

navy, we need a thoroughly reorganized navy department. The fact that within seventeen years more than \$75,000,000 have been spent in the construction, repair, equipment and armament of vessels and the further fact that instead of an effective and creditable fleet, we have only the discontent and apprehension of a nation undefended by war vessels, added to the disclosures now made, do not permit us to doubt that every attempt to revive our navy has thus far, for the most part, been misdirected, and all our efforts in that direction have been little better than blind gropings and expensive, aimless follies.

Unquestionably if we are content with the maintenance of a navy department simply as an ornament to the government, a constant watchfulness may prevent some of the scandal and abuse which have found their way into our present organization, and its incurable waste may be reduced to a minimum, but if we desire to build ships for present use instead of naval reminders of the days that are past, we must have a department organized for the work, supplied with all the talent and ingenuity our country affords, prepared to take advantage of the experience of other nations, systematized so that all effort shall unite and lead in one direction and fully imbued with the conviction that war vessels though now are useless they combine all that the ingenuity of man has up to this day brought forth relating to their construction. I earnestly commend the portion of the secretary's report devoted to this subject to the action of Congress in the hope that the suggestions touching the reorganization of his department may be adopted as the first step toward the reconstruction of our navy.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The affairs of the postal service are exhibited by the report of the Postmaster-General, which will be laid before you. The postal revenue, whose rates of gain upon the rising prosperity of 1882 and 1883 outstripped the increasing expense of our growing service, was checked by the reduction in the rate of letter postage, which took effect with the beginning of October, in the latter year, and it diminished during the two past fiscal years \$2,790,000, in the proportion of \$2,270,000 in 1884, to \$320,000 in 1885. The natural growth and development have meantime increased the expenditure, resulting in a deficiency in the revenue to the expenses of the department of \$5,250,000 for the year 1884, and eight and a third millions in the last fiscal year. The anticipated and natural revival of the revenue has been opposed and retarded by the unfavorable business condition of the country, of which the postal service is a faithful indicator. The gratifying fact is shown, however, by the report that our returning prosperity is marked by a gain of \$380,000 in the revenue of the latter half of the last year over the corresponding period of the preceding year. The change in the weight of first class matter which may be carried for a single rate of postage from a half ounce to an ounce, and the reduction by one-half of the rate of newspaper postage which under recent legislation began with the current year, will operate to restrain the augmentation of receipts which otherwise might have been expected to such a degree that the scale of expense may gain upon the revenue and cause an increased deficiency to be shown at its close, yet after no long period of reawakened prosperity by proper economy it is confidently anticipated that even the present low rates, now as favorable as any country affords, will be adequate to sustain the cost of the service. The operation of the Postoffice Department is for the convenience and benefit of the people and the method by which they pay the charges of this useful arm of the public service, so that it be just and impartial, is of less importance to them than the economical expenditure of the means they provide for its maintenance and the due improvement of its agencies, that they may enjoy its highest usefulness. A proper attention has been directed to the prevention of waste or extravagance and good results appear from the report to have already been accomplished.

I approve the recommendation of the Postmaster-General to reduce the charges on domestic money orders of \$5 and less, from eight to five cents. This change will materially aid those of our people who most of all avail themselves of this instrumentality, but to whom the element of cheapness is of the greatest importance. With this reduction the system would still remain self-supporting. The free delivery system has been extended to nineteen additional cities during the year, and 178 now enjoy its conveniences. Experience has commended it to those who enjoy its benefits, and the further enlargement of its facilities is due to other communities to which it is adapted. In the cities where it has been established taken together the local postage exceeds its maintenance by nearly \$1,300,000. The limit to which this system is now confined by law has been nearly reached, and the reasons given justify its extension which is proposed.

MAIL SUBSIDIES.

It was decided, with my approbation after a sufficient examination, to be inexpedient for the Postoffice Department to contract for carrying our foreign mails under the additional authority given by the last Congress. The amount appropriated was inadequate to pay all within the purview of the law, the full rate of 50 cents per

mile, and it would have been unjust and unwise to have given it to some and denied it to others; nor could contracts have been let under the law to all at a rate to have brought the aggregate within the appropriation without such practical prearrangements of terms as would have violated it. The rate of sea and inland postage, which was proffered under another statute clearly appears to be a fair compensation for the desired service, being three times the price necessary to secure transportation by other vessels, upon any route and much beyond the charges made by private persons for services not less burdensome. Some of the steamship companies, upon the refusal of the Postmaster-General to attempt, by the means provided, the distribution of the sum appropriated as an extra compensation, withdrew the services of their vessels and thereby occasioned slight inconvenience, though, no considerable injury. The mails have been dispatched by other means. Whatever may be thought of the policy of subsidizing any line of public conveyance or travel, I am satisfied that it should not be done under cover of an expenditure incident to the administration of a department, nor should there be any uncertainty as to the recipients of the subsidy or any discretion left to an executive officer as to its distribution. If such gifts of public money are to be made for the purpose of aiding any enterprise in the supposed interest of the public, I cannot but think that the amount to be paid and the beneficiary might better be determined by Congress than in any other way. The international congress of delegates from the Postal Union countries convened in Lisbon, in Portugal, in February last, and after a session of some weeks the delegates signed a convention amending the present Postal Union convention, in some particulars designed to advance its purposes. This additional act has had my approval, and will be laid before you with the departmental report.

I approve the recommendation of the Postmaster-General that another assistant be provided for his department. I invite your consideration to the several other recommendations contained in his report.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

The report of the Attorney-General contains a history of the conduct of the department of justice during the last year and a number of valuable suggestions as to needed legislation, and I invite your careful attention to the same.

THE COURTS.

The condition of business in the courts of the United States is such that there seems to be an imperative necessity for remedial legislation on the subject. Some of these courts are so overburdened with pending cases that the delays in determining litigation amount to a denial of justice. Among the plans suggested for relief is one submitted by the Attorney-General. Its main features are the transfer of all the original jurisdiction of the circuit courts to the district courts, and an increase of judges for the latter, where necessary; an addition of judges to the circuit courts and constituting them exclusively courts of appeal and reasonably limiting appeals thereto. Further, the restrictions of the right to remove causes from the State to the Federal courts, and permitting appeals to the Supreme Court from courts of the District of Columbia and from the Territories only in the same cases as they are allowed from State courts and guarding against an unnecessary number of appeals from the circuit courts. I approve the plan thus outlined, and recommend the legislation necessary for its application to our judicial system.

ATTORNEYS' AND MARSHALS' SALARIES.

The present mode of compensation of the United States Marshals and District Attorneys, the message declared, should be changed to fixed salaries. Under the present method unscrupulous Marshals are found encouraging frivolous prosecutions.

THE INDIANS.

The message deals at great length on the Indian question, citing the facts already touched upon in the report of the Secretary of the Interior. After reviewing the facts about the education of Indians, and their tribal relations, the President says: I recommend the passage of a law authorizing the appointment of six commissioners, three of whom shall be detailed from the army, to be charged with the duty of the careful inspection from time to time of all Indians upon reservations or subject to the care and control of government, with the view of discovering their exact condition and needs, and determining what steps should be taken on behalf of government to relieve their situation in the direction of their self-support and complete civilization; to ascertain from such inspection, what if any of the reservations may be reduced in area, and in such cases what part not needed for Indian occupation may be purchased by government from the Indians, and disposed of for their benefit; what if any Indians may with their consent, be removed to other reservations, with a view of their concentration. The message directs that the powers and functions of the Commission should be strictly defined.

LAND LAWS.

The message recommends the repeal and modification of certain of the land laws, and deprecates the falling of large tracts into the hands of syndicates for speculation.

The President urges that the transcontinental roads be held to strict accountability in the matter of their grants.

PENSIONS.

The message cites that in July, 1885, there were 345,125 persons borne upon the pension rolls, an increase during ten years of 110,000 persons. He recommends that care be taken to cleanse the rolls from any fraudulent personages.

THE MORMONS.

In the Territory of Utah the law of the United States passed for the suppression of polygamy has been energetically and faithfully executed during the past year with measurably good results. A number of convictions have been secured for unlawful cohabitation and in some cases pleas of guilty have been entered and slight punishment imposed upon a promise by the accused that they would not again offend against the law, nor advise, counsel, aid or abet in any way its violation by others. The Utah Commissioners express opinions based upon such information as they were able to obtain that but few polygamous marriages have taken place in the Territory during the last year. They further report that while there cannot be found upon the registration lists of voters the name of a man actually guilty of polygamy, and while none of that class are holding office, yet, at the last election in the Territory, all the officers elected, except in one county, were men who, though not actually living in the practice of polygamy, subscribed to the doctrine of polygamous marriage, as a divine revelation and a law unto all, higher and more binding upon the conscience than any human law, local or national. This is the strange spectacle presented of a community protected by a republican form of government to which they owe allegiance, sustaining by their suffrage a principle and a belief which sets at naught that obligation of absolute obedience to the law of the land, which lies at the foundation of republican institutions. The strength, the perpetuity and the destiny of the nation rest upon our homes, established by the law of God, guarded by parental care, regulated by parental authority and sanctified by parental love. These are not the homes of polygamy. The mothers of our land who rule the nation as they would the characters, and guide the actions of their sons, live according to God's holy ordinance, and each, pure and happy in the exclusive love of the father of her children, sheds the warm light of true womanhood, unpurged and unpolluted, upon all within her pure and wholesome family circle. These are not the cheerless, crushed and unwomanly mothers of polygamy. The fathers of our families are the best citizens of the Republic; wife and children are the sources of patriotism, and conjugal and parental affection beget devotion to the country. The man who undeffiled with plural marriage, is surrounded in his single home with his wife and children, has a stake in the country which inspires with respect for its laws, and courage for its defense. These are not the fathers of polygamous families. There is no feature of this practice or the system which sanctions it, which is not opposed to all that is of value in our institutions. There should be no relaxation in the firm, but just execution of the law now in operation, and I should be glad to approve such further discreet legislation as will rid this country of this blot upon its fame.

CIVIL SERVICE.

Devoted to the Civil Service question, the President says: "I am inclined to think that there is no sentiment more general in the minds of the people of our country than the conviction of correctness of the principle upon which the law enforcing civil service reform is based." He reiterates his former expressed views on the subject and says, "I venture to hope that we never shall again be remitted to the system which distributes public positions purely as a reward for partisan service. Doubts may well be entertained whether our government could survive the strain of a continuance of this system which upon every change of administration, inspires an immense army of claimants for office to lay siege to the patronage of government, engrossing the time of public officers with their importunities, spreading abroad the contagion of their disappointment and filling the air with the tumult of their discontent."

The functions of the Presidential office have caused public anxiety, and a just demand that a recurrence of such a condition of affairs should not be permitted.

THE DOXOLOGY.

"In conclusion I commend to the wise care and thoughtful attention of Congress the needs and welfare of an intelligent nation. To subordinate those to the narrow advantages of partisanship or the accomplishment of selfish aims is to violate the people's trust and betray the people's interests, but an individual sense of responsibility on the part of each of us and a stern determination to perform our duty well must give us peace among those who have added in their day and generation to the glory and prosperity of our beloved land."

[Signed] GROVER CLEVELAND.

Alphabet and Building Blocks, Tool Chests and Toy Books at Pembroke's.

BY TELEGRAPH

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE

AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 7.—The Supreme Court to-day decided the case of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, appellant from the Supreme Court of Dakota. The suit was brought in the District Court of Traill county, Dakota, by the present appellant against Iver L. Rockne, Treasurer of the County, to enjoin him from enforcing the collection of taxes assessed on the lands of the company in that county. The verdict was for the defendant. The Supreme Court of the Territory affirmed the judgment. This court now reverses the judgment and the case is remanded with directions to cause a decree to be entered perpetually enjoining the Treasurer of Traill County from any further proceedings to collect taxes. This action is based upon the provisions of the act of Congress which prohibits the conveyance of any granted lands to the company until the costs of surveying have been paid to the government. Until these costs are paid the government retains title as security, and this security would be neutralized if the lands could be sold for taxes. The court says: "We are aware of the use being made of this principle by the companies, who having earned lands, neglected to pay these costs in order to prevent taxation. The remedy lies with Congress and is of easy application. If that body will take steps to enforce its liens for these costs of survey by the sale of the lands or by the forfeiture of the title, the Treasury of the United States would soon be reimbursed for its expenses in making these surveys, and the States and Territories in which these lands lay would be remitted to their appropriate rights of taxation."

Much apprehension has been manifested in the west in respect to the scope of Commissioner Sparks's recent decision, to the effect that homestead claimants who have previously had the benefit of the pre-emption law cannot "commute" their homestead claims. Members of Congress have received many letters on the subject, indicating a wide-spread fear that this decision was to be made retroactive, which would have the effect of upsetting titles to many claims which had passed by purchase into the hands of third parties. Senator Van Wyck, on behalf of many of his constituents, recently made inquiry of General Sparks in reference to the matter and was informed that the decision will, unless reversed by the higher authority, be a guide for the future action of land officers, but that the Commission is not inclined to go into the actions of his predecessor, nor to interfere with claims which have already been secured under former rulings of the Land Office in this respect, unless fraud is shown to have been perpetrated in securing such claims.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day transmitted to Congress estimates of appropriations required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887. The total amount estimated as required for all expenses of the government is \$330,585,552, which is \$15,678,153 more than the sum called for in the estimate submitted last year, and \$50,820,710 more than the aggregate of appropriations for the present fiscal year.

Gov. Warren, of Wyoming, in his annual report, refers to the Rock Springs Chinese labor riots of September 3rd. The white miners who engaged in the massacre were, he says, nearly all aliens. He states the action he took in suppressing the riots, and says that public sentiment in those places where the Chinese are employed in the mines is decidedly in favor of the rioters. Several arrests were made, but no indictments were found. He suggests that the insurrection act be amended by the insertion of the word "Territorial," so that the doubt about the power of the government to summon troops in cases of emergency might be removed. The Governor says that Wyoming believes in and endorses woman suffrage.

NEW YORK, 7.—On November 25th Frederick Weitzel, an aged shoemaker of this city and his wife gave a party in honor of the birthday of their married daughter Matilda Lawson. There were present besides these their other children, Oscar, aged 20, William 13, Anna 23, Bertha 21 and Amelia 17 years. Among the other guests were Mrs. Margaret Pierce, her husband, William John Lawson the husband of Matilda, and his friend Moses Simon. Among the edibles was an underdone ham, all of which was consumed, some eating heartily, some sparingly and others not at all. Since then those who partook heartily of the half-cooked pork, have been taken very ill, with all the symptoms of trichinosis. Those who ate little, less severely, and those who abstained have escaped.

The first symptoms developed on the Friday following in the case of Mrs. Weitzel, who suffered and still continues to suffer excruciating pains and is unable to move hand or foot. The next day her husband came down in the same way. On Monday their son William was attacked. On the following Wednesday Bertha began to suffer, and on Friday Oscar took his turn, leaving Amelia and Emma the only well members of the family. To-day all had so far recovered as to be able to go about except Mrs. Weitzel and Bertha, who are still very weak. Outside of the family, Mrs. Pierce is unable to move, and John Lawson and his wife were both attacked. The latter is better, but the former is suffering intensely. Moses Simon's sufferings began last Saturday. The health department took the case in hand to-day. Unfortunately no scrap of the ham can be found for analysis. The physicians called all pronounce it malarial fever, but the general belief now is that it is genuine trichinosis.

BOSTON, 7.—The Colored League of Massachusetts held a public meeting at Faneuil Hall to-night, John L. Rutledge presiding. Resolutions were adopted calling upon the colored voters of the country to act for themselves in the future, independent of political parties, and to vote for no man who is not pledged to assist the colored people to attain their rights as citizens.

HAVANA, 7.—Miss Susan Morse, daughter of Samuel F. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, while en route for this place on a Spanish mail steamer, disappeared shortly before the arrival of the vessel. It is supposed she threw herself into the sea in a fit of temporary mental aberration.

RICHMOND, Va., 7.—In the democratic caucus to-night, John W. Daniel was nominated for United States Senator by a vote of 65 to 31 for John S. Barbour.

LOUISVILLE, 7.—Job Early, murderer of Leander Lawson, was hung this afternoon at Williamsburg, Ky., in the presence of a thousand people. He was resigned to his fate. He said he believed the Lord would forgive him. He ascended the scaffold without a tremor. Some of the crowd were very drunk and laughed and joked, and a great many of them tried to climb the scaffold. The guards pushed them back and then threats to tear the scaffold down were made. In the row two shots were fired. The second struck Alice Sharp, colored, in the head, making a bad scalp wound. When order was restored, Early was asked if he had anything to say, he replied: "No, I am ready when you are." The trap fell, and Early died in 20 minutes from strangulation. The crime for which he was hanged was committed some months ago. He went into the school in which Lawson was teaching, was put out, returned and shot Lawson dead.

ROCHESTER, 7.—Patrick Slattery and Wm. Baker, principals in a prize fight last August, were sentenced to-day to be imprisoned in the penitentiary for one year, and to pay a fine of \$500 each. This is the full extent of the law.

Toronto, 7.—Commercial circles have been considerably agitated over the dissolution of the partnership of A. R. McMaster & Bro., wholesale dry goods dealers. Ugly rumors are afloat about A. R. Carmichael, cashier and confidential clerk of the firm. Carmichael left the city on Friday night and is now in the United States. Various estimates of his defalcations have been made, ranging between \$30,000 and \$40,000. Carmichael is said to have been leading a very fast life lately.

COBURG, Ont., 7.—Nine years ago John Knox, a resident of this place, deserted his wife and departed for the United States. Shortly after his wife died of a broken heart, as alleged, and her three brothers, named Goheen, vowed to kill Knox should he ever return. Yesterday Knox arrived in town and visited the house of Goheen's hired man. While there the brothers learned of his presence, called at the house and invited him outside. Knox left the house, whereupon the brothers attacked him, beating him into insensibility and robbing him, as Knox alleges, of \$40,000, which he made in speculation.

FOREIGN.

MADRID, 7.—Herald Madrid special: Premier Sagasta has visited General Lopez Dominguez, and has arranged with him for concerted action. The General has promised to sustain the Cabinet in developing a liberal policy. General Dominguez assured the Premier that the recent reunions of Generals at his house were in no way connected with any hostile movement against the government.

El Resumen, organ of General Dominguez, reports that the Carlists are actively organizing at their headquarters in Peryugnan. They have settled the details in relation to military commanders, and are arranging a plan for a revolution.

Some Frank Confessions!

"Our remedies are unreliable."—Dr. Valentine Mott.

"We have multiplied diseases."—Dr. Rush, Philadelphia.

"Thousands are annually slaughtered in the sick room."—Dr. Frank.

"The science of medicine is founded on conjecture, improved by murder."—Sir Astley Cooper, M. D.

"The medical practice of the present day is neither philosophical nor common sense."—Dr. Evans, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Dr. Dio Lewis, who abhors drugs as a rule and practices hygiene, is frank enough, however, to say over his signature "If I found myself the victim of a serious kidney trouble, I should use Warner's safe cure because I am satisfied it is not dangerous. The medical profession stands helpless in the presence of more than one such malady."

An old proverb says: "If a person dies without the services of a doctor, then a coroner must be called in and a jury empaneled to enquire and determine upon the cause of death; but if a doctor attended the case, then no coroner and jury are needed as everybody knows why the person died!"—Medical Herald.