

MILES'S ARTILLERY PLAN.

HOW THE CORPS IS TO BE ORGANIZED UNDER THE NEW LAW.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Feb. 16.—The intentions of Lieutenant-General Miles regarding the reorganized artillery, which under the new law is placed wholly under his jurisdiction, with a chief attached to his staff, are exceedingly interesting, especially in view of the ambiguity of the language of the new law, which has aroused keen discussion among artillery officers as to the mode of increasing the corps and supplying the requisite number of skilled officers.

A statement prepared by the general commanding, after giving the views entertained by members of the corps and quoting from official reports to show the immediate needs and past objects of the military authorities, he says that in order to carry out this plan under the act the batteries of artillery should be divided immediately. This will give an enlisted strength to each battery of fifty-six or fifty-seven men, with which the captains provided for in Section 23 of the act, will enable the new batteries and companies to be recruited gradually, and the increase of officers provided for (first and second lieutenants) should be appointed in proportion to the increase of the men. This is said to be strictly in accordance with Section 3, which reads:

All vacancies created or caused by this act shall be filled by promotion according to seniority in the artillery arm. The number of officers of each grade of artillery shall be only in proportion to the increase of men.

General Miles continues:

Note the distinction between increase and promotion. The number of officers of each grade of artillery shall be only in proportion to the increase of men. The number of officers of each grade of artillery shall be only in proportion to the increase of men. The number of officers of each grade of artillery shall be only in proportion to the increase of men.

General Miles proposes to select of the eighty-two companies forty-four of the number whose stations are such as to afford the best facilities for recruiting, equipment and instruction, and make each of these forty-four companies of 113 men two companies completely organized, one of fifty-seven men and the other of fifty-six men. This will provide at once the authorized total of 126 coast companies, each of which will be completely organized; thirty-six of these will have each a total enlisted strength of 113 men, forty-four of fifty-seven men and forty-four of fifty-six men each, and the total enlisted strength of the coast artillery will not be increased a single man by this first step.

General Miles points out that the enlisted increase can then be made rapidly, economically and without serious detriment to the efficiency of the whole by recruiting each of the eighty-eight companies affected up to the authorized strength at the present time. The number of additional recruiting officers will be necessary, and the new men will thus be absorbed gradually without materially lowering the standard of the companies, since the non-commissioned officers, first and second class gunners, etc., will all be men of long service.

This suggestion, if carried into effect, will permit the immediate promotion of officers of artillery to fill all vacancies in the ranks of captains and lieutenants, while fully meeting the requirements and intention of the law in regard to gradual increase in the total number of officers by increasing the number of immediate vacancies in the grades of first and second lieutenants.

CHAIRMAN CANNON WINS.

THE HOUSE TAKES UP THE SUNDRY CIVIL BILL, BUT MAKES LITTLE PROGRESS.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The House took up the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill again to-day, but made little progress. In retaliation against the action of Mr. Cannon, chairman of the Appropriation Committee, yesterday, in filibustering against the passage of private claims, Mr. Richardson, the minority leader, attempted to block consideration of the Sundry Civil bill until a quorum was produced. When Mr. Cannon moved to go into Committee on the bill, Mr. Richardson demanded a division. The division showed less than one hundred members present, and Mr. Richardson made the point of no quorum. "The gentleman from Illinois yesterday," he said, "insisted upon a quorum to pass an \$80 million. I think we should have a quorum to pass a measure carrying \$9,000,000."

ADMIRAL BEARDSLEE TELLS OF WARM FRIENDSHIP FOR AMERICANS.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The Navy Department has made public an interesting letter received by Secretary Long from Rear-Admiral Beardslee, retired, relative to a visit he made to Japan in November last. Admiral Beardslee was one of the officers who served under Commodore Perry in the famous Japanese Expedition of 1853, and his letter is of interest principally as showing the exceedingly warm friendship manifested by the Japanese for the American people. He says the name of Perry is a sacred one to the Japanese and his memory is revered. Although traveling without uniform, as a private citizen, the Admiral said he met everywhere evidences of the friendly and cordial feelings entertained by the Japanese of all classes toward the United States, and he was everywhere met with respect and attention. The Emperor extended special courtesies and there was a constant round of interesting festivities. At the instance of Admiral Beardslee, a monument was being started to erect a monument at Kuribama Bay, where Perry first landed and delivered President Fillmore's letter.

STAT OF JEWS IN PALESTINE LIMITED.

BY NEW TURKISH REGULATIONS THEY CAN REMAIN ONLY THREE MONTHS.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Consul Merrill, at Jerusalem, has reported to the State Department that the Turkish Minister of the Interior at Constantinople has issued an order relative to Jews who visit Palestine, which went into effect on January 29. The order applies to all Jews who come to Palestine from other countries as pilgrims or visitors. The conditions of the order are as follows: On arrival at the Turkish authorities and delivery his passport to the Turkish authorities and permit to travel for a Turkish document. The visitor is allowed to stay in the country three months, when he must leave, surrendering the Turkish permit and receiving his own. Foreign consuls are to compel the Jews who overstay the three months' period to leave the country. The duration of the stay of Jews in Palestine will be determined by the rights of American citizens in each case.

THE DIPLOMATIC BILL AMENDED.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation bill was reported to the Senate to-day, with an increase of \$7,420 over the allowance of the House, making the total \$1,852,228. The largest item of increase is \$30,000 for legation grounds at Peking and \$5,000 for student interpreters in China. Other changes are: Salaries of Ministers to Bolivia and Peru increased to \$7,500. Consul-General at Ottawa increased to \$4,000. Consuls at Montreal and Coburg made Consuls-General, and consular salaries increased at Quebec, Odessa, Para, Lourenco Marques, Ancon, Copenhagen, Leghorn, Fort Stanley, Liège and St. Paul. The purchase of land at Peking is for land adjoining the present Legation and the buildings thereon, as recommended by Alexander Weger. The student interpreters are to be in number, and they are to study the Chinese language, with a view to aiding consuls in China.

CONSUL AT KEHL INSANE.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Max Adler, the Vice-Consul of the United States at Kehl, Germany, has informed the State Department that the Consul there, Alexander Wood, has become insane. He has been taken to the asylum at Strasburg, where the physicians give hope of his ultimate recovery. Mr. Wood was appointed as a visitor last year, and the student interpreters are to be in number, and they are to study the Chinese language, with a view to aiding consuls in China.

CONFERREES IN A DEADLOCK.

NO PROGRESS TOWARD AGREEMENT ON WAR TAX REDUCTION BILL.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The conferees on the War Revenue Reduction bill held a meeting to-day which lasted for an hour and a half, but nothing was accomplished and no vote was taken. It is understood that the conferees on the part of each house attempted to convince those of the other that they must yield. The House conferees insisted that they could not accept the Senate substitute, and the Senate conferees maintained that if any measure was to become law the House must agree to the Senate bill. There seems practically a deadlock. It is believed that the Republicans on the committee from each house will get together to see if some agreement cannot be reached.

NOT LIKELY TO PASS THE SENATE.

BELIEF THAT THE BIG RIVER AND HARBOR BILL WILL FAIL.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The opinion was expressed by several Senators to-day that, although the River and Harbor bill would be reported from the Commerce Committee, it would not pass the Senate. One Republican Senator said that, while he had not yet determined to conduct a fight against the bill, it could not be passed at this session.

EXTENSIVE IRRIGATION PROJECT.

SENATOR HANSBROUGH'S PLAN FAVORED BY THE LAND COMMISSIONER.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Senator Hansbrough, of North Dakota, recently referred to the Interior Department for an opinion his bill providing that all moneys received from the sale of public lands in the arid and semi-arid regions should be set aside as an "arid land reclamation fund" for the construction of reservoirs and other hydraulic works for the storage and diversion of water. Commissioner Hermann, of the General Land Office, has recommended to the Secretary of the Interior that a favorable report be made on the bill, with amendments to meet several suggestions he has offered.

The Commissioner says that the question arises whether the Government shall take the position of an individual proprietor, or whether it has the power to take the waters of the arid lands in its own right. In the former case he thinks that the Secretary of the Interior be authorized to comply with the State or Territorial laws, but he says, a review of the acts relating to public lands will show that the rights of the Government are superior as regards all unappropriated waters. He says that a recent decision of the Supreme Court clearly indicates that the United States has the right to the continued flow of the waters that have not been already appropriated.

LAND LAWS OF HAWAII.

COMMISSIONER HERMANN RECOMMENDS THAT UNITED STATES STATUTES BE NOT EXTENDED AT PRESENT.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The Commissioner of the General Land Office, in an opinion on a bill recently introduced in Congress providing for the extension of the general land laws of the United States to the Territory of Hawaii, with rules and regulations for homestead entries by the Secretary of the Interior, says that the passage of the bill at the present time would not be justified because of the lack of data bearing on the Hawaiian lands. He says that by the laws of Hawaii the public lands are classified as agricultural, pastoral, pastoral-agricultural, forest and waste, according to the uses to which they are appropriated. Since the Department is not in possession of any information which would enable it to determine the amount and class of lands remaining unappropriated, no intelligent recommendations can be made on the subject. The Commissioner recommends that the bill be postponed until the Commissioner be appointed to collect data on this point.

PERRY A SACRED NAME IN JAPAN.

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QUOTAS OF THE STATES.

Table with 3 columns: State, Number, Aggregate. Lists states from District of Columbia to Arizona with their respective numbers and aggregate values.

AN UNFAIR DISTRIBUTION.

So, notwithstanding the solemn pretence of a ratio distribution among the States, it will be perceived that Maryland and Virginia, together with

EMPLOYEES OF GOVERNMENT

NEARLY TWENTY THOUSAND CIVILIANS IN THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

SALARIES AMOUNT TO ABOUT \$30,000,000 A YEAR—NO "HARD TIMES" IN THE CAPITAL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Feb. 16.—According to the latest list there are 23,446 public functionaries of various kinds and degrees employed exclusively in the District of Columbia, including the numerous departments and bureaus of the Federal Government. These are the civilian appointees in the Executive departments, and do not include Senators and Representatives and several hundred employees of the houses who vibrate between the capital and their homes in other parts of the country. It does this aggregate include three hundred and fifty or four hundred Army and Navy officials, retired and active, who form a large permanent colony here. The monthly compensation of these 23,446 civilian employees amounts to \$1,635,708.81. Therefore, the aggregate sum in salaries annually paid out in Washington by the Government disbursing clerks reaches the enormous total of \$19,628,572. Besides, probably not less than \$3,000,000 additional goes to the Government coffers into the hands of the banks, business houses and professional men of Washington, the official personnel of the United States acting merely as middlemen because this money is largely spent or permanently invested here. In all the departments salaries are paid semi-monthly, and if desirable the officeholder can draw sums often, if the money is due to him, but this is dependent wholly on the courtesy of the disbursing clerks. It is not singular, therefore, that there are never any hard times in Washington. The money for these vast salary disbursements is not squeezed out of Washington itself, except perhaps in infinitesimal proportion of it toward defraying the expenses of the local Government, but the great bulk of it comes from elsewhere, poured into the city's lap by the Nation-at-large from internal revenue taxation, custom duties, etc., mainly levied elsewhere. There is a distinct feeling of being enjoyed by any other city in the Union, similar disbursements in the great municipality of New York, for instance, or made from the moneys raised by local taxation. In other words, it is merely one hand paying the other; the community as a whole is no richer from the transaction.

In Washington, on the contrary, every month nearly \$2,000,000 of additional money, never previously available, is scattered throughout the city, speak, among its citizens. How can there be such a thing as hard times in this town in such circumstances?

DEPARTMENT FORCES AND PAYROLLS.

The following table shows the total number of persons which the department employs within the District of Columbia and the aggregate pay annually:

Table with 3 columns: Department, Number, Aggregate. Lists departments like Treasury, War, Navy, etc. with their respective numbers and aggregate values.

The foregoing do not constitute all the employees of the departments. Most of the employees have large numbers of additional officials of various sorts in the country, the Engineer Bureau, for instance, or the War Department, for instance, employing upward of ten thousand persons in the river and harbor work of the Government. It is the largest bureau in the Government in respect to numbers. One of the surprises of the foregoing exhibit is the comparatively limited force required here, to conduct the affairs of the Postoffice Department, with all its vast ramifications. The extraordinary numerical strength of the Interior Department, almost equally surprising, lies chiefly in the Pension Bureau, the Land Office and Patent Office, which necessarily require an enormous clerical force. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, entirely distinct from the Government Printing Office, employs nearly two thousand people, which largely accounts for the numbers charged to the Treasury Department. The Government Printing Office is one of the staggering features of officialdom, but it is one of the pets of Congress, which it chiefly serves. The importance of the great State Department is not fairly reflected in its meagre official force, which is the smallest of all, even less than that of the Labor Bureau, whose functions are chiefly theoretical.

The table shows the somewhat curious fact that the average pay of these 23,446 civilian employees, including Supreme Court Justices, Cabinet officers, assistant secretaries, chiefs of bureaus, and hundreds of others with high salaries, is reduced to less than \$1,000 a year, which is explained by the fact that the great majority are clerical, subordinate, messengers, laborers, charwomen, drawing in some cases only a few dollars a month. In the selection of these executive officials, there is a popular belief that the appointing power is given to the President, and that the President should give a fair distribution of prizes among the aspirants to the position. When a Senator or Representative wishes to have a certain office or position given to a certain person, he is sometimes successful. This is all well enough, but it is a matter of acquaintance and personal favor, and not of merit. The chief elements controlling the result are largely the influence of the Senator or Representative, and the influence of the President. A single glance at the official list of the different States as given in the foregoing table will satisfy any one of the truth of these assertions.

The District of Columbia, otherwise the city of Washington, with a population under three hundred thousand, holds as many places under the Government as the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Massachusetts, and Virginia, combined, with a population of nearly twenty-eight million. The State of Maryland, buttressing the District on the north, holds all the places of the District except New York, Virginia, on the east, and all the places of the District except New York, Virginia, on the west. The State of Maryland, buttressing the District on the north, holds all the places of the District except New York, Virginia, on the east, and all the places of the District except New York, Virginia, on the west.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The President has appointed James B. Connelley, Thomas O. Selfridge, Jr., to the Naval Academy, and has made the fourth of that name now in a service, and for the second time in recent years three generations of the Selfridge family appear on the naval roll. The first is Rear-Admiral T. O. Selfridge, who still lives in Washington. He entered the Navy in 1855, was retired after forty-five years' service, in April, 1896, and is now seventy-one years old. The second, Rear-Admiral T. O. Selfridge, Jr., was in the Navy for twenty years, and reached the age limit of sixty-two in February, 1898. He lives with his father in Washington. The third, Commander James Russell Selfridge, who entered the Navy in 1864, and is now fifty-two years old. Several years ago he was appointed another son of the Naval Academy, who completed the course, and was in the Navy on completing the course.

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