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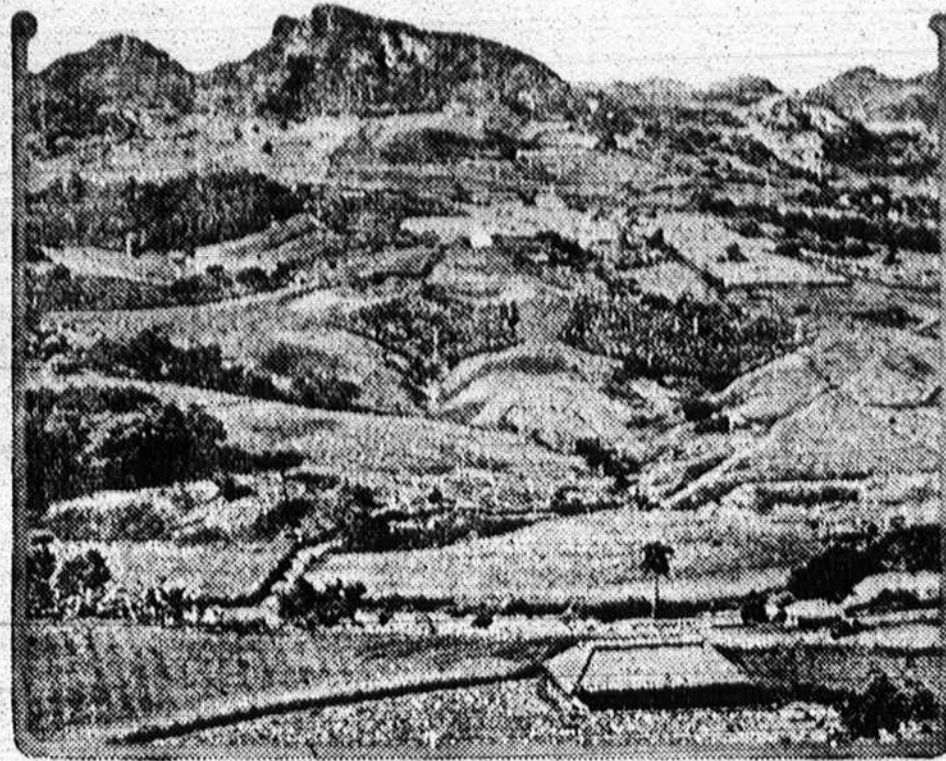
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We have opened a meat market and green grocery in the stand formerly occupied by Campbell Bros., where we will carry at all times a choice line of Fresh Beef, Pork, Veal, Lamb, Mutton and all meats usually found in an up-to-date market.

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Manager

Interior of
PORTO RICO



VIEW FROM THE MOUTH OF THE COROZAL CAVE.

THE island of Porto Rico undoubtedly surpasses all other regions of equal size—certainly of the new world—in the variety and number of its features that arouse vivid interest. The extent of the island is not great, for its irregular oblong mass is only 100 miles in length and about thirty-five miles in breadth, or approximately three times as large as Long Island; yet its inhabitants number more than 1,200,000, thus making it more thickly populated than any other equivalent area in the western hemisphere excepting certain portions of New England.

Its place in history is a large one, for since its discovery by Columbus in 1493, it has served as the battle ground of Spanish, Dutch and English, and as a haven for the buccaneers who operated throughout the Spanish main. Even in purely scientific respects it commands the interest of many a department of investigation, writes Henry E. Crampton in the American Museum Journal, because its different portions display unusually varied geological and topographical characters. They also support well diversified forms of plant and animal life, whose study is especially important on account of the island's value as a link in the Antillean chains that connect North and South America with each other and with Mexico. Hence the problems of evolution, distribution and migration, of human beings as well as of organic forms in general, are particularly well defined and engaging in the case of Porto Rico.

As the approaching steamer nears the northern shore of Porto Rico, where the capital city of San Juan is situated, the huge bulk of the island emerges from the haze of the horizon, and displays the jagged profile of the massive mountain range that forms the interior highland more than three thousand feet in altitude. From this great backbone the buttressed spurs drop somewhat suddenly and irregularly for the most part, to the coastal plain of greater or less inland extent; the deep clefts of the upland valleys disappear, and one may judge how rapidly the swift mountain rivers must change to slow, winding streams upon the flat land of the island's margin. Coming nearer, San Juan and its buildings become visible and soon a point of its eastern end detaches itself from the rest to stand out as the cape surmounted by El Morro ("The Castle"), which guards the entrance to the harbor. Not until the fort is rounded does the city itself become fully visible, for it is built on the landward side of the sandstone ridge which bounds the bay on the north. Elsewhere, for the most part, ships must lie in open roadsteads; only at Guanica, Guayanilla, and one or two other places is there anything that approaches a protected harbor like that of San Juan.

Many Good-Sized Towns.
At first view the city is impressive by its extent, the close construction of its ancient and modern buildings, and by the delicate pastel shades of its tinted whitewashed walls. More than fifty thousand people are crowded in dense areas on the narrow rock mass that extends eastward from El Morro for two and a half miles to its connection with the mainland; there are plazas and open spaces, but these seem only to accentuate the concentration of living quarters. As one travels about, the same feature becomes more prominent, for on the open plain, in a valley near the coast, or in remote and unlikely hollows of the hills, one encounters town after town of more than ten thousand or fifteen thousand inhabitants. Naturally the problems of public health are of the highest importance, and of necessity they received the immediate attention of the Americans when they came into control of Porto Rico in 1898. Old methods of water distribution by casks have been extensively replaced by a system which brings water through lines of pipes from the upland streams; and everywhere measures have been taken to reduce the severity of epidemics or to stamp them out.

On the whole, Porto Rico today is a

healthful island, with a warm climate well tempered by the trade winds, and well cultivated almost everywhere. With its splendid roads and natural beauties, it is and will always be attractive to the casual traveler, as well as to the investigator of its scientific character and resources.

In the interior valleys, plantations of tobacco are laid out. The plants are protected by sheets of cheesecloth which, with their sharply-defined borders, seem like incongruous fields of snow upon the deep green of the hills. Even the steep slopes of the hills bear here and there their little patches of tobacco or of other crops, centering about a native hut perched precariously near the top, and set off by the graceful royal palms. Higher up, the character of the ground or of the region is unsuitable for tobacco, yet even here coffee and cocoa are grown under the shade of specially planted trees. Little remains of the larger forest, for wood becomes scarce when so many demand it daily for fires. Only on the higher peaks of the great central mountains are there any relics of the primeval growth that once extended so widely.

On the flanks of the main east-west backbone of the island, composed of igneous rocks, there are broken levels and hills of limestone, full of marine fossils and other indications of their origin at the border of the ocean. Since their formation the land has risen so as to lift them many hundreds of feet above their former level. Where the rivers have worn against them, they display stratified faces of especial interest to the geologist and paleontologist.

Passing the great divide from north to south, the mountains drop more rapidly to the foothills and to the coastal plains. In the southeast the ground is still suitable for sugar and coconut groves; but coming west, the effect of the heights in cutting off the moisture of the trades becomes more marked, and a semiarid region with its characteristic cactus is encountered. Here the cane can be grown only by extensive irrigation, which the insular government has undertaken with great success and profit. Toward the southwest, the land becomes a typical desert, and about Lake Guanica it supports little besides the association of cactus plants.

The Corozal Cavern.
In the limestone regions, hundreds of large and small caverns have been excavated by underground streams. One of these, near Corozal, is well worthy of description. The valley is a beautiful wide basin, surrounded by peculiar triangular white hills of limestone, and the cave mouth, about forty feet in height, is reached by means of creepers and ledges on the very face of the cliff. Once it is gained, the downward view is a striking and characteristic panorama of hill and field and stream. On the sides of the entrance there are hundreds of spider webs, each with the dried remains of its casual collection of prey. Trending inward and upward, the way narrows until after four hundred yards or more of walking and scrambling and creeping, one emerges into daylight through a small hole on the other side of the hill. Thousands of bats hide in the holes of the arched roof, or cling to its rough surfaces. On the walls there are peculiar forms of insects and huge arachnids, with long delicate antennae which serve them in place of their virtually useless eyes. By way of contrast, the cave in the hills above Ciales is one with many mouths, and a huge vaulted chamber with stalactites and stalagmites above and below.

On account of the dominant Spanish influence for so many centuries, the population naturally exhibits a preponderance of the characteristics of that race. Only a small section, however, has retained its purity, of which it is justly proud; for the most part the people are mixtures of Spanish, negro and Indian characters. It is strange that so few are found with unmixed African features, although in certain settlements, they too, have preserved many of the customs as well as the physique of their ancestors.

VERDUN STILL HOLDS.
Desperate Attempts Made on French Lines But Fail to Break Through.

Another determined attempt by the Germans to break through the French lines northwest of Verdun has resulted in failure and with heavy losses to the Germans.

After days of intense artillery preparation for another effort to lessen the six miles intervening between them and the Paris-Verdun Railway and the nine miles still between them and Verdun, the Germans launched a great infantry attack on the Haucourt-Bethincourt sector. In successive waves, the Germans were thrown into the fray, but all of their attempts were put down by the curtain of fire of the French guns and fire of the French infantry.

There is still an intermittent bombardment northeast of Verdun, and in the Woivre region the French have been shelling German positions. In the Argonne they are giving the Germans no rest, while in the Vosges the artillery action has been marked on both sides. On the British front, in the St. Eloi sector, the Germans opened a heavy artillery fire on the British forces holding the ground gained by them Monday. The British artillery replied effectively and according to the British official statement these positions are still in the hands of the British.

In the Postavy region of the Russian front Berlin reports that the onslaughts of the Russians against the German lines have been withstood and that the attacking forces have suffered heavy casualties. A semi-official dispatch from Berlin says the Russians have attacked in their new offensive with 60 divisions over a front of 120 kilometers and that their losses have been not less than 80,000 men.

Heavy Italian bombardments of Austrian positions along the Isonzo continue.

A German air squadron has dropped bombs on the harbor works at Saloniki and the Entente Allied encampment north of Saloniki.

A German torpedo-boat destroyer was rammed and sunk by the British light cruiser Cleopatra, in the recent engagement off the German coast. There were no German survivors.

The American Government through its Ambassador at Berlin has asked the German Government if its submarines were responsible for the damage sustained by the cross-channel steamer Sussex and the sinking of the British steamer Englishman.

Two additional steamers have been sent to the bottom, the Eagle Point, a British vessel, presumably by a torpedo; and the Harriet, a Danish vessel by a mine. The crews of both vessels were saved.

The unity and solidarity of the Entente Allies and the decision "to continue the struggle to victory for the common cause" were reaffirmed in resolutions passed by the conference of the Allies in Paris.

Dr. R. W. Lide, who has been pastor of the Baptist church in Darlington for nearly twenty-five years, has resigned and has been succeeded by Rev. Howard L. Weeks.

Battle Cleopatra, a 13-year-old girl of Sumter, was run over and seriously injured by an automobile driven by C. H. Wilson of Sumter Saturday.

MASTER'S SALE.

State of South Carolina,
County of Kershaw,
Court of Common Pleas.

J. B. Meyer, Plaintiff,
against
C. S. Nicholson, John T. Mackey, and N. B. Workman, Defendants.

Under and by virtue of a decretal order herein, of his Honor, T. J. Mauldin, Presiding Judge, of date March 16th, 1916, I will sell, at public outcry to the highest bidder, before the Court House door, in Camden, County of Kershaw, State of South Carolina, during the legal hours of sale, on the first Monday in April, 1916, being the third day thereof, the following described real estate:

All that piece, parcel or tract of land situate, lying and being in the State of South Carolina, and County of Kershaw, containing two hundred and forty-nine (249) acres, more or less, bounded North by lands of Gardner; East by Thorn lands and lands of Reddick Anderson; South by lands formerly of Tidwell, now of Mosler; and West by Mackey and Workman; the dividing line between the last named parties having been heretofore adjudicated by this Court between the parties hereto. The above described tract of land is a portion of that conveyed to C. S. Nicholson by deed of L. A. Wittkowsky, Master for Kershaw County, of date March 26th, 1914, and of record in the office of Clerk of Court

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for Kershaw County.
Terms of sale, cash.
Anyone desiring to bid at such sale shall first deposit with the Master certified check on some reputable banking institution, for the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) as evidence of good faith.
L. A. WITTKOWSKY,
Master Kershaw County
March 16th, 1916.

FORECLOSURE SALE.

State of South Carolina,
County of Kershaw,
Court of Common Pleas.

Gus Hirsch, Plaintiff,
against
Amelia Mickle, Defendant.

Under and by virtue of a decretal order herein, of his Honor, T. J. Mauldin, Presiding Judge, of date March 14th, 1916, I will sell, for cash, at public outcry, to the highest bidder, before the Court House door, in Camden, County of Kershaw, State of South Carolina, during the legal hours of sale, on the first Monday in April, 1916, being the 3rd day thereof, the following described real estate:

All that piece, parcel or tract of land, containing twenty-three and five-eighths (23 5/8) acres, more or less, situated in the County of Kershaw, State of South Carolina, six (6) or seven (7) miles Northwest of the City of Camden, on Saunders' Creek; bounded North by lands of Ed Reeves; East by tract of land set apart to Isabella Williams out of the estate of James Watts; South by tract of land set apart to Parris Watts out of the estate lands of James Watts; West by tract of land set apart to Fannie Barnes out of the estate lands of James Watts; which will more fully appear by reference to plat of W. B. Twitty, surveyor, dated December, 1908.

No bid will be received without the purchaser first deposit with the Sheriff cash or certified check in the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

W. W. HUCKABEE,
Sheriff Kershaw County,
March 15th, 1916.

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