a just cause. There have been but two or three forced removals, and those for reasons that are open to inspection by any one who has a right to inquire. Politics have absolutely had no place whatever in the control of the matter of Indian traderships, which rests by law solely in the hands of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. These traders are required to give bond for their strict compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the office for their intercourse with Indians. Any charges of fraud, extortion or other dishonorable practices made against them are promptly investigated, and I have reason to believe, so far as my knowledge extends, and I have taken much pains to inform myself, that the great body of Indian traders now in the service, although belonging to a different political party from the one in power, are honorable men, engaged in carrying on a legitimate business in a prosperous way, and that the charge so flippantly made against them is cruel and unjust.

COMPETENT TO TEACH FARMING.

"The criticism is sometimes made that those appointed to teach the Indians to farm are themselves wholly ignorant of the art of farming. To this it may be replied that the law of Congress requires that before a man can be appointed as a farmer among the Indians, he shall have had at least five years successful experience as a farmer. During the present administration in no single instance, so far as my knowledge extends, has any man been appointed to the position of farmer who has not filed evidence in the Indian Office that he fulfilled this requirement of the law. A communication, searching in its inquiries, was addressed to each agent, requiring from him a comprehensive report regarding the special fitness of every farmer under his control, and wherever the agents have reported as to the unfitness of the farmer he has been removed. Undoubtedly there are farmers in the Indian service who are not performing the duties for which they were appointed, but I believe that even these, in some instances at least, have been unable to accomplish the work set them to do more by the limitations incident to their peculiar situation than from a lack of competency for the discharge of their duties.

"The criticism is also made that the teachers in the government schools are appointed for political considerations, and are incompetent for their work. Regarding this, I enter an emphatic, absolute and unqualified denial. The utmost care has been taken and no pains have been spared in selecting persons for the responsible positions of superintendents and teachers in the Indian schools, and the present Commissioner has given personal offense to men high in authority by reason of the fact that he has insisted on appointing men and women to those places on account of their fitness rather than in obedience to the demands of party politicians.

"The criticism is likewise made that there has been an unjust discrimination in the administration of educational affairs against a large ecclesiastical organization. In other words, to speak very plainly, it is charged that the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs has discriminated against the Roman Catholics, that he has dismissed teachers from the public service simply because they belonged to that sect, and that he has withheld from that organization moneys properly due them for the conduct of Indian contract or mission schools. To this he replies that in no solitary case during his occupancy of his office has he dismissed any employe from the Indian school service for other than good reasons. That he has in no single instance dismissed either man or woman because he or she belonged to the Catholic Church, nor has he allowed sectarianism to control his action in any case. On the other hand, he has retained in the Indian school service those belonging to the Catholic Church who were not properly fitted for their work, and has allowed the continuance in government schools of sectarian practices, which he thinks should not be tolerated in government institutions, rather than incur the hostility of correcting abuses and dismissing incompetent persons. He has dismissed from the public school service numbers of men and women belonging to other denominations, but so far as he now recalls he has never been charged with dismissing them because they were Baptists, or Presbyterians, or Methodists, nor except in the case of the Roman Catholics, because they belonged to any particular church or school.

NO DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CATHOLICS.

"In reply to the charge that he has discriminated against the Catholics, or has done them any injustice in the matter of setting apart for them for their mission schools public moneys for the education of the Indians, he states: First, that he believes that the whole system of appropriating public money for sectarian uses is contrary to the spirit, if not the letter, of the Constitution of the United States. Second, he believes it to be contrary to public policy; it is a menace to the public school system, has in it the possibility of bitter sectarian strife, and threatens the prosperity of the whole Indian school system. Third, he believes that the work of educating the rising generation of Indians belongs specifically to the government, and that it is unwise for the government to attempt to evade that responsibility by farming it out to the churches. Fourth, he believes that it is susceptible of easy demonstration to those who are familiar with the facts, that the kind of education now furnished in the government schools, notably in those at Carlisle, Haskell, Chilocco, Albuquerque and elsewhere is far superior as a means of giving to the Indians a many-sided training and liberal culture, and of breathing into them the spirit of Americanism and patriotism and of fitting them for the speediest and completest absorption into our national life. Fifth, notwithstanding these positive conflictions, which he holds as fundamental and unalterable, he has, nevertheless, as a public official charged with the administration of a great trust, not felt at liberty to break suddenly and violently upon the traditions of the office. He has, accordingly, not hesitated, during both years of his administration, in the awarding of contracts for schools, to grant an increase in the amounts allowed the Roman Catholic Church, as is shown in the annexed table, which gives the sums of money set apart for a series of years for the various religious denominations engaged in Indian school work. Sixth, he does not recognize that the Roman Catholics have any special or exclusive claim to peculiar consideration in this matter of receiving grants for mission purposes out of the public treasury, and in signing contracts which have awarded to them a large and increasing fund out of the public treasury to be used chiefly for the promotion of church work, he has been obliged to subordinate his personal convictions to his official position, and so far from being open to criticism as having discriminated against them, he feels that he is open to the criticism which has been made upon him very severely from the opposite pole of public opinion that he has, without warrant in the Constitution, and against the highest considerations of public policy, fostered a great abuse.

NOT STARVED INTO REBELLION.

"A criticism most frequently made of late perhaps is that the Indians receiving rations, especially those at Pine Ridge and Rosebud, have been starved into rebellion and then shot. In reply to this, it is only necessary to say that so far as the Indian Office is concerned it has distributed to the Indians all of the supplies voted by Congress; that it has asked from Congress each year larger sums than it has received; that it has taken great pains to see to it that these supplies should go directly, without diminution, to the Indians, and has, in order that this might be done, availed itself of the knowledge and supposed skill of army officers in inspecting the cattle, flour and other articles received for the Indians. That some changes ought to be made in the manner of purchasing, receiving and delivering the annual supplies the Commissioner fully believes, and he has to the best of his ability exerted his influence to bring about some much needed reforms, a portion of which he has already succeeded in accomplishing.

"Turning now from these matters of specific criticism! we encounter the sweeping charge that the entire system of managing the Indians by civil agents is hopelessly faulty, and that the remedy lies in transferring them to the control of the War Department. This criticism proceeds apparently upon the assumption that civilians are unfitted for the work which devolves upon Indian agents, and that army officers, by reason of their military training, have special qualifications for such work. In reply, let me say I am not prepared to admit that our civil institutions are a failure, and that men chosen from civil life for high administrative offices must of necessity fail in their work. The fundamental conception upon which the Republic rests is the inherent manhood of the individual, the trustworthiness of the people and the possibility of self-government. To admit that there cannot be found from the ranks of civil life fifty-nine men competent for the duties of Indian agent is so sweeping a condemnation of our entire civilization that I am unwilling for a single moment to entertain it.

ARMY OFFICERS NOT WELL QUALIFIED.

"It is a pertinent question to ask what special qualifications army officers, as such, in contradistinction to men experienced and trained in civil life, have for the administration of Indian affairs. Is there at West Point any distinctive professorship devoted to the inculcation of doctrines that would specially fit the young men educated there to disburse the large trust fund that passes through the Indian Office? Is there a chair at that institution charged with the discussion of matters of land and land titles, of inheritance, of making allotments to individual Indians, of grouping families together in the most harmonious relationship, of supperintending matters of transfer of leases, sales, etc.? Is there at West Point a chair of social science where the young men are trained in the knowledge of all those great principles that underlie civilization, that enables a graduate from that institution to assume at once the large responsibility of promoting the civilization of the Indians that are to be placed under his charge? Will he have special wisdom in determining matters pertaining to irrigation, fruit growing, stock grazing, farming and the development of all the varied industries that enter into civilization? Is West Point particularly distinguished for its devotion to the philosophy of education, and is there a distinct professor of pedagogy whose business it is to train young men to develop a school system, decide upon a course of study, selection of text-books, grading and classifying pupils, and all the thousands of details that pertain to the administration of a large school fund?

"The work of uplifting the Indians is a constructive work. The work of the army is essentially destructive. Indian administration calls for the exercise of rigid economy. Economy is not one of the special virtues that are developed in the army. The administration of Indian affairs calls for the exercise of sympathy, philanthropy, and an unconquerable faith in the manhood of the Indian. These are qualities which certainly are as likely to be found in men fresh from the homes, the schools, the churches in civil life as among those whose training has had a special reference to fitting them for army service. * * *

"The question, perhaps, will now be presented, what is the remedy for the present state of things which so many people unite in believing deplorable. Is there no remedy? In reply I can only express my own personal views. I alone am responsible for what I now utter. I speak simply for myself, and I but reiterate what I have already said, in substance, both in my published report and in public addresses, both before entering upon my present duties and since, when I say that I believe it is possible to improve the present system of administration of Indian affairs.

REFORMS RECOMMENDED.

"First—I believe that there should be extended over the entire Indian service some form of civil-service rules; that no man or woman should enter the Indian service except upon some test as to special fitness for the particular work to be undertaken. The duties devolving upon agents and other employes at different posts vary very widely, and those who enter the service should, if possible, be selected by reason of special qualifications.

"Second—The compensation paid to agents and all other employes should be equal to that paid for a similar grade of service in other branches of the government. The laborer is worthy of his hire, and those who are called upon to serve their day and generation in the perplexing and arduous positions in the Indian service should receive such compensation as will warrant them in giving the service their undivided energies.

"Third—The continuance of any person in the Indian service should be conditioned upon the faithful performance of duty. Capacity and fidelity should entitle a man or woman to feel reasonably certain of being retained in office so long as he is worthy, or until the work in hand shall have been accomplished.

"Fourth—Indian affairs should be administered by one responsible head. He should be a man of sufficient breadth of brain, and depth of heart, and firmness of will to handle the complicated matters of his office with integrity and ability. He should have such power and such help as is absolutely demanded for the proper discharge of his duties, and then should be held to the most rigid accountability, not only for his own actions, but, so far as it is within his power to control it, the actions of all his subordinates. Thus there would be no divided responsibility, and no difficulty in locating blame for any mal-administration in the entire range of Indian affairs."

The Commissioner here pointed out the multifarious duties of the Secretary of the Interior, and showed why that official can not give his personal attention to the details of each bureau under his charge. In closing, Mr. Morgan said he believed the Indian problem was in process of solution. "The end at which we aim," he said, "is that the American Indians shall become, as speedily as possible, Indian-Americans; that the savage shall become a citizen; that the nomad shall cease to wander and become a resident in a fixed habitation; that hunting shall cease to be a necessity and become a pastime; that the smoldering fires of war shall become extinguished; that tribal animosities shall end; that the Indians, no longer joining in the 'sun dance,' or the 'ghost dance,' or other ceremonies in which they recount their wrongs and glory in the deeds of blood of their ancestors, shall gather at their firesides to talk of the memory of their days in school, and assemble in their places of worship to thank the Great Father above for the blessings of a Christian civilization vouchsafed to them in common with us all."

THE REDS AT FORT SHERIDAN.

Right of the Government to Imprison Them There to Be Tested in Court.

CHICAGO, Feb. 5.—According to the Journal there is liable to be trouble over the action of the military authorities in bringing thirty Indians from Pine Ridge agency to Illinois and imprisoning them at Fort Sheridan. Members of the Indian-rights Association have been agitating the matter and talk very strongly of commencing habeas corpus proceedings for the purpose of discovering what rights, if any, the savages have. It is asserted that there was not even a court-martial preceding the removal and imprisonment of the thirty. The idea of the Indian-rights Association is said to be to use the case to thoroughly test in the courts the powers of the government, and, if necessary, to appeal to Congress for a radical change.

Threats of Red Lake Indians.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb. 5.—The Governor has received a letter from the citizens of Fosston, Polk county, saying that the Indians are still dancing and boasting that in a few weeks there will not be a white man left alive in the thirteen towns near the Red Lake reservation. The writer said that the settlers are abandoning their farms and stock, and asked that a couple of companies of militia be sent up there to aid the settlers in case of an outbreak.

Ghost-Dancers Released.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Feb. 5.—Seventeen ghost-dancers who were arrested at Lower Brule agency, early in the Indian troubles, and taken to Fort Snelling and confined, returned to their homes to-day. Hundreds of their people gathered to greet them. The seventeen were neatly dressed, in their uniforms, had their hair cut, and looked differently than they did when arrested.

Chicago's Mafia Assassin.

CHICAGO, Feb. 5.—While Valone, the alleged Mafia assassin, was being taken from the Hyde Park police station to-day to the county jail, a hackman yelled "Good-bye, Valone." The prisoner responded with a hideous grimace and drew his hand across his throat saying: "I am gone." The police are now searching for the mysterious black bearded man "supposed to be Valone's accomplice."

Fast Mail Train Wrecked.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 5.—The fast mail train west on the Pennsylvania road ran into a freight train near New Florence, Pa., this morning, wrecking the engine, two postal cars and several freight cars. Fireman Bell and engineer Burbank were caught in the wreck, and badly, but not fatally hurt. No one else was injured.

GREAT DISASTER IN CHINA

One Thousand Lives Lost by Floods in the Northern Portion of the Empire.

Over Two Hundred Houses Destroyed by Fire—Spanish Republicans Shot—Speech by Caprivi—Bloody Battles in Chili.

ONE THOUSAND LIVES LOST.

Disastrous Floods in Northern China—Over Two Hundred Houses Burned.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—A letter from Shanghai gives the details of terrible floods and famine which have prevailed recently in the interior districts of northern China. The Governor-general of Li-Hing-Chang reports that the people of Sechuan have suffered terribly by flood, which destroyed temples, bridges and city walls in no less than ten districts. In Wenchaun the loss of life will reach fully 1,000.

Immediately following the floods at Pei Chang a fire broke out and destroyed thirty-five houses. In three other places houses were burned to the number of two hundred. The suffering among the poor is something terrible. The roads everywhere are difficult of passage, and crowds of starving wretches are on their way to Shanghai, and how to deal with them will be a difficult problem. Corn and millet are selling at the fairs at exactly double the price of one year ago. Kaoling stalks for fuel cannot be had at any price, and for building purposes they bring eighty cash (4 cents) per stalk. Cotton, one of the staple products near Chochou, is an entire failure this year, thus bringing up the price beyond the purchase of the poor.

GERMANY'S AFRICAN POLICY.

Chancellor Von Caprivi Says Bismarck's Plans Are Being Carried Out.

BERLIN, Feb. 5.—In the Reichstag to-day Chancellor Von Caprivi, in defending the government's African colonial policy, said that it was following the lines laid down by the ex-Chancellor, Prince Bismarck, who once declared that the friendship of Lord Salisbury's government was worth more to Germany than was the end coast north of Wittu. The Chancellor added that both Emin Pasha and Baron Wissmann might remain in the German service if they so desired. Continuing, the Chancellor said: "Our efforts are now directed toward developing what we possess. We are beginning from the coast and not from the lakes. In the north no difficulty is experienced in constructing caravan routes, linked by small stations. The country in the south is not yet pacified, and we do not know how long the work of pacifying it will last. It is necessary to reorganize the troops, and we shall appoint a man invested with the largest possible powers. Throughout East Africa an attempt is being made to divert trade from Zanzibar. Before that is accomplished several decades may elapse. We shall have trouble and toil for a long time to come, yet nothing need deter us from the work. We have selected Dar-Es-Salaam as the center of administration. Regarding the slave question, we must consider the feeling of the coast population. Baron Soden was the best man to send to East Africa. There was still ample scope for Major Wissmann and Emin Pasha as subordinates to Baron Soden."

Herr Richter approved the treaty with England, but he doubted the wisdom of the policy of limiting German developments to a strip along the coast. The government, he said, ought to clear up the difference between Major Wissmann and Emin Pasha. It seemed advisable to him [Richter] to recall Major Wissmann for bringing unjustifiable charges against Emin Pasha.

The Chancellor here declared that the dispute between Major Wissmann and Emin Pasha was not ripe for discussion. He regretted that Major Wissmann had been judged so unfavorably. The Germans in Africa owed their success to Major Wissmann above all.

The Chancellor's speech was applauded even by the Left. The passage crediting the Emperor with the initiative in the colonial policy, and that recalling Prince Bismarck's estimate of the value of England's good will, contributed especially toward strengthening the position of the government and enabling it to meet the attacks of colonial enthusiasts.

SPANISH REPUBLICANS SHOT.

Peaceable Gathering Fired Into by a Body of Troops, and Several Persons Injured

BARCELONA, Feb. 5.—The revolutionary spirit smoldering throughout Spain nearly burst into flame in this city to-day. There was a peaceable demonstration, in which a parade and speeches were the main features, in favor of the Republican leader, Don Nicolas Salmeron, and naturally the crowds which were attracted by the procession became somewhat excited. This attitude of the populace seems to have alarmed the officers in charge of a troop of mounted gen-darmes who had been detailed to maintain order and, in case of such an emergency arising, to suppress any revolutionary proceedings. In any case, the officer seems to have lost his head and to have ordered the gen-darmes to charge the crowd. They did so at a gallop, firing their pistols and carbines right and left. The result was that several persons were more or less dangerously wounded, and a number of bullets from the weapons of the gendarmes were flattened around the balcony and window of the hotel from which Salmeron was speaking. The action of the gen-darmes enraged, but the crowd seems to have dispersed without any open act of retaliation. It is understood that the government will order an inquiry into the conduct of the officer in charge of the gendarmes. Salmeron's friends claim that the bullet marks around the window from which he was speaking show that the gendarmes tried to shoot him.

Dispatches report rioting in a number of towns this evening. A Liberal-Carlist riot occurred at Logrono. At Haro the Carlist club was wrecked. There was serious rioting at Santi Domingo and Calseada, where many persons were injured.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

Details of Recent Fighting in Chili—Insurgents Attack One Another.

PARIS, Feb. 5.—A dispatch to the Gaulvis from Buenos Ayres says that the Chilian rising was due to violence on the part of Chilian regulars. The rising occurred at Castro. The battle between the regulars and the insurgents lasted three hours. Seventeen of the former and 130 of the latter were killed. Profiting by the revolt, the hostile sections of the Chilian regulars attacked one another with knives to settle an old quarral, and the insurgents around the city joined in the fighting, which lasted two days. The number of persons killed is not known exactly, but is large. The harbor is patrolled by volunteers, who are partisans of the President, assisted by 2,000 sailors. The revolt appears to be reduced to the principal harbors. Beaten on all sides, the insurgents intend to retreat to the mountains, assume the defensive and march toward Santiago, which is now denuded of troops. Friends advise the President to convoke Congress, which would settle the quarrel.

Italy's Ministerial Crisis.

ROME, Feb. 5.—The ministerial crisis continues. King Humbert is consulting with General Cozens, chief of staff, as to the possibility of retrenching military expenditures.

It is reported that a coalition Ministry has been formed, and is constituted as follows: Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marquis Dirndini; Minister of the Interior, Signor Nicola; Minister of Justice, Signor Criaves; Minister of Public Work, Signor Saracco; Minister of Finance, Signor Sonnino; Minister of the Treasury, Signor Luzalti; Minister of Agriculture, Signor Bianca; Minister of War, Signor Pelloux; Minister of Marine, Signor Canovaro; Minister of Public Instruction, Signor Martini.

Lymph Not Good for Children.

BERLIN, Feb. 5.—Professor Henoch, of the medical faculty of the University of Berlin, distinguished authority on diseases of children, reports unfavorably on the results of treatment with the Koch lymph in his department. He administered the lymph to twenty-two children, only one of whom seemed to improve, and the improvement in that case was only temporary, while many became worse under the treatment. He has therefore stopped experiments with the lymph.

Jules Ferry's View of Tariff Changes.

PARIS, Feb. 5.—M. Jules Ferry, on taking the chair as president of the Senate customs committee, to-day, made a speech, in which he declared that the idea of France's maintaining an attitude of economic isolation was utopian and if carried out would prove disastrous. "Tariff changes," he said, "must not be based upon revolutionary methods. Let us be prudent, not impetuous."

Orphans Burned to Death.

MOSCOW, Feb. 5.—A terrible fire occurred in an orphan asylum in this city last night. The building was burned to the ground. The most horrible scenes were witnessed as the youthful inmates were being rescued. As it was, nine children were burned to death and a number of others were so seriously injured that their lives are despaired of.

Cable Notes.

A general strike has been declared at Cardiff among the dock laborers. The entire police force of Cardiff is on duty.

Gen. Count Alfred von Schliffen, who succeeds General Von Waldersee as chief of the general staff of the German army, is regarded as one of the most able officers on that staff.

The Pope, in reply to earnest requests upon the subject, has been compelled to decline to make an official communication to the French bishops on the attitude which they are to assume toward the republic.

The Berlin Post protests against the annoyance to which the Emperor and Empress are subjected during their daily walks in the Thiergarten, and prays that the too curious public be more considerate and respectful.

Mr. Morley gave notice in the British House of Commons, yesterday, of a motion to censure the Irish executive for its action in the Tipperary prosecutions, such action being calculated to bring the law into contempt, and being a violation of the rights of citizenship.

POSTOFFICE CONTEST ENDED.

[Concluded from First Page.]

ator Stewart's proposition was a fear that sentimental considerations might cause the loss of votes in cases where Senators and Representatives have strong soldier constituencies. It is probable that the effort will be made to attach the free-coinage measure to some other general appropriation bill, where the same factors will not enter into the matter.

MINOR MATTERS.

Resolution Expressing Sympathy for Russian Jews Reported to the House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Chairman Hill, of the House committee on foreign affairs, today reported to the House the following substitute resolution for that offered by Representative Cummings, of New York, expressing sympathy with the Jews in Russia:

Resolved, That the members of the House of Representatives of the United States have heard with profound sorrow the reports of the sufferings of the Jews in Russia, and this sorrow is intensified by the fact that such occurrences should happen in a country which is and long has been the friend of the United States, and which emancipated millions of its people from serfdom, and which defended helpless Christians in the East from persecution for their religion, and we earnestly hope that the humane and enlightened spirit then so strikingly shown by his Imperial Majesty will now be manifested in checking and mitigating the severe measures directed against men of the Jewish religion.

Will Not Investigate Crimes Against Suffrage.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The House committee on judiciary to-day declined to adopt the report made by Mr. Caswell, from a sub-committee, that an investigation be held by the committee in cases of certain States of the Union whose Constitutions contain provisions which are practically a denial of the right of suffrage. The objection to the proposed inquiry was based on the ground that the committee had not the means of ascertaining who were deprived of their right to vote.

General Notes.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Walter S. McBroom, of Hillsborough, Ind., has been appointed a cadet to the West Point Military Academy, with Alex. G. Covins, of Sullivan, as alternate.

The President to-day sent to the Senate, among others, the following nominations: George R. Wright, of New York, to be consul at Prescott; John L. Walles, of Kansas, to be consul at Tamative.

Senator Farwell submitted to-day to the Senate a strong petition urging the immediate passage of the Torey bankruptcy bill from a large number of Chicago banks, many of which have heretofore protested against the passage of the bill.

The Census Bureau will soon issue a bulletin upon the subject of the population of southern Alaska. The total population is given as 19,929, so far as ascertained. Full returns will, however, probably increase the number for the whole Territory to about 28,600. The total number of males who would be entitled to vote should Alaska be granted a representative government is 969, of whom sixty-nine are among the transients.

Rumors of a Serious Railway Wreck.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 5.—News of a serious wreck on the Cotton Belt Railroad, six miles south of Clarendon, Ark., has just reached here. The north-bound passenger, which leaves Pine Bluff at 2:20 P. M., was wrecked. One report says nine people were killed; another only three, and still another, from a railroad man, that only a fireman was killed and several others injured. There is no telegraph station near the place, making it impossible to get particulars to-night.

Secret Invasion of the Strip.

CALDWELL, Kan., Feb. 5.—It has been ascertained that a secret invasion of the Cherokee Strip is to be made by the O'Connor-Dill "boomers." Hundreds of prospective settlers have arrived here within the past week, and have taken the places of the boomers who moved into the strip a week ago. The plan is to move into the strip in small bands, each composed of two or three families, and thus elude the Cherokee Indian police, who have been ordered to drive all unauthorized persons from their domain. All the extra vehicles and horses in town have been bought or hired for this new invasion. The invasion will be begun tomorrow, when five bands will proceed to the strip by different routes. Five bands will follow each succeeding day until all the boomers are gone.

Head Torn Off by an Explosion.

WILMINGTON, Pa., Feb. 5.—The boiler of an oil well being drilled on the Hamilton farm exploded at 11:30 this morning, killing Fred Johnston instantly, and scattering his brains and skull several rods around. The engine was torn down and pieces of the boiler thrown five hundred feet. Johnston had been to the boiler and turned around when the explosion occurred, cutting off the entire back part of his head. Three men near the hole had remarkable escapes, not receiving any injury, although only about fifteen feet from Johnston. One piece of the boiler, weighing two tons, was carried 500 feet up over a hill, tearing great steep furrows in the ground.

Michigan Fishermen Saved.

BAY CITY, Mich., Feb. 5.—This afternoon three men on the ice were seen walking up and down the big floe, trying to get ashore. This they succeeded in doing, and to-night reached Essexville. The men have been tramping ever since Tuesday morning trying to make their escape. They were nearly exhausted. Essexville is in great joy over the return of the men as they are the last of the supposed lost.

BIG FIRE AT ST. LOUIS.

Pullman Repair-Shops, Eleven Cars, a Planing-Mill and Fifteen Houses Burned.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 5.—The Pullman repair-shops, located at the corner of Scott avenue and Twenty-first street, were discovered to be on fire at 11:30 o'clock to-night and a general alarm was turned in. The fire department responded promptly, but the flames had, in the meantime, made considerable progress, and in an hour from the time the fire started the shops were gutted. Eleven palace cars and the planing-mill to the north of the car-shops were destroyed. Fifteen surrounding tenement-houses were also burned to the ground, their occupants barely escaping with their lives. The entire loss is placed at $225,000, and is divided as follows: The palace cars, $110,000; the shops, $60,000; tenement-houses, $30,000, and the planing-mill, $25,000. The insurance on the property was placed in Chicago and consequently is not known here.

Heavy Loss at Greenpoint, L. I.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—A fire early this (Friday) morning in the five-story building at Manhattan and Ash streets, Greenpoint, L. I., occupied by E. D. Church as a soda-water factory, caused damage of $200,000 to stock and building. The entire block is occupied by the factory.

At 1:30 this morning two more special fire calls were sent out. A box factory in the neighborhood caught fire, but the blaze was rapidly extinguished and little damage was done the building beyond that caused by water. The Brooklyn oil-works were threatened and at one time the tanks were smoking, the heat was so intense. There is a large crowd around the burning building and much excitement among the occupants of the surrounding tenements.

At 1:55 two tanks, containing five thousand gallons each, in the factory of the Brooklyn oil-works were on fire. The efforts of firemen were immediately centered there and it is possible that the oil-works will be saved. The fire started in the carpenter-shop of soda-factory, and police think it is of incendiary origin. The Long Island City fire department are in readiness to be called out, but it is thought their services will not be required.

Other Fires.

ANDERSON, Ind., Feb. 5.—Fire broke out in the Anderson steam dye-works this morning, corner Main and Seventh streets, about 3 o'clock, and completely destroyed the works. The fire spread to the residences of Thomas P. Harris and Mrs. Margaret Jackson, both two-story frames, and both were nearly totally destroyed. A number of other old houses occupied as tenement-houses were burned. Harris had $1,200 insurance, which about covers his loss. Mrs. Jackson's loss is $1,500, with no insurance. A building belonging to Pat Kelley was insured for $200. The Irondale rolling-mill was on fire last night, but was saved by the heroic efforts of the workmen.

ROCKPORT, Ind., Feb. 5.—The residence of John Howk, a farmer living four miles west of here, burned this afternoon, together with all the household goods. Loss about $3,000; partly insured.

LENNOXVILLE, Ont., Feb. 5.—The school building, together with the chapel and rectory of Bishop's College, here, were destroyed by fire this afternoon. Loss, $30,000.

HARTFORD CITY, Ind., Feb. 5.—Alex. Dunn's farm-house, out-buildings and most of the contents burned, this afternoon, six miles from here. Loss, $2,500; insured.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 5.—At Henderson, Ky., to-day, J. W. Clark's tobacco warehouse was burned. Loss $32,000; insurance, $20,500.

BRAZIL WILL EXCHANGE TRADE.

[Concluded from First Page.]

other hand there might be a surplus, but he thought it more likely there would be a deficiency.

Mr. McPherson asked how many applications had been made under the act of last year.

Mr. Allison gave the number up to Jan. 10 as 529,000, of which only eight or nine thousand had been yet allowed.

Mr. Quay moved to add to the provision as to fees a proviso that it shall not apply to any case now pending, where there is an existing lawful contract, and Mr. Cockrell moved to add to Mr. Quay's amendments the words "In writing on file in the department." Mr. Cockrell's amendment was disagreed to, and Mr. Quay's was agreed to.

Mr. Cockrell moved to insert a proviso that hereafter no fee or compensation for any pension attorney or agent shall be retained out of any allowance for pensions. There was another long discussion upon the amendment, which was finally disagreed to—yeas, 20; nays, 28—the vote being divided on strict party lines.

Mr. Cockrell offered an amendment providing that hereafter no pension shall be allowed or paid to any officer, non-commissioned officer, or private in the army, navy or marine corps, either on the active or retired list. The amendment was agreed to without a division.

All the committee amendments having been agreed to, the bill was passed—Mr. Stewart not offering the amendment of which he had given notice—to insert the free-coinage bill as a part of the pension appropriation bill.

The Senate, then, on motion of Mr. Blair, took up the House bill to provide for the adjustment of accounts of laborers, workmen and mechanics, arising under the eight-hour law. Mr. Dawes gave notice of an amendment in the way of a substitute, requiring payment for over-time, notwithstanding any agreement to the contrary. The bill was then laid aside, informally, until to-morrow.

The following bills were taken from the calendar and passed: House bill to authorize the construction of a tunnel under New York bay; House bill for the cancellation of a contract with the United States engineer for delivery of stone for the improvement of the mouth of the Columbia river; Senate bill to establish a marine board for the advancement of the interests of the merchant marine; Senate bill authorizing the Secretary of War to cause an exploration and survey to be made of the interior of Alaska and appropriating $100,000 for that purpose; Senate bill to extend for two years the act authorizing the Choctaw Coal and Railway Company to construct a road through Indian Territory; House bill for the construction of three Indian industrial schools in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan, the cost not to exceed $30,000 each; Senate bill granting to the State of Wyoming certain lands in the Fort D. A. Russell military reservation for agricultural exposition grounds.

After a short executive session the Senate adjourned.

SLY CONGRESSMAN BLAND.

He Attempts to Saddle Free Coinage on the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—In the House today, on motion of Mr. McKinley of Ohio, by unanimous consent, it was ordered that during the remainder of the session the House shall meet at 11 o'clock A. M.

The House then went into committee of the whole, Mr. Payson of Illinois in the chair, on the sundry civil appropriation bill. When the paragraph providing for the expenses of the Interstate-commerce Commission was reached, Mr. Anderson of Kansas offered an amendment directing the commission to inquire into the facts relating to the organization of the Western Railroad Traffic Association. After some discussion a point of order raised against the amendment was sustained.

The world's fair paragraph having been reached, it was agreed, owing to the lateness of the hour, that its debate should be postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Bland of Missouri offered a silver free coinage amendment to the paragraph providing for the recoinage of gold and silver coins. The amendment is as follows: "That all holders of silver bullion of standard weight and fineness shall be entitled to have the same coined into silver dollars on the same terms and conditions as are now provided for the holders of gold bullion."

Mr. Dingley of Maine raised a point of order against the amendment, and the debate which followed was entirely technical in its character. Pending a decision the committee rose and the House adjourned.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—U. S. Gov't Report, Aug. 17, 1889.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

A great interstate commercial display and Mardi Gras opened at Galveston, Tex., yesterday.

A nine-year-old son of Mr. Putney was burned to death by the destruction of a tenement at Sheboygan, Wis., yesterday.

At Manitowoc, Wis., yesterday, J. W. Toombs, agent for the Goodrich Transportation Company, committed suicide by hanging.

J. A. Shipman, a prominent lawyer of Kearney, Neb., is charged with forging notes and mortgages aggregating $10,000 in connection with a transfer of Omaha real estate.

The national board of professional baseball clubs will hold its first meeting under the new national agreement at the Auditorium Hotel, Chicago, on Friday, the 13th inst.

The Iowa Columbian Exposition Commission has adopted plans for a $100,000 building to be erected at Chicago, in which the State exhibit will be placed. It will be built of iron and glass.

The Waterville (Me.) poor-house was burned yesterday morning. One inmate, a girl of fifteen, was burned to death. The cause of the fire was a defective chimney. Loss on the building, $3,000.

The largest and richest vein of tin ore known to the mining industry of the world at the present time has been discovered in the old Diablo mine shaft, forty-five miles southwest of Durango, Mexico.

James Redpath, the well-known lecturer, was knocked down by a team of horses attached to a Fourth-avenue car on Park Row, New York, yesterday, and was slightly injured about the head and arms.

Two soldiers, whose names are unknown, were recently drowned in the Missouri river. They had been carousing at Winona, N. D., and were on their return to Fort Yates, and went through an air-hole in the ice.

The American Powder Company of Chicago has purchased the patent and exclusive right to manufacture the Emmons explosive or smokeless powder. The factory is located at Emmonsite, south of Greensburg, Pa.

A well-known Scandinavian, I. T. Rolling, publisher of the Norden and Dagbladet, committed suicide in his room at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, yesterday, by taking morphine. He left a note saying the cause was trouble of a financial nature.

Under orders from the government a detail of United States officers made an inspection of Mexican railway lines and coast defenses. They found them both much more thorough than they expected, and the coast works in particular are progressing with notable rapidity.

The Michigan Legislature has ordered an investigation into the case of Superintendent Newkirk, of the State Public School at Coldwater, who turned over Nellie Griffin to R. C. Canfield, the old man who, a few hours later, murdered her in the woods near Dimondale.

The steamer Richard Hill, which arrived at New York yesterday, from London, brought over several valuable horses. Among them is the celebrated three-year-old, St. Magnus. Ossian, winner of the St. Leger in 1883, died aboard on Jan. 26, as a result of the tempestuous weather experienced.

Milton Brown, aged eighty-four, of Annerton, Ont., will next Tuesday lead to the altar a bride in the person of Mrs. Margaret Clickert, aged ninety-seven. The groom has buried four wives, and the bride mourns the loss of five husbands. Her last husband died two years ago at the advanced age of 124 years. The bride and groom-elect are colored, and were slaves in Virginia.

Later and official returns of Wednesday's county elections in Oklahoma show that the Democrats and Alliance tickets have been victorious. Guthrie and Logan counties elect the straight Democratic tickets; Payne county is half and half Democratic-Alliance, and Kingfisher and the three counties on the south are solidly Democratic.

The Alaska Commercial Company has announced that it is out of the fur-sealing business. Its lease of the Russian rookeries on Copper, Bering and Robin islands expires on Feb. 14, and it is reported that Russia has awarded the sealing privilege for the next ten years to a Greenwald firm. It is stated that the new North American company is interested in the new lease, but this is not verified.

The headless body of a nude man, with the exception of a stocking and shoe on the left leg, was found lying at high tide at the foot of Laight street, New York, yesterday. The right leg was missing, having been either cut or torn from the body at the hips. There was a deep gash across the hips. The body was found at the mouth of a big sewer. The body had not been in the water any length of time.

The mutual underwriters of the Northwest, as the result of a conference at Chicago, have formed a league, to be known as the Manufacturers' Mutual Underwriters' Association. The main object of the organization is the abolishment of the present system of commissions. The scheme is to conduct the business by interchange of courtesies between the companies and by paying salaries instead of commissions.

Long-Delayed Charge.

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 5.—Elroy M. Avery, Ph. D., a prominent citizen and leading candidate for postmaster, was arrested today at the instance of S. C. Spaulding, of Monroe, Mich., who claims that Avery robbed him of a watch, at Athens, Ga., near the close of the war. Dr. Avery denies the statement, and says Spaulding stole the watch from a Southerner, and that he, by order of his colonel, took it away from Spaulding.

Costables Beaten in a Fight with Gamblers.

CHICAGO, Feb. 5.—Three constables and five private detectives made a descent upon a Clark-street gambling-house this morning, with warrants for the arrest of the proprietors on complaint of Herman Miller, who alleged that he had been cheated out of $4,500 in the place. A fight ensued, and the constables were finally forced to withdraw their forces without having succeeded in serving their warrants.

The Fayerweather Will Contest.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—In the Fayerweather will case to-day Elizabeth R. Joyce, a witness to several codicils of the will which gave millions to charity, said that on Nov. 15 Mr. Fayerweather was not able to converse. He answered the formal questions by nodding his head and could hardly use his hand to sign. She did not consider him of sound mind. He was evidently dying at the time.

Going Back on Family Traditions.

New York Continent.

"There is a young man," said the clubman, "who is simply going back on all his family traditions and kicking over the ladder on which he has climbed—or up which he has been carried—to the present lofty heights in which you see him."

"That is sad," said the Man About Town. "In what way has he shown this unhappy tendency?"

"Why, his father's money and all that he has was made in beer. He is spending it all in champagne!"

A Double-Headed Annanias.

Chicago News.

The trouble with Rudyard Kipling appears to be that he has the nov