TALKS TO CONGRESS.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND PRESENTS HIS ANNUAL MESSAGE.

The Reports of the Various Cabinet Officers Are Reviewed—A Synopsis Covering the Most Important Subjects Touched on.

Washington, Dec. 3.—Following is the president's message:

To the Congress of the United States:

The assemblage within the nation's legislative halls of those charged with the duty of making laws for the benefit of a generous and free people, impressively suggests the exacting obligation and inexorable responsibility involved in their task. At the threshold of such labor now to be undertaken by the congress of the United States and in the discharge of an executive duty enjoined by the constitution, I submit this communication, containing a brief statement of the condition of our national affairs and recommending such legislation as seems to be necessary and expedient:

The history of our recent dealings with other nations and our peaceful relations with them at this time additionally demonstrate the advantage of consistently adhering to a firm but just foreign policy, free from envious or ambitious national schemes and characterized by entire honest and sincerity.

Offer to Mediate.

Acting under a stipulation in our treaty with Corea (the first concluded with a Western power), I felt constrained at the beginning of the controversy to tender our good offices to induce an amicable arrangement of the initial difficulty growing out of the Japanese demands for administrative reforms in Corea; but the unhappy precipitation of actual hostilities defeated this kindly purpose. Deploring the destructive war between the two most powerful of the Eastern nations, and anxious that our commercial interests in those countries may be preserved, and that the safety of our citizens there shall not be jeopardized, I would not hesitate to heed any intimation that our friendly aid for the honorable termination of hostilities would be acceptable to both belligerents.

The Bering Sea Agreement.

Early in the present year an agreement was reached with Great Britain concerning instructions to be given to the naval commanders of the two governments in Bering sea and the contiguous North Pacific ocean for their guidance in the execution of the award of the Paris tribunal of arbitration and the enforcement of the regulations therein prescribed, for the protection of seal life in the waters mentioned. An understanding has also been reached for the payment by the United States of $425,000 in full satisfaction of all claims which may be made by Great Britain for damages growing out of the controversy as to fur seals in Bering or the seizure of British vessels engaged in taking seals in these waters. The awards and findings of the Paris tribunal to a great extent determined the facts and principles upon which these claims should be adjusted and they have been submitted by both governments to thorough examination upon the principles, as well as the facts which they involved. I am convinced that a settlement upon the terms mentioned would be an equitable and advantageous one, and I recommend that provision be made for the prompt payment of the stated sum. Thus far only France and Portugal have signified their willingness to adhere to the regulations established under the award of the Paris tribunal of arbitration. Preliminary surveys of the Alaskan boundary and a preparatory examination of the question of protection of food fish in the contiguous waters of the United States and the Dominion of Canada are in progress.

Regarding Hawaii.

Since communicating the voluminous correspondence in regard to Hawaii and the action taken by the senate and house of representatives on certain questions submitted to the judgment and wider discretion of congress, the organization of a government in place of the provisional arrangement which followed the deposition of the queen has been announced with evidence of its effective operation. The recognition usual in such cases has been accorded the new government.

The Bluefields' Incident.

Prominent among the questions of the year was the Bluefields' incident in what is known as the Mosquito Indian strip, bordering on the Atlantic ocean and within the jurisdiction of Nicaragua. By the treaty of 1860 between Great Britain and Nicaragua the former government expressly recognized the sovereignty of the latter over the strip and a limited form of self-government was guaranteed to the Mosquito Indians, to be exercised according to their customs, for themselves and other dwellers within its limits. The so called native government which grew to be largely made up of aliens, for many years disputed the sovereignty of Nicaragua over the strip and claimed the right to maintain a practically independent government. Early in the past year efforts of Nicaragua to maintain sovereignty over the Mosquito territiry led to serious disturbances culminating in the suppression of the native government and the attempted substitution of an impracticable composite administration in Nicaragut and alien residents were to participate. Failure was followed by an insurrection which for a time subverted Nicaraguan rule, expelling her officers and restoring the old organization. This in turn gave place to the existing local government established and upheld by Nicaragua.

For some months on and during part of the time two of our naval ships have been stationed at Bluefields, for the protection of all legitimate interests of our citizens. In September last the government at Managua expelled from its territory twelve or more foreigners, including two Americans, for alleged participation in the sedition or revolutionary movements against the republic at Bluefields already mentioned; but through the earnest remonstrance of this government the two Americans have been permitted to return to the peaceful management of their business. Our naval commanders at the scene of these disturbances, by their constant exhibition of firmness and good judgment contributed largely to the prevention of more serious consequences and to the restoration of peace and order. I regret that in the midst of these occurrences there happened a most grave and irritating failure of Nicaragua justice. An American citizen named Wilson residing at Raamk Mosquito territory, was murdered by one Argueleo, the acting governor of the town. After some delay the murderer was arested, but so insecurely confined or guarded that he escaped and notwithstanding ou repeated demands it is claimed that his recapture has been impossible by reason of his fight beyond Nicaraguan jurisdiction. The Nicaraguan authorities having given notice of forfeiture of their concession to the canal company on grounds purely technical and not embraced in the contract have receded from that position.

As to Samoa.

In my last annual message I referred briefly to the unsatisfactory state of affairs in Samoa under the operation of the Berlin treaty as signally illustrating the policy of entangling alliances with foreign powers, and on May 9th, 1894, in response to a resolution of the senate, sent a special message and documents to that body on the same subject, which emphasized my previously expressed opinions. Later occurrences, the correspondence in regard to which will be laid before congress, further demonstrate that the government which was devised by the three powers and forced upon the Samoans against their inveterate hostility can be maintained only by the continued presence of foreign military force at no small sacrifice of life and treasure.

OUTLOOK FINANCIALLY.

A Deficit During the Past Year and Promises of More of it.

The secretary of the treasury reports the receipts to this government from all sources of revenue during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, amounted to $372,802,498.29, and its expenditures to $442,605,758.87, leaving a deficit of $69,803,260.58. There was a decrease of $15,952,674.66 in the ordinary expenses of the government, as compared with the fiscal year of 1893.

There was collected from customs $131,818,530.62, and from internal revenue $147,168,449.70. The balance of the income for the year, amounting to $93,615,517.97, was derived from the sales of lands and other sources.

The values of our total dutiable imports amounted to $275,199,086, being $146,657,625 less than during the preceding year, and the importations free of duty amounted to $379,795,536, being $64,748,675 less than during the preceding year. The receipts from customs were $73,536,486.11 less and from internal revenue $13,836,539.77 less than in 1893.

The total tax collected from distilled spirits was $85,259,250.25; on manufactured tobacco $8,617,898.62, and on fermented liquors $31,414,788.04.

Our exports of merchandise, domestic and foreign, amounted during the year to $892,140,572, being an increase over the preceding year of $44,495,378.

The total amount of gold exported during the fiscal year was $76,998,061, as against $108,680,444 during the fiscal year 1893. The amount imported was $72,449,118, as against $21,174,381 during the previous year. The imports of silver were $13,286,552, and the exports were $50,451,265. The total bounty paid upon the production of sugar in the United States for the fiscal year was $12,100,208.89, being an increase of $2,725,078.01 over the payments made during the preceding year. The amount of bounty paid from July 1, 1894, to Aug. 28, 1894, the time when further payments ceased by operation of law was $966,185.84. The total expenses incurred in the payment of the bounty upon sugar during the fiscal year was $130,140.85.

It is estimated that upon the basis of our present revenue laws, the receipts of the government during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, will be $424,427,748.44, and its expenditures $444,427,748.44, resulting in

A Deficit of $20,000,000.

On the 1st day of November, 1894, the total stock of money of all kinds in the country was $2,240,773,888, as against $2,204,651,000 on the 1st day of November, 1893, and the money of all kinds in circulation, or not included in the treasury holdings, was $1,672,093,422, or $24.27 per capita, upon an estimated population of 68,887,000. At the same date there was held in the treasury gold bullion amounting to $44,615,177.55, and silver bullion, which was purchased at a cost of $127,779,988. The purchase of silver bullion under the act of July 14, 1890, ceased on the 1st day of November, 1893, and up to that time there had been purchased during the fiscal year 11,917,658.78 fine ounces, at a cost of $8,715,521.32—an average cost of $0.7313 per fine ounce. The total amount of silver purchased from the time that the law took effect until the repeal of its purchasing clause, on the date last mentioned, was 168,674,682.53 fine ounces, which cost $155,931,002.25; the average price per fine ounce being $0.9244. The total amount of standard silver dollars coined at the mints of the United States since the passage af the act of Feb. 28, 1878, is $421,776,408, of which $378,166,793 were coined under the provisions of that act, $38,531,143 under the provisions of the act of July 14, 1890, and $5,078,472 under the act providing for the coinage of trade dollar bullion.

The total coinage of all metals at our mints during the last fiscal year consisted of 63,485,220 pieces, vaued at $106,216,730.06, of which there were $99,474,912.50 in gold coined; $7[illegible] in standard silver dollars; $6,024,140.30 [illegible] subsidiary silver coin, and $716,919.26 in minor coin.

THE ARMY.

Some Changes Are Considered Very Desirable.

From the report of the secretary of war it appears that the strength of the army on Sept. 30, 1894, was 2,135 officers and 25,765 enlisted men. Although this is apparently a very slight decrease compared with the previous year, the actual effectiye force has been increased to the equivalent of nearly two regiments through the reorganization of the system of recruiting and the consequent release to regimental duty of the large force of men hitherto serving at the recruiting depots. The abolition of these depots, it is predicted, will furthermore effect an annual reduction approximating $250,000 in the direct expenditures, besides promoting generally the health, morals and discipline of the troops.

Increase Its Strength.

While the maximum legal strength of the army is 25,000 men, the effective stength, for various causes, is but little over 20,000 men. The purpose of congress does not therefore seem to be fully attained by the existing condition. While no considerable increase in the army is in my judgment demanded by recent events, the policy of sea coast fortification, in the prosecution of which we have been steadily engaged for some years, has so far developed as to suggest that the effective strength of the army be now made at least equal to the legal strength. Measures taken by the department during the year as indicated have already considerably augmented the effective force, and the secretary of war presents a plan which I recommend to the consideration of congress to attain the desired end. Economies effected in the department in other lines of its work will offset to a great extent the expenditure involved in the proposition submitted. Among other things this contemplates the adoption of the three battallion formation of regiments which for several years has been indorsed by the secretaries of war and the generals commanding the army. Compact in itself, it provides a skeleton organization ready to be filled out in the event of war which is peculiarly adapted to our strength and requirements; and the fact that every nation, with a single exception, has adopted this formation to meet the condition of modern warfare should alone secure for the recommendation an early consideration.

The Recent Strike.

It is hardly neccessary to recall the fact that in obedience to the commands of the constitution and the laws and for the purpose of protecting the property of the United States, aiding the process of federal courts and removing lawless obstructions to the performance by the government of its legitimate functions it became necessary in various localities during the year to employ a considerable portion of the regular troops. The duty was discharged promptly, courageously and with marked discretion by the officers and men and the most gratifying proof was thus afforded that the army deserves that complete confidence in its efficiency and discipline which the country has at all times manifested.

OLNEY'S DEPARTMENT.

The Circuit Court of Appeals Proves a Success.

The report of the attorney general notes the gratifying progress made by the supreme court in overcoming the arrears of its business and in reaching a condition in which it will be able to dispose of cases as they arise without any unreasonable delay. This result is, of course, very largely due to the successful working of the plan inaugurating circuit courts of appeals. In respect to these tribunals the suggestion is made, in quarters entitled to the highest consideration, that an additional circuit judge for each circuit would greatly strengthen these courts and the confidence reposed in their adjudications, and that such an addition would not create a greater force of judges than the increasing business of such courts requires. I commend the suggestion to the careful consideration of congress. Other important topics are adverted to in the report accompanied by recommendations, many of which have been treated at large in previous messages and at this time therefore need only be named. I refer to the abolition of the fee system as a measure of compensation to federal officers; the enlargement of the powers of United States commissioners at least in the territories, the allowance of writs of error in criminal cases on behalf of the United States and the establishing of degrees in the crime of murder. A topic dealt with by the attorney general of much importance is the condition of the administration of justice in the Indian territory. The permanent solution of what is called the Indian problem is probably not to be expected at once, but meanwhile such ameliorations of present conditions as the system will admit of, ought not to be neglected. I am satisfied there should be a federal court established for the territory, with sufficient judges, and that this court should sit within the territory and should have jurisdiction as to territorial affairs as now vested in the federal courts sitting in Arkansas and Texas.

POSTOFFICE AFFAIRS

A Change in Second-Class Rates Is Recommended.

The report of the postmaster general presents a comprehensive statement of the operations of the postoffice department for the last fiscal year. The receipts of the department during the year amounted to $75,080,479.04 and the expenditures $84,324,414.15.

The transactions of the postal service indicate with barometric certainty the fluctuations in the business of the country. Inasmuch, therefore, as business complications continue to exist throughout the last year to the unforseen extent, it is not surprising that the deficiency of revenue to meet the expenditures of the postoffice department, which was estimated in advance at about eight million dollars, should be exceeded by nearly one and one quarter million dollars.

The ascertained revenues of the last year, which were the basis of calculation for the current year, being less than estimated, the deficiency for the current year will be correspondingly greater, though the postmaster general states that the latest indications are so favorable that he confidently predicts an increase of at least 8 per cent in the revenues of the current year over those of the last year. The expenditures increase steadily and necessarily with the growth and needs of the country, so that the deficiency is greater or less in any year depending upon the volume of receipts.

The postmaster general renews the suggestion made in a previous report that the department organization be increased to the extent of creating a direct district supervision of all postal affairs, and in this suggestion I fully concur.

There are now connected with the post office establishment 32,661 employes who are in the classified service. This includes many who have been classified upon the suggestion of the postmaster-general. He states that another year's experience at the head of the department serves only to strengthen the conviction as to the excellent working of the civil service law in this branch of the public service.

THE NEW NAVY.

A Gratifying Progress in the Construction of Ships.

Attention is called to the report of the secretary of the navy, which shows very gratifying progress in the construction of ships for our new navy. All the vessels now building, including the three torpedo boats authorized at the last session of congress and excepting the first-class battle-ship Iowa, will probably be completed during the coming fiscal year.

The estimates for the increase of the navy for the year ending June 30, 1896, are large, but they include practically the entire sum necessary to complete and equip all new ships not now in commission, so that unless new ships are authorized the appropriations for the navy service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, should fall below the estimates for the coming year by at least $12,000,000.

More Ships Needed.

The secretary presents with much earnestness a plea for the authorization of three additional battle-ships and ten or twelve topedo boats. While the unarmed vessels heretofore authorized, including those now nearing completion, will constitute a fleet which it is believed is sufficient for ordinary cruising purposes in time of peace, we have now completed and in process of construction but four first-class battle-ships and but few torpedo boats. If we are to have a navy for warlike operations, offensive and defensive, we certainly ought to increase both the number of battle-ships and torpedo boats.

HOKE SMITH'S WORK.

Recommendations Regarding Public Lands, Pensions and Patents.

The report of the secretary of the interior exhibits the situation of the numerous and interesting branches of the public service connected with his department. I commend this report and the valuable recommendations of the secretary to the careful attention of the congress.

The public land disposed of during the year amounts to 10,406,100.77 acres, including 28,876,05 of Indian lands. It is estimated that the public domain still remaining amounts to a little more than 600,000,000 acres excluding, however, about 360,000,000 acres in Alaska as well as military reservations and railroad and other selections of lands yet unadjudicated.

The Indian Problem.

Though the condition of the Indians shows a steady and healthy progress, their situation is not satisfactory at all points. Some of them to whom allotments of land have been made are found to be unable or disinclined to follow agricultural pursuits or otherwise beneficially manage their land. This is especially true of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, who, as it appears by reports of their agents, have in many instances never been located upon their allotments, and in some cases do not even know where their allotments are. Their condition has deteriorated. They are not self-supporting and they live in camps and spend their times in idleness.

Pensions.

At the close of the last fiscal year, on the 30th day of June, 1894, there were 969,544 persons on our pension rolls, being a net increase of 3,532 over the number reported at the end of the previous year. These pensioners may be classed as follows: Soldiers and sailor, survivors of all wars, 753,968; widows and relatives of deceased soldiers, 215,162; army nurses in the war of the rebellion, 414. Of these pensioners, 32,039 are surviving soldiers of Indian and other wars prior to the late civil war, and the widows and relatives of such soldiers.

The remainder, numbering 937,505, are receiving pensions on account of the war of the rebellion and of them 469,344 are now under the authority of the act of June 27, 1890, sometimes called the dependent pension law. The total amount expended for pensions during the year was $139,804,461.05, leaving an unexpended balance from the sum appropriated of $25,205,712.65. The sum necessary to meet pension expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1896, is estimated at $140,000,000.

INTERESTING TO FARMERS.

Comments Upon Secretary Morton's Annual Report.

The secretary of agriculture in his report reviews the operations of his department for the last fiscal year, and makes recommendations for the further extensions of its usefulness. He reports a saving in expenditures during the year of $600,000, which is covered back into the treasury. This sum is 23 per cent of the entire appropriation.

A special study has been made of the demand for American farm products in all foreign markets, especially Great Britain. That country received from the United States during the nine months ending Sept. 30, 1894, 305,910 live beef cattle, valued at $26,500,000, as against 182,611 cattle valued at $16,632,000 during the same period for 1893. During the first six months of 1894 the United Kingdom took 112,000,000 pounds of dressed beef from the United States, valued at nearly $10,000,000.

The report shows that during the nine months immediately preceding Sept. 30, 1894, the United States exported to Great Britain 22,676,000 pounds of pork; of apples 1,900,000, valued at $2,500,000, and of horses 2,811, at an average of $139 per head. There was a falling off in American wheat exports of 13,500,000 bushels, and the secretary is inclined to believe that wheat may not, in the future, be the staple export cereal product of our country, but that corn will continue to advance in importance as an export on account of the uses to which it is constantly being appropriated.

The export of agricultural products from the United States during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, amounted to $628,363,038, being 72.28 per cent of American exports of every description, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain took more than 54 per cent of all farm products finding foreign markets.

CIVIL SERVICE.

The President Pleased With the Reform—Public Health and Labor.

The advantage to the public service of an adherence to the principles of civil service reform are constantly more apparent; and nothing is so encouraging to those in official life who honestly desire good government as the increasing appreciation by our people of these advantages. A vast majority of the voters of the land are ready to insist that the time and attention of those they select to perform for them the more important public duties should not be distracted by dealing out minor offices, and they are growing to be unanimous in regarding party organization as something that should be used in establishing party principles instead of dictating the distribution of public places as rewards of partisan activity.

Numerous additional offices and places have lately been brought within civil service rules and regulations, and some others will probably soon be included. The report of the commissioners will be submitted to the congress and I invite careful attention to the recommendations it contains.

The Labor Commission.

By virtue of a statute of the United States passed in 1888, I appointed in July last Hon. John D. Kernan, of the State of New York, and Hon. Nicholas E. Worthington, of the State of Illinois, to form with Hon. Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of labor, who was designated by said statute, a commission for the purpose of making careful inquiry into the causes of the controversies between certain railroads and their employes which have resulted in an extensive and destructive strike, accompanied by much violence and dangerous disturbance with considerable loss of life and great destruction of property.

The report of the commissioners has been submitted to me and will be transmitted to congress with the evidence taken upon their investigation. Their work has been well done and their standing and intelligence give assurance that the report and suggestions they make are worthy of careful consideration.

THE TARIFF.

The President Considers the Matter Not Yet Settled.

The tariff act passed at the last session of the congress needs important amendments if it is to be executed effectively and with certainty. In addition to such necessary amendments as will change rates of duty, I am still very decidedly in favor of putting coal and iron upon the free list.

So far as the sugar schedule is concerned, I would be glad under existing aggravations to see every particle of differential duty in favor of refined sugar stricken out of our tariff law. If with all the favor now accorded the sugar refining interest in our tariff laws it still languishes to the extent of closing refineries and discharging thousands of workmen it would seem to present a hopeless case for reasonable legislative aid.

Whatever else is done or omitted I earnestly repeat the recommendation made in another portion of this communication that the additional duty of one-tenth of a cent per pound laid upon sugar imported from countries paying a bounty on its export be abrogated. It seems to me that exceedingly important considerations point to the propriety of this amendment.

MORE BONDS.

The President Says They Will Be Issued as Often as Necessary.

During the last month the gold reserved in the treasury for the purpose of redeeming the notes of the government circulating now in the hands of the people became so reduced, and its further depletion in the near future seemed so certain that in the exercise of proper care for the public welfare it became necessary to replenish the reserve and thus maintain popular faith in the ability and determination of the government to meet, as agreed, its pecuniary obligations.

It would have been well if in this emergency authority had existed to issue the bonds of the government bearing a low rate of interest and maturing within a short period, but congress having failed to confer such authority resort was necessarily had to the resumption act of 1875, and pursuant to its provisions bonds were issued drawing interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum and maturing ten years after their issue, that being the shortest time authorized by the act. I am glad to say, however, that on the sale of these bonds the premium received operated to reduce the rate of interest to be paid by the government to less than 3 per cent.

NEW CURRENCY SCHEME.

A Plan Suggested by Secretary Carlisle Is Endorsed.

Questions relating to our banks and currency are closely connected with the subject just referred to and they also present some unsatisfactory features. Prominent among them are the lack of elasticity in our currency circulation and its frequent concentration in financial centers when it is most needed in other parts of the country.

The absolute divorcement of the government from the business of banking is the ideal relationship of the government to the circulation of the currency of the country. This condition cannot be immediately reached, but as a step in that direction and as a means of securing a more elastic currency and obviating other objections to the present arrangement of bank circulation, the secretary of the treasury presents in his report a scheme modifying present bank laws and providing for the issue of circulating notes by state banks free from taxation under certain limitations.

It is proposed to repeal all laws providing for the deposit of United States bonds as security for circulation; to permit national banks to issue circulating notes not exceeding in amount 75 per cent of their paid up and unimpaired capital, provided they deposit with the government as a guarantee fund in the United States legal tender notes, including treasury notes of 1890 a sum equal in amount to 30 per cent of the notes they desire to issue, this deposit to be maintained at all times, but whenever any bank retires any part of its circulation a proportionate part of its guarantee fund shall be returned to it; to permit the secretary of the treasury to prepare and keep on hand ready for issue in case an increase in circulation is desired blank national bank notes for each bank having circulation and to repeal the provisions of the present law imposing limitations and restrictions upon banks desiring to reduce or increase their circulation—thus permitting such increase or reduction within the limit of 75 per cent of capital to be quickly made as emergencies arise.

In addition to the guarantee fund required, it is proposed to provide a safety fund for the immediate redemption of the circulating notes of failed banks by imposing a small annual tax, say one-half of 1 per cent, upon the average circulation of each bank until the fund amounts to 5 per cent of the total circulation outstanding. When a bank fails its guarantee fund is to be paid into this safety fund and its notes are to be redeemed in the first instance from such safety fund thus augmented—any impairment of such fund caused thereby to be made good from the immediately available cash assets of said bank, and if these should be insufficient such impairment to be made good by pro rata assessments among the other banks, their contributions consisting a first lien upon the assets of failed bank in favor of the contributing banks.

As a Further Security.

As a further security it is contemplated that the existing provision fixing the individual liability of stockholders is to be retained and the banks' indebtedness on account of its circulating notes is to be made a first lien on all its assets.

For the purpose of meeting the expense of printing notes, official supervision, cancellation and other like charges there shall be paid a tax say, one-half of 1 per cent per annum on the average amount of notes in circulation. It is further provided that there shall be no national bank notes issued of less denomination than ten dollars; that each national bank, except in case of a failed bank, shall redeem or retire its notes in the first instance at its own office or at agencies to be designated by it and that no fixed reserve need be maintained on account of deposits.

Another very important feature of this plan is the exemption of state banks from taxation by the United States in cases where it is shown to the satisfaction of the secretary of the treasury and the controller of the currency by banks claiming such exemption that they have not had outstanding their circulating notes exceeding 75 per cent of their paid-up and unimpaired capital; that their stockholders are individually liable for the redemption of their circulating notes to the full extent of their ownership of stock; that the liability of said banks upon their circulating notes constitutes under their state law a first lien upon their assets; that such banks have kept and maintained a guarantee fund in United States legal tender notes, including treasury notes of 1890, equal to 30 per cent of their outstanding circulating notes, and that such banks have promptly redeemed their circulating notes when presented at their principal or branch offices. It is quite likely that this scheme may be usefully amended in some of its details; but I am satisfied it furnishes a basis for a very great improvement in our present banking and currency system.

I conclude this communication fully appreciating that the responsibility for all legislation affecting the people of the United States rests upon their representatives in the congress, and assuring them that whether in accordance with recommendations I have made or not, I shall be glad to co-operate in perfecting any legislation that tends to the prosperity and welfare of our country. —Grover Cleveland.

Executive Mansion, Dec. 3, 1894.

CARRIED OFF HOUSES

THIEVING RUSSIANS OPERATE AT FORT LINCOLN, N. D.

They Visit the Fort in a Body and Tear Down and Carry Off Nearly All the Buildings—Some of the Thieves Are Arrested.

Grand Forks, N. D., Dec. 5.—The United States grand jury was discharged last night by Judge Thomas, after bringing in fifty-seven indictments. Among the late indictments is one against T. C. Kennelly of Bismarck, who is one of the gang who is charged with having held up the deputy marshals at Mandan during the strike.

A large number of the indictments are against Russian farmers from Emmons county for stealing and carrying off government buildings at Fort Lincoln, five miles south of Mandan. The depredations, according to Maj. W. C. Gooding, the government representative at the fort, have been going on for some time. Russian settlers in that vicinity have been engaged in thieving lumber and outbuildings for some time, making their visits mostly during the night, and all efforts to catch them have failed. During the past few weeks, however, they have grown bolder, and on Saturday a small army, numbering over 100, put in an appearance, with forty-five teams, pickaxes and all necessary appliances, ready to clean every inch of lumber from the spot. Maj. Gooding, who has charge of the fort, protested, but the hoodlums drove him away with bricks and stones and continued to demolish the buildings. Even the old Custer house, which the people of the slope have endeavored to preserve, was not spared, but ruthlessly torn to pieces.

Deputy United States Marshal Hennessy of this city and Deputy Hannah of Grafton were at Bismarck and made a raid on the thieves Saturday. Pickets posted by the thieves gave notice of their coming, and the entire party made an effort to escape, but the deputies succeeded in rounding up eight of them and secured the names of forty others. Five were left in jail at Bismarck and three brought here as witnesses before the grand jury. Of 117 buildings at the fort very few remain, the destruction being almost complete.

Died at a Healing Home.

Chicago, Dec. 5.—Rev. John Alexander Dowie presides over the establishment at 6020 Edgerton avenue, known as "the divine healing home," must again admit there is nothing so certain as death. Albert Garbett, a youth who came from Minneapolis to submit himself to the healing powers "Dr." Dowie claims to possess, died to-day. The cause of his death was said to be spinal caries. Commissioner Reynolds gave permission for removal of the body to Minneapolis. The body was taken away on a Northwestern train consigned to an undertaking firm in Minneapolis. "Rev." John Alexander Dowie refused to give any information concerning the death, and became very angry when asked for them.

Narrow Escape for Artists.

New York, Dec. 5.—The Manhattan building, southwest corner Fifteenth street and Fifth avenue, formerly the home of the Manhattan club, and at present occupied by the students of several of New York's most famous artists, was practically destroyed by fire. J. Wells Champney, the portrait painter, his wife and Miss Mary E. Hart, also an artist, found their escape by the stairs cut off by smoke and took to the fire escape. Henry Thero, a paralyzed artist, was in his studio on the fourth floor. He was rescued by the firemen and taken to the Van Buren mansion near by. The damage was about $10,000.

Sent After It.

St. Paul, Dec. 5.—Hans Svennig, Arthur Hanson and Eddie Jackson, three kids, were in the municipal court this morning on a charge of stealing coal. Svennig was allowed to go because he merely went with the others and did not take any coal on his own account. The other two will be tried Thursday. They say they were sent after coal by their fathers, and the father of one of the boys tried to square himself by saying that he merely told the boy to pick up the coal along the tracks.

Fellows on Trial.

New York, Dec. 5.—The trial of Col. John F. Fellows, district attorney of the city and county of New York, upon charges of neglect of duty was begun before Gov. Flower's commissioner, ex-Senator John J. Lenson of Kingston, to-day. One set of charges made by good government club men embraces over 300 specific cases, while another set presented by the German-American reform union made exactly 501.

The Lost Comet.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 5—Recent observations at the Mount Lowe observatory indicate that the Edward Swift comet, discovered by the son of Prof. Swift at that observatory on Thursday evening, Nov. 20, may turn out to be the famous lost comet discovered by De Vico at Rome Aug. 22, 1844, just half a century ago.

Crusaders at Work.

Minneapolis, Dec. 5.—The crusaders have begun their campaign and have sworn out warrants for owners of saloons for keeping their places open Oct. 7. Among the number is understood to be the owners of the Nicollet house bar. Dean W. X. Sudduth and Crusader C. W. Purple are back of the prosecution.

Wanted to Die.

Stillwater, Minn., Dec. 5.—Herman Janetz was found at his home in Schulenburg's addition last night with a bullet hole in his breast, self-inflicted. He was weak from loss of blood, but may recover. Janetz is a young man, and said that he courted suicide because of domestic trouble.

Again Indicted.

Washington, Dec. 5. — The district grand jury to-day presented two new indictments for embezzlement against Capt. Henry W. Howgate.

FOR THE NORTHWEST.

The Secretary's Estimate for the Coming Year.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Among the estimates by the secretary of the treasury for appropriations required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, are the following:

Amount for Chippewas of Minnesota, reimbursable, $90,000; relief and civilization of Minnesota Chippewas, reimbursable, $50,000; for surveying and alloting land to this band, $25,000; for fulfilling treaties with the Fort Bertholdi Indians in North Dakota, $80,000; for fulfilling treaties with the different Sioux tribes in Minnesota and the Dakotas, $1,423,500; for the support of the Yankton Sioux tribe, etc., $50,000; for fulfilling treaties with the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indians, $18,400; support of Chippewas on White Earth reservation in Minnesota, $10,000; Turtle Mountain band in North Dakota, $13,000; Sioux of Devils Lake, N. D., $6,000; civilization of Sioux in Minnesota, $10,000; incidental Indian expenses in South Dakota, $2,500; support of Indian schools in Minnesota for Chippewas, $30,000; Flandrau South Dakota schools, $28,550; Fort Totten, N. D., $44,580; Pierre, S. D., $27,550; Pipestone, Minn., $12,550; Superior and St. Louis bay lights, Minnesota, $11,500.

Other estimates were: For continuing waterway improvements, Hay lake channel, $150,000; improving channel in great lakes between Chicago, Duluth and Buffalo, $500,000; continuing improvements from mouth of Mississippi river to Minneapolis, $1,600,000; continuing improvement on Minnesota river, $100,000; continuing improvement on reservoirs at head of Mississippi, $115,000; Red River of the North, Minnesota and North Dakota, $52,220; continuing improvement of harbor at Duluth, $237,323; Agate bay, Minnesota, completing improvements, $121,708; completing improvements at Grand Maris, Minn., $9,320.

TO DOWN KOLB.

Two Bills Introduced in the Alabama Legislature.

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 5.—A special to the Commercial-Appeal from Montgomery says: Two measures were introduced in the legislature to-day, the effect of which will be to silence Capt. Kolb and his abettors or to cause their arrest. Mr. Knight of Hale introduced the bill to-day making usurper of a political office in Alabama guilty of a felony and subject to heavy fine and imprisonment. Mr. John also introduced a resolution requiring the committee on privileges and elections to ascertain what, if any, members of the legislature had participated in the inauguration of Kolb, the purpose of the investigation being to expel such member or members from the house.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 5.—Reuben Kolb, who claims to be governor of Alabama, returned from Montgomery to-day, and says he is now engaged in writing a lengthy message which he will, as governor, send to the legislature to-morrow. Just what it will contain he would not say, further than that he will insist upon the enactment of an election contest law. It is not believed the Democratic presiding officers of either branch of the legislature will allow the document to be read.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

The President Looks Well, but Has a Pronounced Limp.

Washington, Dec. 5. — President Cleveland came to the White House at 10 o'clock. It was the first visit he had made to the city for two weeks past. He came alone and was met by Mr. Thurber when he entered. The president looked well, considering the severe illness he has suffered from, and the only outward sign of his ailment was the pronounced limp which characterized his walk from the carriage into the horse. Probably because his coming had been generally not expected there were very few callers at the White House in the morning, the only one of note being Representative Catchings of Mississippi, who, on behalf of the speaker, came to inquire whether the president would receive the committee of notification at the White House.

NOT VOLCANIC.

The Changes on Mount Ranier Are Due to Avalanches.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 5.—The air was sufficiently clear yesterday to permit of Mount Ranier being plainly seen, and there now remains no doubt but the mountain has undergone many changes, but it is due to a series of tremendous avalanches of snow, ice and earth, not an unusual eruption. To-day it was observed that the crater rim was intact, showing that no trouble occurred there, but below, great slices of the mountain have disappeared and a bluff of solid matter several hundred feet high and of unknown length has appeared. It is supposed that other slides have occurred on the other side of the mountain also.

A Freak Dead.

Judsonia, Ark., Dec. 5. — Maggie Johnson, one of the most singular of human beings, daughter of a farmer living near here, is dead. She was seventeen years old and had the head of an adult and the body of an infant. She had no teeth and no bones, her body appearing to be a mass of muscles.

Opened Letters.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 5.—W. H. Little, colored, of Choctaw county, was convicted in the federal court to-day of detaining and opening letters while acting as postmaster of Harwood Island. It was alleged that he extracted several checks and drafts from letters.

Coal Afloat.

Pittsburg, Dec. 5.—A boating stage was reached in the river to-day and over 5,000,0000 bushels of coal started for Cincinnati, New Orleans and other points. It is estimated that there are [illegible]00,000 bushels yet in the harbor here awaiting shipment.

Sherman's Daughter Will Wed.

Washington, Dec. 5. — Cards have been issued for the marriage of Mary Stewart Sherman, daughter of Senator Sherman, to James Ives McCallum, Wednesday, Dec. 12.