

establish appalling conspiracies to accomplish pension frauds. By no means the least wrong done is to the brave and deserving pensioners who certainly ought not to be condemned to such association. Those who attempt in the line of duty to rectify these wrongs should not be accused of enmity or indifference to the claims of honest veterans.

The sum expended on account of pensions for the year ending June 30, 1893, was \$156,740,467.14. The Commissioner estimates that \$165,000,000 will be required to pay pensions during the year ending June 30, 1894.

The condition of the Indians and their ultimate fate are subjects which are related to a sacred duty of the government and which strongly appeal to the sense of justice and the sympathy of our people. Our Indians number about 248,000, most of them relocated on 161 reservations, containing 86,115,531 acres of land. About 110,000 of these Indians have to a large degree adopted civilized customs. Land in severalty has been allotted to many of them. Such allotments have been made to 10,000 individuals during the last fiscal year, embracing about 1,000,000 acres.

The number of Indian schools opened during the year was 195, an increase of 12 over the preceding year. Of this total, 170 were on reservations, of which 75 were boarding schools and 97 day schools. Twenty boarding schools and day schools supported by the government were not located on reservations. The total number of Indian children enrolled during the year as attending all the schools was 21,318, an increase of 1,281 over the enrollment for the previous year. I am sure that secular education and moral and religious teaching must be important factors in any effort to save the Indian and lead him to civilization. I believe, too, that the relinquishment of tribal relations and the holding of land in severalty may in favorable conditions aid this consummation. It seems to me, however, that allotments of land in severalty ought to be made with greater care and circumspection. If hastily done, before the Indian know its meaning, while yet he has little or no idea of tilling a farm and no conception of thrift, there is great danger that a reservation life in tribal relations may be exchanged for the pauperism of civilization instead of its independence and elevation. The solution of the Indian problem depends largely on good administration. The personal fitness of agents and their adaptability to the peculiar duty of caring for their wards is of the utmost importance. The law providing that except in especial cases army officers shall be detailed as Indian agents, it is hoped, will prove a successful experiment. There is danger of great abuses creeping into the prosecution of claims for Indian depredations, and I recommend that every possible safeguard be provided against the enforcement of unjust and fictitious claims of this description.

The appropriation on account of the Indian bureau for the year ending June 30, 1894, amount to \$7,954,962.99, a decrease as compared with the year preceding it of \$387,131.95.

The vast area of land which but a short time ago constituted the public domain is rapidly falling into private hands. It is certain that in that transfer the beneficent intention of the government to supply from its domain homes to the industrious and worthy homesteaders is often frustrated through the speculator who stands with extortionate purpose between the land office and those who with their families are invited by the government to settle on the public lands. He is a despicable character who ought not to be tolerated, yet it is difficult to thwart his schemes. The recent opening to settlement of the lands in the Cherokee outlet, embracing an area of 6,500,000 acres, notwithstanding the utmost care in framing the regulation governing the selection of location, and notwithstanding the presence of United States troops, furnished an exhibition, though perhaps in a modified degree, of the mad scramble, the violence, and the fraudulent occupation which have accompanied previous openings of public lands. I concur with the Secretary in the belief that these outrageous incidents cannot be entirely prevented without a change in the laws on the subject, and I hope his recommendations in that direction will be favorably considered.

I especially commend to the attention of the Congress the statements contained in the Secretary's report concerning forestry. The time has come when efficient measures should be taken for the preservation of our forests from indiscriminate and remorseless destruction.

The report of the Secretary of Agriculture will be found exceedingly interesting, and especially to that large part of our citizens intimately concerned in agricultural occupations. On the 7th day of March, 1893, there were upon its pay rolls 2,430 employees. This number has been reduced to 1,850 persons. In view of a depleted public treasury and the imperative demand of the people for economy in the administration of their government, the Secretary has entered upon the task of rationally reducing expenditures by the elimination from the pay roll of all persons not needed for an efficient conduct of the affairs of the department. During the first quarter of the present year the expenses of the department aggregated \$345,976.78 against \$402,021.42 for the corresponding period of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893. The Secretary makes apparent his intention to continue this rate of reduction by submitting estimates for the next fiscal year less by \$994,280 than those of the present year. Among the heads of divisions in these departments the changes have been exceedingly few. Three vacancies occurring from death and resignation have been filled by the promotion of assistants in the same divisions. These promotions of experienced and faithful assistants have not only been in the interest of efficient work but have suggested to those in the department who look for retention and promotion that merit and devotion to duty are their best reliance.

The amount of appropriation for the bureau of animal industry for the current fiscal year is \$850,000. The estimate for the ensuing year is \$700,000.

The regulations of 1892 concerning

Texas fever have been enforced during the last year and the largest stock yards of the country have been kept free from infection. Occasional local outbreaks have been effectually guarded against by owners of the infected cattle. While contagious pleuro-pneumonia in cattle has been eradicated, animal tuberculosis, a disease widespread and more dangerous to human life than pleuro-pneumonia, is still prevalent. Investigations have been made during the past year as to the means of its communication and the method of its correct diagnosis. Much progress has been made in this direction by the studies of the division of Animal Pathology, but the work ought to be extended in co-operation with local authorities until the danger of human life arising from this cause is reduced to a minimum. The number of animals arriving from Canada during the year and inspected by the bureau officers was 462,092, and the number from trans-Atlantic countries was 1,297. No contagious diseases were found among the imported animals. The total number of inspections of cattle for export during the past fiscal year was 611,542. The exports show a falling off of about 25 per cent from the preceding year. The decrease occurs entirely in the last half of the year. This suggests that the falling off may have been largely due to an increase in the price of American export cattle. During the year ending June 30, 1893, exports of inspected pork aggregated 320,877,410 pounds, as against 380,152,374 pounds for the preceding year. The falling off in this export was not confined, however, to inspected pork, the total quantity exported in 1892 being 665,490,616 pounds, while in 1893 it was only 625,308,695 pounds.

I join the Secretary in recommending that hereafter each applicant for the position of inspector or assistant inspector in the bureau of Animal Industry be required as a condition precedent to his appointment to exhibit to the United States Civil Service Commission his diploma from an established, regular and reputable veterinary college, and that this be supplemented by such an examination in veterinary science as the Commission may prescribe.

The exports of agricultural products from the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, attained the enormous figure of \$800,000,000 in round numbers, being 78.7 per cent of our total exports. In the last fiscal year this aggregate was greatly reduced, but, nevertheless, reached 65,000,000, being 75.1 per cent of all American commodities exported. A review of our agricultural exports with special reference to their destination will show that in almost every line the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland absorbs by far the largest proportion of cattle. The total exports aggregated in value for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, \$26,000,000, of which Great Britain took considerably over \$25,000,000. Of beef products of all kinds our total exports were \$28,000,000, of which Great Britain took \$24,000,000. Of pork products the total exports were \$84,000,000, of which Great Britain took \$53,000,000. In breadstuffs, cotton and minor products like proportions sent to the same destination are shown.