

uniformity of its operation. It will be seen from the report of the Commissioner that there are now paid by the Government one hundred and thirty-one different rates of pensions. He estimates from the best information he can obtain that 9,000 of those who have served in the army and navy of the United States are now supported, in whole or in part, from public funds or organized charities exclusive of those in the soldiers' home under the direction and control of the Government. Only 13 per cent of these are pensioners, while of the entire number of men furnished for the late war, something like 20 per cent, including their widows and relatives, have been or are now in the receipt of pensions. The American people, with a patriotic, grateful reward for our ex-soldiers, too strong and too sacred to be monopolized by any special advocates who are not only willing but anxious that equal and exact justice should be given to all honest claimants for pensions. In their sight the friendless and destitute soldier, dependent on public charity, if otherwise entitled, has precisely the same right to share in the provisions made for those who fought their country's battle as those better able, through friends and influence, to push their claims. Every condition that is granted under our present plan upon any other grounds than actual service, injury or disease incurred in such service, and every instance of the many in which pensions are increased on other grounds than the merits of the claim, mark an injustice to the brave and crippled, but poor and friendless soldier who is entirely neglected or who must be content with the smallest sum allowed under the general laws. There are far too many neighborhoods in which are found glaring cases of inequality of treatment in the matter of pension, and they are largely due to a yielding in the pension bureau to importunity on the part of those other than the pensioners, who are especially interested, or they arise from special acts passed for the benefit of individuals. The men who fought side by side should stand side by side when they participate in a grateful nation's kind remembrance. Every consideration of fairness and justice to our ex-soldiers and the protection of the patriotic instincts of our citizens from perversion and violence, point to the adoption of a pension system broad and comprehensive enough to cover every contingency, and which shall make unnecessary an objectionable volume of special legislation. As long as we adhere to the principle of granting pensions for services, and disability as the result of the service, the allowance of pensions should be restricted to cases containing those features. Every patriotic heart responds to a tender consideration for those who, having served their country long and well, are reduced to destitution and dependence, not as an incident of their service but with advancing age or through sickness or misfortune. We are tempted by the contemplation of such a condition to supply relief and are often impatient of the limitations of military duty. Yielding to no one in the desire to indulge this feeling of consideration, I cannot rid myself of the conviction that in these ex-soldiers are to be relieved, they and their cause are entitled to the benefit of an enactment, under which relief may be claimed as a right, and that such relief should be granted under the sanction of the law, not in the evasion of it; nor should such worthy objects of care, all equally entitled, be remitted to the unequal operation of sympathy, or the tender mercies of social and political influence with those unjust discriminations, the discharged soldiers and sailors of the country are our fellow citizens, and interested with us in the passage and faithful execution of a wholesome law. They cannot be severed from their duty of citizenship by an artful appeal to their spirit of brotherhood, born of common peril and suffering, nor will they exact as a test of devotion to their welfare a willingness to neglect a public duty in their behalf.

THE PATENT OFFICE.

On the 4th of March, 1885, the current business of the patent office was on an average five and a half months behind. At the close of the last fiscal year, such current work was but three months short in arrears, and it is asserted and believed that in the next six months the delay in obtaining an examination of an application for a patent will be ten months. The number of applications for patents during the past fiscal year, including re-issue, designs, trade marks, and labels, reaches 10,000, which is considerably in excess of the number reached during the previous year. The receipts of the patent office during the year aggregate \$1,250,167.80, enabling the office to turn into the treasury, over and above all expenditures about \$198,901.73. The number of patents granted during the last fiscal year, including reissues, trade marks, designs and labels was 25,610, a number also quite largely in excess of that of any preceding year. The report of the Commissioner shows the office to be in a prosperous condition and constantly increasing in its business. No increase of force is asked for. The amount estimated for the year ending June 30, 1887, was \$853,000. The amount estimated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888, is \$778,770.

THE PACIFIC ROADS' DEBT.

The Secretary of the Interior sug-

gests a change in the plan of payment for the indebtedness of the Pacific subsidized roads to the government. His suggestion has the unanimous endorsement of the persons selected by the government to act as directors of these roads, and protects the interests of the United States in the board of directors. In considering the plan proposed, the sole matters which should be taken into account, in my opinion, are the situation of the government as a creditor, and the surest way to receive the payment of the principal and interest of its debt. By a recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States it has been adjudged that the laws of the several States are inoperative to regulate the rates of transportation upon railroads, if such regulation interferes with the rate of carriage from one State into another. This important field of control and regulation having been thus left entirely unoccupied, the expediency of federal action upon the subject is work of consideration.

LABOR AND CAPITAL.

The relations of labor to capital and of laboring men to their employers is of the utmost concern to every patriotic citizen. When these are strained and distorted, unjustifiable claims are apt to be insisted upon by both interested, and in the controversy which results, the welfare of all, and the prosperity of the country, are jeopardized. Any intervention of the general government, within the limits of this constitutional authority, to avert such a condition, should be willingly accorded. In a special message transmitted to Congress at its last session, I suggested the enlargement of our present Labor Bureau and adding to its present functions the power of arbitration in cases where differences arise between employers and employees. When these differences reach such a stage as to result in the interruption of commerce between the States, the application of this remedy by the general government might be regarded as entirely within its constitutional powers, and I think we might reasonably hope that such arbitration, if carefully selected, and if entitled to the confidence of the parties to be effected, would be voluntarily called to the settlement of a controversy of less extent and not necessarily within the domain of federal regulation. I am of the opinion that this suggestion is worthy the attention of Congress. But after all has been done by the passage of laws, either Federal or State, to relieve a situation full of solicitude, much more remains to be accomplished by the reinstatement and cultivation of a true American sentiment, which recognizes the equality of American citizenship. This, in the light of our tradition and in loyalty to the spirit of our institutions, would teach that hearty co-operation on the part of all interests, is the surest path to national greatness, and the happiness of all our people; that capital should, in recognition of the brotherhood of our citizenship and in a spirit of American fairness generally, generously accord to labor its just compensation and consideration, and that contented labor is capital's best protection and faithful ally. I would teach too, that the diverse situations of our people are inseparable from our civilization; that every citizen should, in his sphere, be a contributor to the general good; that capital does not necessarily tend to the oppression of labor; and that violent disturbances and disorders alienate from the promoters true American sympathy and kindly feeling.

AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

The department of agriculture representing the oldest and largest of the national industries, is subserving well the purpose of its organization. By the introduction of new subjects of farming enterprise, and by opening new sources of agricultural wealth, and the determination of early information concerning production and prices, it has contributed largely to the country's prosperity. Through this agency, advanced thought and investigation touching the subjects it has in charge, should, among other things, be practically applied to the home production, at a low cost, of articles of food, which are now imported from abroad. Such an innovation will necessarily, of course, in the beginning, be within the domain of intelligent experiments; and the subject in every stage should receive all possible encouragement from the government. The interests of millions of our citizens, engaged in agriculture, are involved in an enlargement and improvement of the results of their labor, and a zealous regard for their welfare should be a willing tribute to those whose productive returns are a main source of our progress and power.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.

The existence of pleuro-pneumonia among the cattle of various States has led to burdensome and in some cases disastrous restrictions in an important branch of our commerce, threatening to affect the quantity and quality of our supplies. This is a matter of such importance and of such far reaching consequences that I hope it will receive the serious attention of Congress to the end that such a remedy may be applied as the limits of a constitutional delegation of power the general government will permit. I commend to the consideration of Congress the report of the commissioner and his suggestions concerning the interest intrusted to his care.

CIVIL SERVICE.

The continued operation of the law relating to our civil service has added to the most convincing proofs of its necessity and usefulness. It is a fact worthy of note that every public officer who has a just idea of his duty to the people testified to the value of this reform. Its staunchest friends are found among those who understand it best and its warmest supporters are those who are restrained and protected by its requirement. The meaning of such restraint and protection is not appreciated by those who want places under the government regardless of merit and efficiency, nor by those who insist that election for such places should rest on proper credentials showing active partisan work. They mean to be public officers; the only opportunity afforded them to attend to public business, and they mean to be good people in the union for the better performance of the work of their government. It is exceedingly strange that the scope and nature of this fact are so little understood, and that so many things not included in this plan are called by its name. When civil service yields more fully to examination the system will have barely admission at the hands of its friends. Our civil service reform may be imperfect in some of its details, it may be misunderstood and opposed, it may not always be faithfully applied, its designs may sometimes miscarry through a mistake, it may sometimes tremble under the assaults of its enemies, or languish under the misguided zeal of impracticable friends, fail. If the people of this country ever submit to the banishment of its underlying principle from the operation of their government, they abandon the surest guarantee of the safety and success of American institutions. I invoke for this reform the cheerful and ungrudging support of Congress. I renew my recommendation made last year that the commissioners be made equal other officers of the government having like duties and responsibilities, and I hope that such reasonable appropriations may be made as will enable them to increase the usefulness of the cause they have charge of.

FREEDMEN'S AFFAIRS.

I desire to call the attention of Congress to a plain duty which the government owes to the depositors in the Freedman Savings and Trust Company. This company was chartered by Congress for the benefit of the most illiterate and humble of our people, and with the intention of encouraging in them industry and thrift. Branches were presided over by officers holding the commissions and clothed with the uniform of the United States. These and other circumstances, reasonably, I think, led these simple people to suppose that the invitation to deposit their hard earned savings in this institution implied an undertaking on the part of their government that their money should be safely kept for them. When this company failed it was liable to the sum of \$2,930,923.22, to 61,131 depositors. Dividends amounting in the aggregate to sixty per cent. have been declared, and the sum called for and paid of such dividends seems to be \$1,048,181.72. This sum, deducted from the entire amount of deposits, leaves \$1,291,741.50 still unpaid. Past experience has shown that quite a large part of this sum will not be called for. There are assets still on hand amounting to the estimated sum of \$16,000. I think the remaining thirty-eight per cent. of such of these deposits as have claimants could be paid by the government upon principles of equity and fairness. The report of the commissioner, soon to be laid before Congress, will give more satisfactory details on this subject.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The control of the affairs of the District of Columbia having been placed in the hands of purely executive officers, while Congress still retains all legislative authority relating to its government, it becomes my duty to make known to the most pressing needs of the district and recommend their consideration. The laws of the district appear to be in an uncertain and unsatisfactory condition, and their codification or revision is much needed. During the past year one of the bridges leading from the district to the State of Virginia became unfit for use and travel upon it was forbidden. This leads me to suggest that the improvement of all the bridges crossing the Potomac and its branches from the city of Washington is worthy the attention of Congress. The commissioners of the district represent that the laws regulating the sale of liquor and granting licenses therefor, should be at once amended, and that legislation is needed to consolidate, define and enlarge the scope and power of charitable and penal institutions within the district. I suggest that the commissioners be clothed with the power to make, within fixed limitations, police regulations. I believe this power, granted and carefully guarded, would tend to subvert the good order of the municipality. It seems that trouble exists growing out of the occupation of the streets and avenues by certain railroads having their termini in the city. It is very important that such laws should be enacted upon this subject as will secure to the railroads all the facilities they require for the transaction of their business, and at the same time protect citizens from injury to their persons or property. The commissioners again

complain that the accommodations afforded them for the necessary offices for district business and for the safekeeping of valuable books and papers, are entirely insufficient. I recommend that this condition of affairs be remedied by Congress, and that suitable quarters be furnished for the needs of the district government.

IN CONCLUSION.

I earnestly invoke such wise action on the part of the people's legislators as will subserve the public good, and demonstrate during the remaining days of Congress, as at present organized, its ability and inclination to so meet the people's needs that it shall be gratefully remembered by an expectant constituency.

(Signed) GROVER CLEVELAND.
Washington, Dec. 6, 1886.

BY TELEGRAPH.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.
AMERICAN.

VIRGINIA, Nevada, 4.—Fifteen cars of bullion, amounting to \$44,000 and not \$100,000, as stated yesterday, were shipped from the Con. Cala. and Virginia mine last night. This makes \$444,000 shipped from that mine since November 1st.

SAN FRANCISCO, 4.—At to-day's session of the Stock Exchange the bulls succeeded in completely capturing the market and a sharp and heavy advance took place all along the line. For a Saturday morning session the transactions were unusually large. Con. Cal. and Virginia, which closed at noon yesterday on the San Francisco board at 39, and at the afternoon informal session of the Pacific board at 46, opened this morning at 53, and in a few minutes jumped, even under heavy sales, to 55, closing at 54.50. Other mining stocks were more or less similarly affected.

CHICAGO, 4.—At a meeting held in this city this afternoon to set on foot a movement to counteract the influence of Socialists and their teachings the name "Patriots' League" was adopted. General John L. Thompson was elected president; Colonel H. W. Jackson, treasurer, and Thomas M. Nichols, secretary. An Executive Committee and a Committee on Publication were appointed and the following platform and declaration of principles and purposes were adopted:

PLATFORM.

Any person may become a member of this League by signing the platform setting forth its principles and purposes.

Any person contributing money to this League shall be entitled to receive its publications to the full amount of money contributed.

The primary object of this League shall be:

First.—To support and defend the Government, the Constitution, laws and institutions of the United States, National, State and municipal, as administered through the three necessary and well defined departments—legislative, executive and judicial—and to furnish a channel through which the order-loving and law-honoring sentiment of the country can at all times express itself and make its convictions and strength known.

Second.—To oppose Anarchism, Socialism, Communism, Mormonism and Despotism of all kinds, and all kindred social and political heresies that tend to destroy the peace of society, the authority of the Government, the sacredness of the law, the rights of property, the liberty of citizens and the sacredness of the family; and to serve due notice on Anarchists, Socialists and all similar "ists" and "isms," that human liberty, as represented and practiced by American free institutions, has cost too much and is too valuable and sacred to allow it to be overthrown, undermined, endangered or desecrated by foreign agitators and revolutionists, or demagogues of any creed, breed or description.

Third.—to disseminate sound views and practical and accurate information on political, social and economic subjects by means of carefully prepared books and pamphlets to be published and sold at the bare cost of production and distribution, and thus place the means of political education within the reach of all and in general to promote and encourage the study and rational discussion of social, political and economic questions by the whole body of American citizens.

WASHINGTON, 4.—The commissions of sixty Presidential postmasters will expire during the present month. On the reassembling of Congress, the President will have the appointments of about 150 postmasters, made during the recess, to send to the Senate for confirmation.

General John B. Clarke, the clerk of the House of Representatives has completed and caused to be printed an unofficial list of members of the House for the Fiftieth Congress. He classifies them as 168 Democrats, 152 Republicans, with 4 Independents and one vacancy—Rhode Island to be filled probably by a Republican. Of the old members in the present Congress, one hundred are Democrats and ninety-five Republicans. If the Independents divide as they are expected to do, equally between the two sides, it will give a Democratic majority of 14 in the full House.

NEW YORK, 4.—Another Fourth Ward man achieved fame to-day by leaping from the Brooklyn bridge into East River. The affair was kept a secret, and the facts did not leak out until late this afternoon. Michael J. Hess, a laborer, was in a saloon on Thursday

night with a party of friends. The party had been drinking heavily, and the bridge-jumping feats of Brodie, Donovan and others came up in conversation. One of the crowd offered to bet \$25 that Hess would not dare to make the leap. Hess took up the bet at once. On Friday, when he was sober, Hess was reminded of the bet. Arrangements were at once made to carry it out. This morning at 8:30 Hess mounted a truck and started over the bridge from the New York side. As the truck passed the New York tower at about 9 a. m. Hess jumped off, mounted the rail and jumped off. His body stiffened out and he shot down striking with a splash which threw the water ten feet in the air. In a few seconds Hess rose to the surface and was picked up by a friend who was waiting in a boat. He was conscious. He was rowed ashore and carried to a saloon and stimulants poured down his throat. He revived from the shock and said that in the period between leaving the bridge and striking the water, he was not conscious. Hess left the saloon and walked through the street in his wet clothes, drinking whisky until he reached his home. He is doing well.

JENKINS CITY, 4.—A strong odor was noticed in the corridor of the third floor of Taylor's Hotel at half-past 10 this morning. Investigation showed that the gas came from the room occupied by Thomas H. Barry, of Humboldt, Nevada. The door was forced open and Barry was found undressed in bed apparently dead. When the window was opened, however, he showed some signs of animation and was removed to the hospital, where it is said he will die. He is about 50 years old. Barry intended to sail today for England. It is supposed that on retiring he blew the gas out.

FOREIGN.

BUCHAREST, 2.—The new plot formulated here on November 20th by the Russian refugees from Bulgaria, headed by Zankoff, and having for its avowed object the overthrow of the Bulgarian Regency, and the fomenting of revolution, has proved abortive. Russia refused to furnish any money for the enterprise.

LONDON, 2.—A dispatch from Dublin gives an account of an interview had there with Mr. Sexton. Upon being asked what, in his opinion, had caused the present action of the Government, Mr. Sexton replied that he had no doubt that the success of the Nationalist campaign compelled the Irish landlords to appeal to the Government, and it no doubt yielded to their entreaties. When asked whether he thought the League would be suppressed, Mr. Sexton answered, "No; if the Government attempts to suppress the League through the Viceroy, it will find itself in a ruinously untenable position. Moreover, if the League be suppressed and its meetings be proclaimed, the Government will find the situation more difficult than ever, as public indignation will make the success of the tenants all the more rapid."

LONDON, 3.—The Cabinet council was held to-day to discuss the advisability of further prosecutions in Ireland like the one instituted in Dublin against John Dillon. The question of continuing government assistance in the work of eviction was also considered. All the members were present.

DUBLIN 3.—The corporation to-day adopted a resolution denouncing the conduct of the government in prohibiting National League meetings at Sligo and elsewhere. Lord Mayors Sullivan and Sexton delivered addresses. None of the Conservative members of the corporation were present.

LONDON, 4.—The Dublin agent of the Central News, telegraphs that the Irish executive, in consequence of the proceedings at yesterday's cabinet council, is preparing for a determined struggle against the Irish National League. The proposed warfare, the telegram asserts, will include a proclamation of League meetings and the arrest of prominent anti-entire agitators. The agent adds that he has reason to believe that the seizure of United Ireland has also been decided upon by the government.

BERNE, 4.—The Swiss assembly has passed the Landstrum bill.

PARIS, 4.—The members of the radical Left in the Chamber of Deputies have unanimously decided to vote confidence in the government. It is believed that this incident will induce the Cabinet to recall its decision to resign.

BELGRADE, 4.—King Milan will receive the deputation of Bulgarian notables to-morrow. It is reported here that the Bulgarian Regency will make overtures to King Milan to induce him to become a candidate for the Bulgarian throne with a view of arranging a union between Serbia, Eastern Roumelia and Bulgaria.

LONDON, 4.—Turkey has sent a note to the Powers asking advice on the solution of the Bulgarian difficulty. The note betrays the existence of an entente between the Porte and Russia.

If you suffer from looseness of the bowels, Angostura Bitters will surely cure you. Beware of counterfeits and ask your grocer or druggist for the genuine article, prepared by Dr. J. G. Siegart & Sons.

Throat Diseases commence with a Cough, Cold, or Sore Throat. "Brown's Bronchial Troches" give immediate relief. Sold only in boxes. price 25 cts.