extended (1862-1864) through the Northern States, as a secret treasonable organization, in aid of the Southern Rebellion. See UNITED STATES OF AM.: A. D. 1864 (OCTOBER).

GOLDEN FLEECE, Knights of the Order of the.—"It was on the occasion of his marriage [A. D. 1430] that Philip [Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy, Count of Flanders, etc.], desirous of instituting a national order of knighthood, chose for its insignia a 'golden fleece,' with the motto, 'Pretium non vile laborum,'—not to be condemned in the reward of labour. . . . For the first time labour was given heraldic honours. The pride of the country had become laden with industrial recollections, its hope full of industrial triumphs; if feudalism would keep its hold, it must adopt or affect the national feeling. No longer despised was the recompense of toil; upon the honour of knighthood it should so be sworn; nay knighthood would henceforth wear appended to its collar of gold no other emblem than its earliest and most valued object—a golden fleece."—W. T. McCullagh, *Industrial Hist. of Free Nations*, v. 2, ch. 10.—"This order of fraternity, of equality between nobles, in which the duke was admonished, 'cluptered,' just the same as any other, this council, to which he pretended to communicate his affairs, was at bottom a tribunal where the laughtiest found the duke their judge; he could honour or dishonour them by a sentence of the order. Their scutcheon answered for them; hung up in St. Jean's, Ghent, it could either be erased or blackened. . . . The great easily consoled themselves for degradation at Paris by lawyers, when they were glorified by the duke of Burgundy in a court of chivalry in which kings took their seat."—J. Michelet, *Hist. of France*, bk. 12, ch. 4.—"The number of the members was originally fixed at 31, including the sovereign, as the head and chief of the institution. They were to be: 'Gentilshommes de non et d'armes sans reproche.' In 1516, Pope Leo X. consented to increase the number to 52, including the head. After the accession of Charles V., in 1556, the Austro-Spanish, or, rather, the Spanish-Dutch line of the house of Austria, remained in possession of the Order. In 1700, the Emperor Charles VI and King Philip of Spain both laid claim to it. . . . It now passes by the respective names of the Spanish or Austrian 'Order of the Golden Fleece,' according to the country where it is issued."—Sir B. Burke, *Book of Orders of Knighthood*, p. 6.

ALSO IN: J. F. Kirk, *Hist. of Charles the Bold*, bk. 1, ch. 2.

GOOD HOPE.

GOLDEN GATE, The.—"The Bay of San Francisco is separated by [from] the sea by low mountain ranges. Looking from the peaks of the Sierra Nevada, the coast mountains present an apparently continuous line, with only a single gap, resembling a mountain pass. This is the entrance to the great bay. . . . On the south, the bordering mountains come down in a narrow ridge of broken hills, terminating in a precipitous point, against which the sea breaks heavily. On the northern side, the mountain presents a bold promontory, rising in a few miles to a height of two or three thousand feet. Between these points is the strait—about one mile broad in the narrowest part, and five miles long from the sea to the bay. To this Gate I gave the name of Chrysophyle, or Golden Gate; for the same reasons that the harbor of Byzantium (Constantinople afterwards), was called Chrysoceras, or Golden Horn. Passing through this gate, the bay opens to the right and left, extending in each direction about 35 miles, making a total length of more than 70, and a coast of about 275 miles."—J. C. Fremont, *Memoirs of my life*, v. 1, p. 512.

GOLDEN HORDE, The. See MONGOLS: A. D. 1238-1391.

GOLDEN HORN, The. See BYZANTIUM.
GOLDEN HORSESHOE, Knights of the. See VIRGINIA: A. D. 1710-1716.

GOLDEN HOUSE, The.—The Imperial palace at Rome, as restored by Nero after the great fire, was called the Golden House. It was destroyed by Vespasian.—C. Merivale, *Hist. of the Romans under the Empire*, ch. 53 and 90.

GOLDEN, OR BORROMEAN, LEAGUE, The. See SWITZERLAND: A. D. 1579-1630.

GOLDEN SPUR, Order of the.—An order of knighthood instituted in 1550 by Pope Paul III.

GOLDSBORO, General Sherman's march to. See UNITED STATES OF AM.: A. D. 1865 (FEBRUARY—MARCH: THE CAROLINAS), and (FEBRUARY—MARCH: N. CAROLINA).

GOLIAD, Massacre at (1835). See TEXAS: A. D. 1834-1836.

GOLOWSTSCHIN, Battle of (1708). See SCANDINAVIAN STATES (SWEDEN): A. D. 1707-1718.

GOLYMIN, Battle of (1806). See GERMANY: A. D. 1806-1807.

GOMER, OR OMER, The. See EPHRAÏM.

GOMERISTS. See NETHERLANDS: A. D. 1603-1619.

GOMPHI.—Gomphi, a city on the border of Thessaly, shut its gates against Caesar, shortly before the battle of Pharsalia. He halted one day in his march, stormed the town and gave it up to his soldiers to be sacked.—G. Long, *Decline of the Roman Republic*, v. 5, ch. 15.

GONDS, The. See INDIA: THE ABORIGINAL INHABITANTS.

GONFALONIERE. See CARROCCIO.
GONZAGA, The House of.—"The house of Gonzaga held sovereign power at Mantua, first as captains, then as marquesses, then as dukes, for nearly 400 years" (1328-1708).—E. A. Freeman, *Historical Geog. of Europe*, v. 1, p. 243.

GOOD ESTATE OF RIENZI, The. See ROME: A. D. 1347-1354.

GOOD HOPE, Cape of: The Discovery and the Name. See PORTUGAL: A. D. 1482-1498.
The Colonization. See SOUTH AFRICA.