

Downers Grove Reporter.

By WHITE & WILLIAMS.

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS.

MEANING OF FLOWERS.

Mint is symbolic of virtue. The bell flower is symbolic of gratitude. A horse chestnut is indicative of luxury.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

German coal from Westphalia is now being shipped at a profit from the Rhine towns to London. Since the new excise law went into effect the number of hotels in New York City has been tripled.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

The branches of the Mississippi River have an aggregate length of fifteen thousand miles. Most physicians think that the sun radiates heat as it does light or as a stove emits warmth.

AUTHORS' FANCIES.

Amelia Barr lives at Cherry Croft. William Cullen Bryant lived at Osbourne.

FOR THE FISHERMAN.

New Silkworms Are Treated to Obtain the Tackle.

One thing which a fisherman who knows anything about the art of fishing will have right in the gut and its accompaniment, the hook, says the Gentleman's Magazine.

Silkworms, it would appear, not only contribute the silk that goes to the constitution of the ordinary line, but their intestines are manipulated in the manufacture of that portion of the line to which the hook is attached.

Holding a hank of gut in my hand, I was informed that the worms from which it strands were drawn were raised in Spanish Murcia by peasants whose sole livelihood depended upon their skill at worm farming.

The strands of extra thickness and strength are used in salmon fishing. The production of such strands is rare, hence the high price obtainable.

The Death of Lady Burton. The recent death of Lady Burton in England removes from the earth a woman of strong character and one who saw many phases of life.

TIME AND DISTANCE.

A letter written and mailed in Jeddah, Arabia, will be delivered in New York twenty-one days later. There are 3,485 miles of distance between the seat of government of Spain and that of the United States.

IN BRITISH HONDURAS

A VISIT TO THE LAND OF PERPETUAL SUMMER.

John McKay Writes of the Trip from Midwinter to Midsummer in Central America—Personal of the Party—Experiences.



Belize Letter.

HAT the coffee industry in Honduras could be aided by the aid of American capital and energy is developed so as to yield infinitely larger returns for the amount invested than could possibly be effected in the United States



MARKET PLACE IN BELIZE.

Windemere, Edgar D. Peacock, P. Harry Price, C. Beach, F. G. Mortier, Calmer Howard and John McKay (all Chicago capitalists).

Those of our friends and business associates who did not share our views and who combat our theories endeavored to convince us that our conclusions were based chiefly on hearsay, and, therefore, unreliable; also on the published accounts of interested parties, which were apt to be misleading, and not a little on our own fertile imaginations.

Our first concern was to secure a competent guide and interpreter, and in this we were more than fortunate, for in the person of Col. J. H. Watts (late of the engineer corps, United States army) we found guide, counselor and friend.

Therefore, when Maj. Edgewater announced to us that the colonel had agreed to meet us in New Orleans, La., and thereafter accompany us, we were rejoiced, and commenced our preparation with a zest and tranquility hitherto unknown to us.



A STREET SCENE IN BELIZE.

ed so far as Chicago was concerned. We left Chicago on Friday, January 10. The thermometer registered 20 degrees above zero when we left Chicago, and on our arrival in New Orleans it registered 65 above. In New Orleans we were joined by Col. Watts, and then, under his direction, proceeded to complete our preparations.

blankets, cots, hammocks, Winchester rifles, revolvers and like things.

On Sunday afternoon, January 19, we sighted Belize, British Honduras, and shortly after sundown we anchored in the harbor, about a mile distant from the shore. The Breakwater had one passenger for this port, Mr. Franklin of the British colonial service, who was returning from England, where he had spent a seven months' leave of absence.

And Purser Grant, of the Breakwater, roared in reply: "Naw; inquire at Belize."



ship and the then all-absorbing topic of war with Great Britain) we hung with enthusiasm, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee." Then we retired.

We arose early next morning, and, coming on deck, were delighted with the view of the harbor and town. The bay was studded with sailing vessels, flying the flags of all their respective countries.

We hastened to one of the general stores and soon thereafter emerged, dressed in duck suits, white silk shirts and wearing wide-brimmed Panama straw hats.

After breakfast we called for cigars, and as the flavor was good and the price reasonable we purchased 1,000. This moved the Spaniard to contrition,

BOUNTIFUL HARVEST.

UNPRECEDENTED WEALTH IN THE CROPS OF 1896.

Reports from All Over the West Show the Agricultural Interests of the Country to Be in a Flourishing Condition.

It is an accepted fact that whatever conditions affect the agricultural interests of a country will have a direct bearing on all its other industries.

Copious rains had fallen during the spring and put the ground in splendid condition for seedling and growing. The fears of another drouth have long since been laid to rest and the agriculturist looks hopefully forward to a rich reward for his toil.

Reports from widely different localities in the great corn producing states point to the fact that moisture has saturated the soil to a much greater depth than in many previous years.

This is particularly true with regard to Nebraska where the favorable outlook of the present time has not, in many parts of the state, been excelled, even in the opinion of old inhabitants.

The weather has been very favorable for the growth of vegetation, especially small grain and grass, which have made very vigorous growth during the week.

During the past week there has been an exhibition in a window of the City Ticket office of the Burlington road at Chicago, a sample of rye plucked in Furnas county, Nebraska, toward the end of April.

Weighty Waggon Moves On. Boston has solved the tramp question. The fact that there was a falling off of 8,000 applications for accommodations the last year at the Wayfarer's Lodge, where the lodgers are expected to work for their board, is convincing evidence on this point.

QUALITY OF CYPRESS WOOD.

The Trees Are Notoriously Slow Growing But Are Durable.

The cypress is a notoriously slow-growing tree, and its wood is just as notoriously durable, says an exchange. It is capable of not only resisting the action of the weather in a manner totally different to all other woods, but is wholly uninfluenced by immersion in water over a long period of years.

Instances are known where the wood of the cypress has endured for more than 1,000 years, leaving it still in a solid condition, subject only to the attrition of the elements, such as the gradual wearing away one sees in exposed rocks.

By a series of experiments extending over many years, it has been found that cypress wood endures the varying conditions of greenhouses better than any other wood. Green-houses exposed to all the vicissitudes of heat, moisture and changes of temperature, show the cypress timber used in their construction to be practically unchanged after more than fifty years of use; and, being sufficiently tough for the purpose, it is probable it will come more generally into use for building where a wood of great resisting power is required.

Personality of Mark Hanna. Mark Hanna, of Cleveland, O., celebrated at present, is a native Ohioan, and lacks one year of being seventy.

A Stray Woman. One of the most influential women of the middle west is Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, president of the Federation of Women's Clubs of the United States.



MRS. CHARLES HENROTTIN.

and is not only a social leader but a marked force in the progressive and humanitarian movement that is making itself felt in the new altruistic Chicago.

Bismarck Falling Fast.

The prolongation of the celebration of Bismarck's birthday has been this year, as last, a great physical tax on the man who was once said to be of iron. Though his mind is as clear as a bell, he is no longer a strong man except by fits and starts, and he shows various unmistakable signs of great age.

Brilliant Young Novelist.

One of the interesting younger novelists of the day is Edward S. Van Zile, who has produced several successful romances, notably his recent "Manhattaners." He is a man of perhaps thirty-four years, a graduate of Trinity College, Hartford, and a resident of Brooklyn.

The smallest humming bird weighs twenty grains.