

class. Estimated cost, exclusive of armor and armament, \$2,150,000 each.

4. Six sheathed and coppered cruisers of about 2,500 tons trial displacement, to have the highest speed compatible with good cruising qualities, great radius of action and to carry the most powerful ordnance suited to vessels of their class. Estimated cost, exclusive of armament, \$1,141,800 each.

REWARDS FOR FIGHTERS.

I join with the secretary of the navy in recommending that the grades of admiral and vice admiral be temporarily revived, to be filled by officers who have specially distinguished themselves in the war with Spain.

OTHER MATTERS.

I earnestly urge upon Congress the importance of early legislation providing for the taking of the twelfth census. This is necessary in view of the large amount of work which must be performed in the preparation of the schedules preparatory to the enumeration of the population.

There were on the pension rolls on June 30, 1898, 993,714 names, an increase of nearly 18,000 over the number on the roll on the same day of the preceding year. The amount appropriated by the act of December 22, 1896, for the payment of pensions for the fiscal year, 1898, was \$140,000,000. Eight million, seventy thousand, eight hundred and seventy-two dollars and forty-six cents was appropriated by the act of March 31, 1898, to cover deficiencies in army pensions and repayments in the sum of \$12,020.38, making a total of \$148,020,382.70 available for the payment of pensions during the fiscal year 1898. The amount disbursed from that sum was \$144,851,879.80, leaving a balance of \$3,168,502.90 unexpended on the 30th of June, 1898, which was covered into the treasury. There were 389 names added to the rolls during the year by special acts, passed at the second session of the Fifty-fifth Congress, making a total of 5,486 pensioners by congressional enactments since 1861.

The total receipts of the patent office during the past year were \$1,253,948.44. The expenditures were \$1,081,633.79, leaving a surplus of \$172,314.65.

PUBLIC LANDS.

The public lands disposed of by the government during the year reached 8,453,896.92 acres, an increase of 614,780.26 acres over the previous year.

The total receipts from public lands during the fiscal year amounted to \$2,277,995.18, an increase of \$190,063.90 over the preceding year. The lands embraced in the eleven forest reservations which were suspended by the act of June 4, 1897, again became subject to the operations of the proclamations of February 22, 1897, creating them, which added an estimated amount of 19,951,360 acres to the area embraced in the reserves previously created. In addition thereto two new reserves were created during the year—the Pine Mountain and Zaca Lake reservation in California, embracing 1,644,594 acres and the Prescott reservation in Arizona, embracing 10,240 acres, while the Pecos River in New Mexico has been changed and enlarged to include 120,000 additional acres.

FORESTRY RESERVATIONS.

At the close of the year thirty forestry reservations, not including those of the Afognac forest and the Fish Culture reserve in Alaska, had been created by executive proclamation under section 24, of the act of March 3, 1891, embracing an estimated area of 4,749,454 acres.

The department of the interior has inaugurated a forest system made possible by the act of July, 1898, for a graded force of officers in control of the reserves. This system has only been in full operation since August, but good results have already been secured in

many sections. The reports received indicate that the system of patrol has not only prevented destructive fires from gaining headway, but has diminished the number of fires.

CONDITION OF INDIANS.

The special attention of the Congress is called to that part of the report of the secretary of the interior in relation to the Five Civilized Tribes. It is noteworthy that the general condition of the Indians shows marked progress. But one outbreak of a serious character occurred during the year, and that among the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota, which, happily, has been suppressed.

While it has not yet been practicable to enforce all the provisions of the act of June 28, 1898, "for the protection of the people of the Indian Territory and the people of the United States," it is having a salutary effect upon the nations composing the Five Tribes. The Dawes commission reports that the most gratifying results and greater advancement of the objects of the government have been secured in the past year than in any previous year. I can not too strongly endorse the recommendation of the commission and the secretary of the interior, of the necessity of providing for the education of the 30,000 white children resident in the Indian Territory.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

The department of agriculture has been active in the past year. Explorers have been sent to many of the countries of the eastern and western hemispheres for seeds and plants that may be useful to the United States and with the further view of opening up markets for our surplus products. The forestry division of the department is giving special attention to the treeless regions of our country and is introducing species especially adapted to semi-arid regions. Forest fires, which seriously interfere with production, especially in irrigated regions, are being studied, that the losses from this cause may be avoided. The department is inquiring into the use and abuse of water in many states of the west and collecting information regarding the laws of states, the decisions of the courts and the customs of the people in this regard, so that uniformity may be secured.

Experiment stations are becoming more effective every year. The annual appropriation of \$720,000 by Congress is supplemented by \$400,000 from the states.

SUGAR FACTORIES DOUBLED.

Wide experiments have been conducted to ascertain the suitability to soil and climate and states for growing sugar beets. The number of sugar factories has been doubled in the past two years and the ability of the United States to produce its own sugar from this source has been clearly demonstrated.

The weather bureau, forecast and observation stations, have been extended around the Caribbean Sea, to give early warning of the approach of hurricanes from the south seas to our fleets and merchant marine.

In the year 1900 will occur the centennial anniversary of the founding of the city of Washington for the permanent capital of the government of the United States, by authority of an act of Congress, approved July 16, 1790.

In May, 1800, the archives and general offices of the Federal government were removed to this place. On the 17th of November, 1800, the national Congress met here for the first time and assumed exclusive control of the Federal district and city. This interesting event assumes all the more significance when we recall the circumstances attending the choosing of the site, the naming of the capital in honor

of the father of his country, and the interest taken by him in the adoption of plans for its future development on a magnificent scale.

These original plans have been wrought out with a constant progress and a signal success, even beyond anything their framers had foreseen. The people of the country are justly proud of the distinctive beauty and government of the capitol and of the rare instruments of science and education which here find their natural home.

NATIONAL CELEBRATION.

A movement lately inaugurated by the citizens to have the anniversary celebrated with fitting ceremonies, including perhaps the establishment of a handsome permanent memorial to mark so historical an occasion, and to give it more than local recognition, has met with general favor on the part of the public.

I recommend to the Congress the granting of an appropriation for this purpose, and the appointment of a committee from its respective bodies. It might also be advisable to authorize the President to appoint a committee from the country at large, which, acting with the congressional and District of Columbia committees, can complete the plans for an appropriate national celebration.

SUNDRIES.

The alien contract law is shown by experience to need some amendment; a measure providing better protection for men is proposed; the rightful application of the eight hour law for the work of labor and of the principle of arbitration, are suggested for the consideration, and I commend these subjects to the careful consideration of the Congress.

The several reports will be laid before you. They give in great detail the conduct of the affairs of the government during the past year and discuss many questions upon which the Congress may be called upon to act.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY,
Executive Man., December 5, 1898.

OBITUARY NOTES.

EBENEZER SAVAGE.

At Henryville, on Thursday, Nov. 17, 1898, of lung trouble, Ebenezer Savage, born at Little Cottonwood, of Henry, 1857. Deceased was a son of Henry and Sarah Power Savage. He leaves a wife and two children and a number of relatives and friends to mourn his loss. Deceased held the office of counselor to the Bishop of the Henryville ward at the time of his death.

J. A. GOULDING, Ward Cler.

MARY BEVAN.

At her home in Spanish Fork, Utah, Nov. 17, Sister Mary Bevan, the wife of Brother John T. Jones, she was born August 5 at St. Brides Major, Glamorganshire, Wales. She joined the Church at her native home, in the year 1852; emigrated and came to Spanish Fork, Utah, in 1861. She leaves a husband, 7 children, 23 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and a host of devoted friends to mourn her loss. She was a good, kind hearted woman, ever sympathizing with and ready to assist those who were in need. J. T.

THE DEAD.

Unsuccessful Be Their Rest.

BAKER.—In this city, November 30, 1898, of capillary bronchitis, Wilford Woodruff, son of John and Margaret Baker, aged 8 months.

LUNDQUIST.—At 247 Iowa avenue, Nov. 28, 1898, of typhoid fever, Hilda C. Lundquist, daughter of J. O. H. and Sophia C. Lundquist. Deceased was aged 19 years, 10 months and 14 days.